

Dr Tarun Gupta appointed Chief Medical Officer for Legal & General

Legal & General Group Protection today announces the appointment of Dr Tarun Gupta to the position of Chief Medical Officer. Tarun originally joined as Medical Officer in September 2020, with a focus on the Group Protection business. As Chief Medical Officer, his remit expands to supporting and advising on Legal & General Retail's wider protection proposition, including underwriting, claims management and client relationships.

The current long-standing Chief Medical Officer, Professor Robert Rubens, steps down after more than 30 years (in January 2023), but remains as one of Legal & General's Medical Officers.

Tarun has a wealth of experience in his field and draws upon his background as an NHS GP, Occupational Physician and Specialist Advisor to the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to serve as a resource for Legal & General's group and individual claims, underwriting and clinical teams. He provides medical opinion on complex cases, applying his expertise to comprehensively assess functional ability, interpret disparate medical evidence and address appeals, including decisions by the Financial Ombudsman Service, to help achieve the right and fair decision for claims.

His clinical interest is mental health and he previously advised the National Institute for Health & Care Excellence (NICE) as a Guideline Committee Member on the 'Depression in Adults: treatment and management' guideline (2020-2022) and as Clinical Lead for Mental Health for the largest CCG in England (2018-2022).

Tarun gained his medical degree from St George's, University of London, and holds postgraduate qualifications in Clinical Psychiatry, Occupational Medicine and Legal Medicine. Prior to pursuing medicine, Tarun graduated with a First Class degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE) from Oxford University and started his career in investment banking with Goldman Sachs. He is an elected Fellow of the Royal College of General Practitioners and an alumnus of Harvard Business School.

Currently, he serves on the Assurance Medical Underwriting Society (AMUS) committee and the Legal & General Wellbeing Advisory Board; a body of experts across a range of clinical, occupational, vocational rehabilitation and business consulting fields, with a remit to provide simple, accessible and practical health and wellbeing guidance to employers and employees.

"I am delighted to welcome Tarun into the role of Chief Medical Officer. His experience has already proven invaluable, not only the support he gives on complex case reviews, but the training and support he gives to the claims team. I'd also like to wholeheartedly thank Professor Robert Rubens for his commitment to and support of Legal & General over many years of service and it's wonderful that he is staying within the organisation as a Medical Officer."

Vanessa Sallows, Claims & Governance Director, Legal & General Group Protection

"It is great news that Tarun has agreed to broaden his role within Legal & General as he has been a huge asset since joining in 2020 and has quickly established himself in the market. He has big shoes to fill. Professor Robert Rubens has been giving invaluable insight and guidance to underwriters and claims assessors as our Chief Medical Officer for over 30 years. I would like to thank Robert for everything he has done in those years as CMO, and I am delighted that he has agreed to keep working with us so that many more at Legal & General can benefit from his knowledge."

David Banks, Underwriting & Claims Director - Retail Protection

“I’m excited to be growing my career within Legal & General and to have the opportunity to further contribute across business development, thought leadership and clinical governance. Also, to help with the evolution of products and services to reflect the shift in the industry in terms of taking a more proactive, preventative, holistic approach to wellbeing as part of the UK income protection proposition.”

Dr Tarun Gupta, Chief Medical Officer

Notes to editors

About Legal & General

Established in 1836, Legal & General is one of the UK’s leading financial services groups and a major global investor, with over £1.4 trillion in total assets under management* of which a third is international. We also provide powerful asset origination capabilities. Together, these underpin our leading retirement and protection solutions: we are a leading international player in pension risk transfer, in UK and US life insurance, and in UK workplace pensions and retirement income. Through inclusive capitalism, we aim to build a better society by investing in long-term assets that benefit everyone.

** at 31 December 2021*

About Legal & General Retail

As of 1st January 2022, Legal & General Retail Retirement and Legal & General Insurance (our two retail businesses) have been combined into one division, Legal & General Retail, to enable us to better serve the needs of our retail customers.

Legal & General Retail helps protect the lives and futures of our customers; the division covers the savings, protection and retirement needs of our c12 million retail policyholders and workplace members. In 2021, we wrote £957 million of annuity premiums, and issued £848 million of Lifetime Mortgages and Retirement Interest Only Mortgages. Our Workplace pension platform served 4.4 million members, while in the UK we paid out a total of £1,133.8 million in insurance claims.

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