

Gastroenterology



The complexities of gastroenterology treatment

Gastroenterology is the branch of medicine focused on the digestive system and its disorders. Some conditions that a gastroenterologist may treat include:

- Cancer notably cancer of the oesophagus, stomach, liver or bowel including colorectal cancer
- Celiac disease
- Inflammatory bowel disease (Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis)
- Polyps
- Liver disease
- Irritable bowel syndrome
- Gallbladder disease including gallstones
- Heartburn (gastroesophageal reflux)
- Haemorrhoids
- Pancreatitis
- Strictures, blockages or twisting of the bowel

Gastroenterologists perform investigative non-surgical procedures, which include endoscopies, sigmoidoscopies and colonoscopies along with biopsies to examine tissue. Gastroenterologists do not operate on patients. Their primary role is to diagnose and then treat conditions affecting the digestive system.

They will often work closely with surgical teams notably Colorectal surgeons the latter who treat benign and malignant conditions, perform routine colon screening examinations and surgically treat problems when necessary.

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

Medical negligence claims relating to the medical treatment and care of the digestive system and which fall into this speciality frequently arise in circumstances where injuries are caused as a result of negligent surgery, negligent treatment during endoscopy, (ERCP, sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy procedures) and importantly also delay in diagnosis, misdiagnosis and delay in treatment of conditions.

Inevitably where medical negligence arises the consequences can be life changing sometimes resulting in the progression of diseases and cancer with more extensive treatment or surgery being required, and often a poorer prognosis. In some cases patients can be left with permanent stomas, damage to other organs, perforations, severe infections, peritonitis and in the worst cases death.

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Any delay in diagnosis and in affording all appropriate treatment can result in serious injury and long-term disabilities. An adverse outcome could lead to a compensation claim.

Claiming gastroenterology 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 gastroenterology negligence

At Lester Aldridge we are highly experienced in investigating gastroenterology 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 following gastroenterology treatment 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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