



KINGS  
CHAMBERS

SERIOUS MEDICAL  
TREATMENT GROUP (KSMT)

# The Kings Chambers Serious Medical Treatment Group (KSMT) operates within the Court of Protection team at Kings Chambers.

The group is widely recognised for their leading expertise at all levels in undertaking serious medical treatment work nationally.

Led by Sam Karim QC, this specialist group provides advisory and advocacy support for all serious medical treatment cases in the Court of Protection, Family Division and inherent jurisdiction.

Members have expertise in withdrawing artificial hydration / nutrition, cancer treatment, application relating to individual's permanent vegetative state, amputation, minimally conscious patients and cases involving the use of physical restraint and sedation.

The service provided by KSMT includes out of hours advice and representation managed by a dedicated team of clerks.

**For more information please contact Mark Ronson, Senior Clerk on 0345 034 3444 or via [mronson@kingschambers.com](mailto:mronson@kingschambers.com)**

**For out of hours enquiries please call 07971 176 422.**

## THE KSMT GROUP



### **SAM KARIM QC** *(Year of Call: 2002, Silk: 2017)*

Sam Karim QC is the head of the Court of Protection team at Kings Chambers. He has been a specialist in this area since the advent of the Mental Capacity Act.

As a silk, his practice covers:

- All types of disputes regarding the social welfare of incapacitated adults and children and medical treatment issues, and is regularly instructed by the Official Solicitor, families of patients, CCG's, local authorities and private care providers;
- Urgent applications for life saving medical treatment, non-urgent medical treatment, "end of life"

withdrawal of medical treatment, treatment of suicidal patients (including emergency treatment following overdose) and advanced directives; and

- Property and affairs. He has extensive experience in appearing on contested applications for deputyships and on issues arising during deputyship and for registration of lasting powers of attorney (LPAs) and enduring powers of attorney (EPAs), and advising on issues arising for attorneys and in relation to disputed statutory will. His experience also includes advising and appearing in cases relating to the overlap of the Court of Protection and personal injury proceedings.

Sam undertakes urgent advice and representation on applications including declarations on an emergency basis.



**ELIZA SHARRON**  
*(Year of Call: 2009)*

Eliza specialises in all fields of Court of Protection work, including property and affairs, health and welfare and serious medical

treatment. Eliza has a background in family law and has a particular interest in cases where there is an overlap between the Family Court and the Court of Protection, as well as cases that involve safeguarding vulnerable adults within the inherent jurisdiction of the High Court.

A substantial amount of Eliza's work is advising and acting in Human Rights Act claims arising out of Court of Protection matters and in relation to misuse of the Children Act 1989. Eliza also undertakes inquest work, in particular where there are issues relating to the death of a child or vulnerable adult, to whom local authorities owe a duty of care. Eliza regularly advises in complex Ordinary Residence disputes and practises in administrative law/judicial review, predominantly involving the breach of statutory duties towards vulnerable adults, young people and their families.



**ARIANNA KELLY**  
*(Year of Call: 2013)*

Arianna is a specialist in mental capacity, community care, mental health and healthcare law. Arianna acts in a range of Court of Protection matters including those relating to welfare, deprivations of liberty, property and affairs and serious medical treatment.

Arianna works extensively in the field of community care and frequently advises in and undertakes judicial review work in relation to eligibility and care planning decisions, as well as on issues relating to community care charging and debt recovery. She also advises public authorities on policies relating to health and social care. Arianna has been published on community care finances and charging in the Community Care Law and Local Authority Handbook and in the upcoming Patterson & Karim on Judicial Review (3rd Edition) on Community Care.

Arianna also offers extensive training on mental capacity and community care law.



**FRANCESCA P. GARDNER**  
*(Year of Call: 2009)*

Francesca is a specialist in all areas of mental capacity and mental health law. Francesca's practice encompasses

all areas of Court of Protection work, including welfare disputes, serious medical treatment and property and affairs matters. Francesca receives regular instructions from individuals, the Official Solicitor, local authorities, NHS bodies and care homes and acts in complex welfare proceedings and has a particular interest and experience in cases involving cross border placements and disputes (with particular interest in cross border placements from Scotland); children and deprivation of liberty; the international protection of adults (for example, Francesca has recently been instructed to advise on cases involving overseas jurisdictions including Japan, Kenya and the United States of America); cases involving both welfare and financial disputes; and safeguarding vulnerable adults within the inherent jurisdiction of the High Court.

Francesca's practice is unique in that she specialises in health and welfare and property and affairs within the Court of Protection. Francesca's property and affairs practice regularly involves advising on issues relating to the scope of the role of a financial deputy, lasting powers of attorney, statutory wills and financial abuse.

Francesca also has extensive experience in mental health law, including representing patients before the First-Tier Tribunal and Nearest Relative Displacement Proceedings. Francesca also has extensive experience in cases concerning the interface between the Mental Health Act 1983 and the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and has a particular interest in and regularly advises on matters of social care charging, with a particular focus on debt recovery.



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