

# Diabetes Claims and Compensation



## The complexities of diabetic treatment

Diabetes is a disease that involves problems with the hormone insulin. In normal circumstances the pancreas releases insulin to assist the body in storing and using the sugar and fat from the food we eat. Statistics from the NHS suggest that there are some 3.9 million people living with diabetes in the UK. This figure is expected to continue to rise with ever-increasing levels of obesity.

Diabetes occurs when one of the following situations arises:

- When the pancreas does not produce any insulin
- When insufficient insulin is produced
- When the body does not respond appropriately to insulin and is resistant to it.

Diabetes is a lifelong disease. There are different types:

Type 1 diabetes when the pancreas produces no insulin. Individuals with this condition must use insulin injections to control their blood sugar.

Type 2 diabetes when insulin is produced but is insufficient or in the alternative, the body is resistant to it. Type 2 diabetes is the most common form of diabetes and can lead to serious complications such as blindness, amputations and chronic kidney failure requiring dialysis. Some people can manage their diabetes by controlling their weight and exercising regularly. Others may need to take medication to help their body use insulin better or have insulin injections.

Diabetes cannot be cured but can be managed and controlled. It is essential that steps are taken and treatment provided to ensure:

1. Blood sugar levels are maintained as near to normal as possible
2. Blood cholesterol and triglyceride (lipid) levels areas near to normal as possible by avoiding sugars and processed starches and by reducing intake of saturated fat and cholesterol
3. Blood pressure is controlled. It should not go above 130/80

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## Diabetic medical treatment and negligence can lead to serious injury or long-term disability

A diabetes compensation claim may arise in circumstances where an individual suffers an injury or a worsening of their condition because of a negligent failure to manage their diabetes reasonably by a doctor or health professional. It can also occur where there is a failure to diagnose and treat the condition promptly. In severe cases, a patient can lose their eyesight, a limb due to the need for an amputation or even a kidney and thereby suffer severe injury.

### Claiming diabetic compensation

Victims of medical negligence are often left suffering continued pain; they may require further medical treatment and are left worrying about the future for both themselves and their families. They may have suffered a loss of earnings and have significant care needs. They may require specialist interventions, therapies and support.

Clinical negligence compensation claims are designed to provide compensation to the victim for the physical and financial effects of their injuries. Damages if awarded will compensate for the injury and financial losses both past and future thereby meeting the costs of additional treatment, ongoing care, therapies and disability support along with any other financial losses. The aim being to put the victim back in the position they would have been but for the defendant's negligence so far as possible.

### Support for patients affected by diabetic negligence

At Lester Aldridge we are highly experienced in investigating claims involving treatment for diabetes and in taking forward successful compensation claims. We have access to a panel of medical experts who are leaders in their field.

We know how devastating a medical mistake can be. No amount of compensation can put things right but it can result in essential provision for the cost of care, to support both you and your loved ones and meet your immediate and ongoing needs. Our experienced specialist lawyers utilise their expertise to maximize any compensation award.

If you have suffered injury, following a mistake made following treatment for diabetes we can assist with your claim.

If you have concerns or questions, please contact our Personal Injury lawyers. Contact us by emailing: [online.enquiries@la-law.com](mailto:online.enquiries@la-law.com) or calling 0344 967 0791.

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