



Steph Ferguson

Senior Associate

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OVERVIEW

Stephanie Ferguson (née Cowley) is a senior litigation lawyer focusing on the areas of insurance litigation and medical indemnity. Stephanie represents hospitals, healthcare providers and other state entities in defence of medical negligence claims. She draws on her combined knowledge of law and science to help clients on:

- Complex medical negligence claims, including the preparation of details quantum advice (with skills in dependency claims) and advising on settlement prospects;
- Judicial review proceedings in the Supreme Court and instructing counsel at the hearing;
- Preparing of high-profile coronial investigations for hospitals; and
- Managing interstate court proceedings (New South Wales and South Australia).

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, Stephanie worked as an associate at an Australian commercial law firm in Melbourne.

EDUCATION

- Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice, Leo Cussen Centre for Law, 2020
- B.S., University of Melbourne, 2019
- LL.B., Deakin University, 2017 (*Honours*)

ADMISSIONS

- Supreme Court of Victoria

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Commercial Disputes

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advised a Victorian public hospital in relation to an application for third-party discovery of medical records and ensured that the patients' rights and health information were protected under the *Privacy Act 1988* (Vic) and *The Evidence (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1958* (Vic).
- Advised Victorian public health organisations on claims for medical malpractice, including negligent surgical technique, failure to warn and failure to diagnose.
- Acted for a doctor in a disciplinary investigation regarding the *Health Records Act 2001* (Vic) and the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Vic).
- Advised a Victorian public hospital at a high-profile inquest addressing concussion and head injury protocols in sport.
- Acted for a Victorian public hospital in response to a complaint made by a former patient to the Health Complaints Commissioner in Victoria.
- Acted for Victorian public health organisations responding to multiparty nervous shock claims brought under Part IV of the *Wrongs Act 1958* (Vic).