

# Medical Negligence Explained

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# Patient Claim Line

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## What is Medical Negligence?

Medical negligence is a breach of the duty of care by a healthcare professional, which results in avoidable harm, and it can take place at any point in the process of receiving medical attention. When medical negligence results in unnecessary consequences for you or your loved ones, you may be entitled to make a claim for medical negligence.



Some of the most common types of medical negligence claims we deal with:

- Care home claims
- Cosmetic claims
- Dental negligence claims
- Pregnancy and birth
- Hospital negligence claims
- Gynecology/Urology
- Pharmacy claims
- Eye injury compensation
- GP claims
- Pressure sore claims
- NHS negligence claims
- Negligent surgery claims
- A&E claims
- Ear, nose, and throat negligence

## How do I Start a Medical Negligence Claim?

The process of making a claim for medical negligence against a medical professional or an organisation providing health care begins with speaking to an experienced specialist about your specific situation

We want to have the best possible understanding of the experience you had in receiving medical attention and the impact that experience has had on your life. This is so we can ensure you receive the right amount of compensation to cover your current and future needs.

**Step 1 - INITIAL ENQUIRY** - Contact us to, free of charge. Our experienced team ask the necessary questions to ensure that our legal teams can quickly advise if you have a case.

**Step 2 - CASE ACCEPTANCE** - Our medical negligence specialists' asses your case and get back to you quickly with a decision.

**Step 3 - MEDICAL RECORDS** - If your case is accepted; our legal team will request all medical records and pay any charges on your behalf.

**Step 4 - MEDICAL EVIDENCE** - An independent doctor will assess if there has been negligence. We will also get evidence on your injuries and the impact the medical mistake has had on your life.

**Step 5 - NEGOTIATION** - Once the evidence is collected, we will negotiate with the negligent party to recover any out of pocket losses, rehabilitation costs and compensation.

**Step 6 - COMPENSATION** - Compensation includes all out of pocket expenses, loss of earnings, any potential private treatment costs to put things right, rehabilitation costs and compensation for your injuries and the impact they have had on your day-to-day life.

Making a claim for medical negligence may seem overwhelming at first, but it the responsibility of our legal team to do the upfront work. That involves preparing for a medical negligence case by obtaining medical records and any documentation related to the care you received, and taking detailed statements that spell out what took place in your specific case.

Getting an expert opinion is often also necessary to gain a full understanding of the breach of duty and the subsequent avoidable harm you endured. All of this work is completed by one of our expert lawyers – all you need to do is call us or fill out our make a claim form start the process, and it costs you nothing to do so.



## Breach of Duty and Cause of Harm

The medical community has several safeguards in place to protect the patients who visit hospitals and doctor's offices for their varied healthcare needs, from ample training of staff members to acceptable targets for patient wait times. It is not possible for things to always go as planned, however, and medical negligence could take place despite these protections. In a case of medical negligence, you must be able to prove two distinct issues: firstly, that breach of duty occurred (someone was negligent), and secondly, that negligence was the cause of harm to you as the patient.

Breach of duty may sound daunting to prove, but it simply means that the care you received from a doctor or other healthcare professional fell below the standard of care one would expect in that particular setting from a doctor, nurse, or another medical specialist. In essence, they failed to do their job.

Medical negligence occurs not only when a breach of duty is proven, but also when avoidable harm is the result of that breach. Think of avoidable harm as causation – you should be able to pinpoint the connection between the lackluster care and the injury or illness you suffered. For those consequences, you may be able to claim for compensation to help offset the costs incurred from poor quality care.



## What are the Time Restrictions for a Medical Negligence Claim?

You have three years from the date you were first injured or sick due to medical negligence, or three years from the date when it was discovered that an injury or illness was caused by a breach of duty, to file a claim for medical negligence compensation.

Because of this time constraint, it is incredibly important for you to seek out legal help as soon as you are able. The earlier in the process you speak with our solicitors, the better chance you have to remember important details about the case, which will help if a claim is filed. There are certain exceptions to this, so even if you feel the time has passed, it is still worth checking with our team.



## Who Pays for a Medical Negligence Claim?

Some people who have suffered pain, injuries, or an ongoing illness because they received less than ideal care at the hands of a healthcare professional delay speaking with a solicitor about their potential case out of fear of the cost. However, we work on a conditional fee agreement, most commonly referred to, as a no win, no fee agreement. This means that if your case is not successful, and you co-operated fully, you do not have to pay a penny - we never ask for upfront payments.

You can focus on getting better and let us do the work for you or your loved one without the pressure of paying for the claim or our service out of your own pocket.

Patient Claim Line understand that suffering from medical negligence takes an emotional toll, which is why we work diligently to understand your situation and determine quickly if bringing a case for compensation is in your best interest. If you believe you experienced avoidable harm due to a breach of duty by a doctor, medical specialist, or another provider, contact us or fill out our quick and easy 30-second claim test get the process started.




## What Types of Medical Negligence are there?

Medical negligence can take place in any healthcare setting, but some of the most common types of claim we dealt with are detailed below.

We get enquiries on a regular basis from individuals who have suffered a wide range of harm at the hands of a medical professional, and not all fit perfectly into one of the categories listed. If you believe you have a claim for medical negligence, but you are not certain, we recommend you give us a call. It costs you nothing to find out if you have a medical negligence claim to pursue.





The logo is a white speech bubble with a tail pointing towards the bottom-left corner. Inside the bubble, the text "Patient Claim Line.com" is written in a bold, green, sans-serif font, stacked in three lines.

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