

## Andrew Colman

"Incredibly clever and able to get brilliant results in what seem the most hopeless cases."  
Chambers UK Bar 2024



Year of Call: 1980

020 7353 5324

Andrew Colman is a leading junior of great intellect and experience, held in high esteem for his particular ability to cut through complex issues of fact or law in order to get to the heart of the matter. Over the past twenty years he has established a solid reputation as one of the foremost practitioners in the field of professional discipline. After presenting some of the GMC's most serious and substantial cases, for the past decade he has deployed his expertise in the defence of doctors, dentists and other healthcare professionals at the MPTS, GDC, HCPTS and elsewhere. He is commonly instructed in lengthy and complex Fitness to Practise cases. He also acts for and advises regulators (for example, the GOC and GPhC) and registrants in other professions, such as solicitors. Andrew appears regularly in the High Court, on statutory appeals, judicial reviews and ancillary matters. He is well equipped for such work by his previous experience of appellate advocacy, up to the highest levels (Privy Council/ House of Lords) and his past history of practice in extradition.

Andrew is a member of the Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers, the Health and Safety Lawyers' Association and the Criminal Bar Association and a former director of the Bar Mutual Indemnity Fund.

Andrew is recommended in the current editions of The Legal 500 and Chambers UK and was recently shortlisted as Professional Disciplinary and Regulatory Law Junior of the Year in The Legal 500 UK Bar Awards 2022.

Andrew accepts [Direct Access](#) instructions.

## What others say:

"Andrew is incredibly talented and is all-knowing. He is the man to see if there is a complex issue of law that needs unpicking. He is always very responsive and provides pragmatic advice." and "What he does not know is not worth knowing." – Chambers UK 2024

"Andrew's ability to assimilate a vast quantity of information and present it in an easily comprehensible form is incredible. He knows his cases inside out." – Legal 500 UK 2024

### Location

2 Hare Court  
Temple  
London  
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### Contact Us

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“He has a brain the size of the world. He gets everything done perfectly and never makes mistakes, whilst turning things out really quickly.” and “Andrew is a fastidious advocate with a ferocious ability to get to the nub of any issue.” – Chambers UK 2023

“Amazing ability to get the to the heart of the issues in complex cases. His advocacy skills are excellent with great control of very aggressive witnesses, and his submissions are first class. Very measured and controlled.” – Legal 500 UK 2023

“An excellently skilled advocate, able to quickly get to grips with a case and a safe pair of hands. He has extensive knowledge and expertise in this area of work which is evident in advice given.” – Legal 500 UK 2022

“He’s a genius – he has the brain the size of a planet and is great at going into the crux of the issues. He’s also very calm and measured on his feet.” and “Excellent paperwork and advocacy.” – Chambers UK 2021

“Andrew has a vast intellect, a keen eye for detail and nothing gets past him. He deploys his arguments eloquently, inevitably to devastating effect and as a solicitor, you know that if you instruct him, you can be confident of achieving the right result for your client.” – Legal 500 UK 2021

“He combines a natural flair for advocacy with a fantastic ability to spot the overlooked killer detail.” – Legal 500 UK 2020

“A very experienced barrister. Great at distilling the main issues and he has a very good eye for detail.” and “He’s meticulous in his preparation and knows all the details. His skills in preparing clients for hearings are brilliant. He identifies all of the pitfalls in advance.” – Chambers UK 2022

“He has a brilliant mind and a calm demeanour, and secures outstanding results in the most difficult cases. The apparent simplicity with which he destroys opponents never fails to impress.” and “Able to dissect large volumes of complex papers and get to the key issues with absolute ease.” – Chambers UK 2020

“He really focuses on the issues in a case and doesn’t get bogged down with anything extraneous.” – Chambers UK 2018

“A master of detail. His submissions are works of genius.” – Chambers UK 2017

“He has a keen analytical mind: no stone is left unturned analysing the General Medical Council’s case.” – Legal 500 2017

“He’s cerebral, bright on the law and academically astute.” – Chambers UK 2017

“A go-to for really detailed, document-heavy cases; when you need someone to absorb huge quantities of information quickly, he manages it with ease.” – Chambers UK 2017

“He is an extremely thoughtful and accomplished performer. His manner with clients and professional discipline panels alike is firm but fair, and he has obtained excellent results for clients.” – Chambers UK 2017

“He’s very intellectual, so he’s the one you go to for complex cases requiring detailed analytical legal skills.” – Chambers UK 2016

“His advocacy is well-judged and precise.” – Legal 500 2015

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# Professional Discipline

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Andrew Colman is a leading junior of great intellect and experience, held in high esteem for his fairness and integrity and for his particular ability to cut through complex issues of fact or law in order to get to the heart of the matter. For the past fifteen years he has specialised exclusively in the area of professional discipline, establishing a solid reputation as one of the foremost practitioners in the field. He formerly presented some of the GMC's most serious and substantial cases, but now deploys his expertise in the defence of doctors, dentists and other healthcare professionals at the MPTS, GDC, HCPTS and elsewhere. He is commonly instructed in lengthy and complex Fitness to Practise cases. He also acts for and advises regulators (for example, the GOC and GPhC) and registrants in other professions, such as solicitors. Andrew appears regularly in the High Court, on statutory appeals, judicial reviews and ancillary matters. He is well equipped for such work by his previous experience of appellate advocacy, up to the highest levels (Privy Council/ House of Lords) and his past history of practice in extradition.

Andrew also lectures and publishes articles on the subject of professional discipline and has provided training in the field to FTP Panelists, expert witnesses and other advocates.

## Notable Cases:

### **GMC v Mr Desai**

Andrew represented a very senior consultant surgeon and former Clinical Director, accused of allowing the colorectal polyps of a private patient he was keeping under surveillance for many years to develop into rectal cancer through gross neglect. His defence was that the cancer was a new and unusually rapid development, unrelated to the previous polyps. Despite being unable to call any expert support for this view, to counter the expert evidence of the GMC, Andrew persuaded the MPTS to find in his favour and the case concluded with no finding of misconduct or further action.

### **GMC v Dr Rowles**

Andrew represented a senior consultant physician and former Clinical Director, accused of allowing an 82-year-old patient to die of sepsis, without appropriate treatment or consent, and subsequently making false entries and lying about it to the family, the hospital enquiry and the Coroner. After the Medical Practitioners Tribunal cleared her of all the allegations of dishonesty, they found her admitted clinical failings to be fully remediated and took no further action. Subsequently, the Hospital Trust's MHPS proceedings were also closed without a hearing, bringing an end to over 8 years of investigations.

### **GMC v Dr Cadman**

Andrew represented a consultant radiologist, accused of rape by his former fiancée (also a doctor) and domestic violence by another former girlfriend (a police officer) and similar psychopathically controlling behaviour, amounting to mental cruelty by both. After a fully contested 3-week hearing, none of the serious factual allegations were found proved and the Tribunal found no misconduct or impairment.

### **GMC v Dr Chopra**

Case involving multiple probity and performance allegations against a doctor, concluded after 3 years of tortuous proceedings before the GMC, NHSE and the High Court, in a finding of no impairment and no warning.

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## **HCPC v B**

Andrew represented a senior Hearing Aid Dispenser accused of misconduct in respect of audiometry performed on an elderly patient with tinnitus. After a hearing involving complex expert evidence on both sides, the Registrant was completely vindicated by a finding that the case against her was not well founded at the Grounds stage. The case against her was thereby closed.

## **MPTS v Karim**

Andrew successfully defended top robotic assisted urological surgeon Omer Karim. Mr Karim is acknowledged as an innovative leader in his field and was voted to be one of the top ten prostate cancer surgeons in the UK. He faced allegations of intimidating and threatening behaviour, dating back over four years and originating from a dispute within his NHS Trust, after Mr Karim was a whistle-blower to Monitor. All of those contested allegations were found not proved.

## **GDC v Kumar**

Andrew appeared on behalf of the dentist.

He represented a leading Harley Street provider of Invisalign orthodontic treatment accused of misconduct by providing substandard treatment and misleading information. The dentist was cleared of the probity allegations and no impairment was found.

## **GMC v Dr Pandya**

Andrew appeared on behalf of the doctor.

Allegation of misconduct by performing a cosmetic labia reduction with a result equivalent to female genital mutilation (FGM). After an extended hearing, the doctor was cleared and his fitness to practice found not impaired.

## **GMC v B**

Andrew appeared on behalf of the doctor.

Representing a leading transplant surgeon accused of marking his initials on a patient's liver, Andrew persuaded the Interim Orders Panel to make no order in the face of a submission that he should be suspended. The novel urgent High Court application to terminate an immediate order for conditional registration and subsequent successful appeal against the finding of misconduct. allegation had attracted worldwide media attention.

## **Bhavsar v GDC**

Andrew appeared on behalf of the dentist.

Novel urgent High Court application to terminate an immediate order for conditional registration and subsequent successful appeal against the finding of misconduct.

# Inquests & Public Inquiries

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Andrew appears for medical professionals at inquests into the death of patients.

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## Notable Cases:

### Inquest into the death of Averil Hart

Four-week inquest into the death of a young student from the consequences of untreated anorexia nervosa. This was the last of a series of high profile inquests conducted into five anorexia deaths by the same Coroner. The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman had also enquired into and reported on this death. Andrew represented one of the GPs from the University Health Centre whose treatment of the deceased was in question. The Coroner's conclusions avoided any individual criticism of the GP or the Health Centre.

## Accreditations

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## Appointments & Memberships

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- Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers
- Health & Safety Lawyers Association
- South Eastern Circuit

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