

TRISTATE MEDICAL-LEGAL & DIAGNOSTIC SOLUTIONS, INC.

## **NEWS**

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## The Medical-Legal Evaluation - Make Sure You Get It Right

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A Medical-Legal Evaluation is a specialized evaluation to answer specific questions regarding a case in which there is work related injury or motor vehicle accident. Specific questions are often requested on Medico-Legal cases including covering of causation, apportionment, exacerbation, aggravation, diagnosis, appropriateness of diagnostic and treatment interventions, Maximal Medical Improvement (MMI), Impairment Rating and Work Restrictions.

Medical-Legal Evaluations can be in the form of an Independent Medical Evaluation, Impairment Rating Evaluation, Second Opinion Evaluation, Independent Diagnostic Study, Medical Record or Chart Review.

Education on medical-legal concepts is vital in the performance of medical-legal evaluations.

The physician conducting the medical legal evaluation should ideally have the following requirements:

- Medical Training in an ACGME accredited school
- Residency Specialty training in an ACGME accredited program
- Expertise in diagnosis and treatment of conditions being evaluated by way of training, board certifications and experience.
- Board Certified Specialist
- Training in medico-legal concepts, Impairment and Disability Evaluations through organizations such as American Academy of Disability Evaluating Physicians, American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, American Board of Independent Medical Examiners, SEAK, Inc.
- Certification in Independent Medical Evaluations (CIME) by American Board of Independent Medical Evaluations (ABIME)
- Certification in Impairment Rating and Disability Evaluations (CEDIR) by American Academy of Disability Evaluating Physicians (AADEP)
- Fellow of American Academy of Disability Evaluating Physicians