

# Orthopaedic Claims



## The complexities of orthopaedic treatment

Orthopaedic surgery, is the branch of surgery concerned with conditions involving the musculoskeletal system including bones, joints, ligaments, muscles, nerves and tendons. Orthopaedics involves both procedures and diagnosis

Orthopaedic surgeons perform a wide variety of surgical procedures to include:

- Hip and knee replacements, including complex and revision joint replacements
- Knee ligament reconstruction, including isolated anterior cruciate (ACL) reconstruction and multiple ligament injury
- Surgery for young adult hip disorders, including hip arthroscopy and major pelvic osteotomy
- Spinal surgery, including cervical spine (neck) surgery, and the treatment of metastatic disease and infection of the spine
- Foot and ankle surgery, including ankle replacements, ankle arthroscopy and joint fusions in the foot and ankle
- Shoulder and elbow surgery, including shoulder and elbow replacements and revision joint replacements, and shoulder and elbow arthroscopic techniques
- Hand and wrist surgery, including wrist arthroscopy, hand and wrist joint replacements/fusions, scaphoid non union surgery, tendon transfers and rheumatoid hand surgery
- Fractures and acute musculoskeletal injury, including the treatment of patients with pathological fractures of the long bones.

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

Medical negligence claims can be wide ranging and include allegations of errors in surgical technique, delay in diagnosis, failure to treat, lack of informed consent and errors in relation to medication. Examples include:

- Undiagnosed or delay in diagnosis of fractures such as scaphoid fractures in the wrist
- Negligent joint operations resulting in leg length discrepancies or foot drop
- Unnecessary surgery on a broken bone
- Delayed diagnosis and treatment of post-operative infections
- Incorrect size of joint replacement or prosthesis

Post-operative infection, muscular damage, nerve damage and even amputations can result from substandard care.

Tel: 0344 967 0791 | Email: [info@LA-law.com](mailto:info@LA-law.com) | [www.lesteraldridge.com](http://www.lesteraldridge.com)



## Claiming compensation for orthopaedic treatment

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 orthopaedic negligence

At Lester Aldridge we are highly experienced in investigating orthopaedic 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 orthopaedic 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](mailto:online.enquiries@la-law.com) or calling 0344 967 0791.

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