

## **Psychological Report Requests**

### **General Information**

Psychologists can be asked to write reports for various reasons. They can provide expert evidence in family, civil, administrative, or criminal proceedings. These reports may include recommendations that are appropriate to make (e.g., relating to treatment needs, risk-management, whether or not children's contact with a non-resident parent should be supervised).

Psychologists are the only profession that is expertly trained to perform and interpret psychological tests.

Psychological Assessment is a process of testing that uses a combination of techniques to help arrive at some hypotheses about a person and their behaviour, personality and capabilities. Psychological Assessment is also referred to as psychometrics, which sometimes includes more than one form of psychological testing being conducted, in most complex reports a battery of psychological tests are utilized to acquire the information needed to formulate, narrate and finalize the report.

A psychological report for court differs from a report written for another purpose (e.g., a clinical report) in so far that it assists the court (or other tribunal) to test the psychologist's evidence (this means that the reasoning behind any opinion is outlined, the scientific basis of any opinion is well documented, and a comprehensive record of the interview/s is preserved).

### **PERSONAL INJURY CLAIM ASSESSMENTS**

Work-related injury \* Motor Vehicle Accidents \* Post Traumatic Stress Disorder  
Chronic Pain (Pain Management) \* Bullying & Harassment \* Victim of Crime

Medico Legal Reports can be used in Civil and Criminal Cases, personal injury claims and liability matters. The Report can be used to determine the extent of injury/existence of remorse and the likelihood of reoffending.

Reports for purposes other than Medicare may be provided upon request to the following parties:

- The client – either child, adolescent or adult.
- Legal representative
- Insurer
- Workplace
- Education provider

# Psychological Report Requests

## Understanding Psychological Reports

Psychological testing is not like taking a multiple-choice exam that you either pass or fail. Psychologists use information from the various tests and assessments to reach a specific diagnosis and develop a treatment plan. Examples of reports are as follows:

**Comprehensive Psychological Reports** provide the results of an independent psychologist's assessment and opinion of your personal and psychological functioning. These reports can be prepared in relation to civil and criminal law matters and reports are prepared for use in court. Examples include public liability compensation, victim of crime, worker's compensation, accident and personal injury, medical negligence, and trauma.

The assessment process involves:

- 120 minutes (2 hours) face-to-face clinical interview, psychological evaluation, and interviews with other relevant people (e.g., family or employers). The report generally provides a detailed personal history, results of psychological assessment, opinion as to the nature and impact of the injury or condition, any relevant mental health diagnosis, and recommendations for the treatment and management of the injury or condition.
- structured assessments, additional assessments as required, a detailed report including clinical observations, background information, standardised test results, psychologists' recommendations, and a 30 minute feedback session.
- Eight (8) hours report formulation and narration

**Standard Psychological Report:** 1 x 120 minute (2 hour) initial interview, collection of background information and evidence from other relevant people, a report detailing clinical observations, personal history, results of psychological assessment, opinion as to the nature and impact of the injury or condition, any relevant mental health diagnosis, and recommendations for the treatment and management of the injury or condition.

The assessment process involves

- Three (3) hours report formulation and narration

**Brief Psychological Report:** 1 x 60 minute (1 hour) initial interview, collection of background information and evidence from other relevant people, a report detailing clinical observations, personal history, results of psychological assessment, opinion as to the nature and impact of the injury or condition, any relevant mental health diagnosis, and recommendations for the treatment and management of the injury or condition.

The assessment process involves

- One (1) hour report formulation and narration

Psychological Reports attract additional fees  
and are billed to the requesting party appropriately

**Each Report Request is Unique**

And is quoted individually depending  
upon the nature and the length of the report required.

Medicare Australia does not cover costs for Psychological Reports.

***Procedure For Engaging***

***Alegna Solutions Psychologist***

***Angela Elia***

***For Litigation or Court Matters***



Member  
Australian  
Psychological  
Society MAPS



**Qualifications:**

**REGISTERED PSYCHOLOGIST**

EFT Practitioner | Life Coach | Strategist

J. P. Commissioner for Declarations

B. Behavioural Science (Hons). M.A.P.S.

Medicare Provider No. 2708525K

AHPRA Registration No: PSY0000954428



# Psychological Report Requests

## REQUIREMENTS for ORDERING OF A PSYCHOLOGICAL REPORTS

- Letter of Instruction from your legal counsel/representative to be provided to the testing/treating psychologist at Alegna Solutions Psychology Practice specifying the goals/objectives of the report.

**TIMEFRAMES** - Two (2) week turnaround from date which prepayment is required for the report.

**FEES & COSTINGS** - All psychological report fees are to be prepaid.

- Our fees vary dependent on the complexity of the report.
- **Court Reports and Assessments:** Ranges between \$1000.00 and \$3500.00 (ranges dependent on complexity of the assessment)
- Full Pre-Payment is required prior to any commencement of report writing
- Full Fee to be received and cleared prior to the release of any report to any/or all parties

Psychological Report Fees are billed according to the [APS Schedule of recommended fees](#) currently \$300.00 per hour plus GST. All assessments vary and a minimum of 3 hour fee is applied to any report request, excluding the one hour 'Brief Psychological Report'.

Depending upon your case requirements, Alegna Solutions Administration Team will provide an individual quote for costs and timeframes to the referrer upon receipt of written instructions for the completion of psychological report/s.

|                  |                                      |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| BANKING DETAILS: | ALEGNA SOLUTIONS PSYCHOLOGY PRACTICE |
| BSB:             | 114 879                              |
| ACCOUNT NO:      | 486 177 665                          |
| BANK:            | St George Bank                       |

## **Court Attendance Costs**

Should you wish to engage Alegna Solutions Psychologist services for any litigation and/or court attendance, it would be billed out at a daily cost, which includes travel and availability from 9-5pm.

At a flat rate fee of \$3,500.00 per day.

## **Phone/Teleconferencing Standby Costs**

### **Specified dates and times**

Should you wish for an Alegna Solutions Psychologist to be available via telephone and/or teleconferencing for your legal matter,

a flat fee of \$375.00 per hour applies upon a prepayment basis.

Minimum billing for this service is 3 (three) hours to allow for the minimum preparation and reading time of your case material and offering expert witness.

Notice must be provided and adherence to specific timeframes otherwise availability cannot be guaranteed.

## **Terms**

Letter of instruction to be provided from yourself or legal representation to Alegna Solutions Psychology Practice confirming request for legal and/or court attendance together with details specifics about the direction of your legal matter.

Please provide as much notice as possible when you have decided on the preferred mode of legal support and/or representation.

Payment Arrangement requires Pre-Payment for these psycho-legal services:

An invoice will be sent to you (5) five business days before required attendance Full pre-payment is required 48 hours business hours prior to the court attendance date by the psychologist.

## What is a pre-sentence court report used for?

A **pre-sentence** report is an impartial psychological evaluation that is used to assist the courts in making informed *sentencing* decisions.

Pre-sentence assessments can, and generally are, conducted during one of the following three stages:

1. When there is a risk of being formally charged
2. When an individual is formally charged or;
3. Prior to sentencing.

They are often requested to examine the mitigating factors related to the individual's alleged actions.

## What do pre-sentence reports involve?

These assessments require a psychological evaluation. This assessment is conducted through a clinical interview which includes:

- Psychometric testing (a way to measure mental ability and behavioural style)
- Investigation into the context/circumstances of the allegations/actions
- Assessment on potential to re-offend
- Consideration of suitability for treatment
- Practical recommendations for ongoing management, specialist support and treatment.

Alegna Solutions Psychology Practice can provide you with a pre-sentence Psychological court report for claims in relation to litigious and/or criminal matters in the Australian magistrate and district courts.

## The Benefits of Having a Pre-Sentence Court Report.

### • Better Understanding

Your report will provide the court with a specialist psychological assessment/interpretation of your 'human behaviours'. Many of these behaviours are often quite complex. This allows the courts to make further informed decisions based on a broader understanding of your situation.

### • Mitigating Factors

Factors such as psychological state and/or pre-determined treatment strategies may be deemed as a "Mitigating Factor" and may result in a lesser penalty. The Criminal Justice System in Australia takes the view that rehabilitation takes precedence in reducing the chances of re-offending.

### • Moving Forward

Our aim is to return individuals to a productive and fulfilling life. We are able to provide a range of treatment options to assist you.

## What happens when you decide to go-ahead?

1. If you choose, or are required to proceed, with a court report either yourself or your lawyer can make an appointment for a 'pre-sentence report assessment' – typically 120-minute clinical interview. You can call the office directly on 07 556 9090 or email your request to [reception@alegnasolutions.com.au](mailto:reception@alegnasolutions.com.au)
2. Once the clinical interview is complete, we then compile your report which is then provided to the necessary recipients such as your solicitor.
3. Should ongoing treatment be a consideration, we will continue to work with you on a regular basis.

