

GP Negligence



The complexities of General Practice treatment

General practitioners treat all common medical conditions and refer patients to hospitals and other medical services for urgent and specialist treatment. Inevitably it is their role to focus on the health of the whole person. They undertake physical examinations, carry out immunisations and assess and treat many different conditions, including illnesses and injuries. People who are seeking medical care usually contact a general practitioner first.

It seems there is a wide variation in professional standards.

GPs are under increasing pressure. We know that the number of full time GPs continues to fall despite government efforts to recruit.

Many GPs themselves now consider that the demands placed upon them are such that errors can and will be made. It is quite simply an unsafe working level.

GP treatment delay and negligence can lead to serious injury or long term disability

Medical negligence claims relating to the medical treatment and care by a General Practitioner frequently arise in circumstances where injuries are caused as a result of a delay in diagnosis resulting from a failure to refer to hospital to an appropriate medical specialty, prescription errors and poor aftercare following a hospital discharge. Negligence may arise in circumstances where there is a:

- Failure to investigate symptoms
- Failure to refer to a specialist
- Failure to act on test results
- Poor record keeping
- Failure to prescribe appropriate drugs or to review medication

It has been suggested that the most common conditions GPs allegedly miss or take too long to identify are cancers, infections, fractures, heart attacks, meningitis, ectopic pregnancy and blood clots.

Inevitably, where medical negligence arises the consequences can be life changing sometimes resulting in the unnecessary progression of diseases with more extensive treatment or surgery being required, and often a poorer outcome and prognosis.

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Claiming GP 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 defendants negligence so far as possible.

Support for patients affected by GP negligence

At Lester Aldridge we are highly experienced in investigating GP negligence claims 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 in a primary care setting 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 or calling 0344 967 0791.

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