



## ***“The impact of COVID-19 on the Medico Legal Environment.”***

**Wednesday 17 June 2020 6pm**

**Panelist: Sonya Black, Dr Jack Marjot and Dr David Muscatello hosted by Dr Philip Truskett**

David will talk about the global impact and what we know and don't know about COVID-19. Jack will talk about the problems at the front line (PPE provision, patient assessment etc). Sonya will then talk about the legal occupational and social impact and who has to be responsible industrially if people are infected at work or as a consumer. Following the panel discussion there will be a Q&A session relevant questions will be answered by the panelist. Questions can be submitted during the webinar or before online during registration.

### **Biographies**

**Dr David Muscatello**, Senior Lecturer, School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW



David is a Senior Lecturer in infectious diseases epidemiology. He has a PhD in the epidemiology of pandemic and seasonal influenza. He also has many years' experience in government as an epidemiologist specialising in acute disease surveillance using administrative databases, public health intelligence and biostatistics including time series analysis. He played a major surveillance role in the New South Wales government response to pandemic influenza in 2009 and has served on the Australian National Influenza Surveillance Committee. David is also a graduate of the New South Wales Public Health Officer Training Program and has supervised and trained numerous Public Health Officer and Biostatistical trainees. He is particularly interested in the use of time series analysis for estimating mortality and morbidity from infectious and other diseases and for assessing the impact of health policies on populations. He contributes to the World Health Organisation's (WHO) activities for estimating the global burden of deaths and hospitalisations attributable to influenza.

**Dr Jack Marjot**, Medical Advisor at Avant Mutual

Jack a qualified doctor and Advanced Trainee in Emergency Medicine. He has taken a take a step out of front-line clinical practice applying his skills to more diverse or novel areas of healthcare, including as a Medical Advisor to the claims and legal teams at Avant.

Jack graduated top of his year from University College London Medical School and in post-graduate specialty exams he was the highest scoring candidate in Australia and New Zealand. He has a special interest in the medicine of extreme and remote environments. In recent months he has taken a key role in Avant's medico-legal response to COVID-19, providing daily clinical updates on developments around Australia and the world as well as clinical input into the ethical issues arising from the pandemic.



**Sonya Black**, LLB (Hons), B.Com, Special Counsel – Employment Law, Avant Law, QLD



Sonya advises medical practitioners and medical practices across Australia about a broad range of employment issues. She has over 20 years' experience as an employment lawyer, including over 10 years advising about employment issues in the public and private health sectors. Sonya provides practical and common sense solutions to employment concerns in order to minimise disputes. She is also well equipped to support medical practitioners and medical practices in employment litigation if that becomes necessary.

Sonya holds a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Laws (with a University Medal). She has practised as an employment lawyer for over 20 years. She specialises in all areas of employment law.

Sonya's experience includes advising members about employment entitlements, assisting members in disputes with their employers or employees (such as contractual disputes, disciplinary and performance management matters, employment investigations, suspension and dismissal) and representing members in a range of legal proceedings. Sonya has been part of Avant's COVID-19 medico-legal advisory team, providing advice on a wide range of issues impacting medical practices during the pandemic from leave entitlements, to PPE requirements and JobKeeper payments. She has also advised doctors about a range of COVID-19 issues including vulnerable worker status and treating public patients in private hospitals.