**Supplementary material for**

**Assessment and diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorders (PTSD) for medico-legal and other clinical purposes: DSM-5-TR PTSD, ICD-11 PTSD, and ICD-11 complex PTSD (CPTSD)**

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**Summary**

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a complex, heterogeneous mental health problem that can be challenging to identify, assess, understand, diagnose, and treat. This article provides an overview of key topics, literature, and principles to inform comprehensive and meticulous assessment of PTSDs. Whilst expert witnesses are the target audience, the article will have relevance for identifying, assessing, understanding, and diagnosing PTSDs in all clinical contexts. A range of topics relevant to assessment are discussed, including: the complex relationship between trauma and PTSDs; DSM-5-TR PTSD and ICD-11 PTSD and complex PTSD diagnoses and the similarities and differences between them; the clinical presentation of PTSDs; psychological models of PTSDs; how to approach assessment and differential diagnosis; the impact of PTSDs on neuropsychological abilities and functioning (disability); causation, reliability, and assessing PTSDs when this is being considered as a legal defence; evidence-based interventions (medication, psychological therapy, when is the ‘right time’ for therapy, contraindications); and prognosis (if untreated, how long therapy/change takes).

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