



Duncan Lewis
Solicitors



We give people a voice

Medical (Clinical) Negligence

Our Services

Time Limits

Compensation

Fees and Funding



Duncan Lewis Solicitors serves corporate entities and private individuals in over 25 practice areas from offices throughout London and across England and Wales. Established in 1998, the firm has over 550 lawyers delivering legal services in over 60 languages. We have been recognised by independent legal directories, The Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners, as a top tier firm and described as a “diligent and professional team that is prepared to go the extra mile for its clients”.

Our head office is based in London, on Fenchurch Street, and we are the largest provider of publicly funded (legal aid) legal services in the country.

Our Services

Medical (clinical) negligence occurs when a medical professional makes an error or provides substandard healthcare, causing harm or injury as a result. Those who suffer such negligence may be entitled to compensation to cover medical costs, care costs, loss of amenity, and loss of earnings.

We also offer sensitive and expert advice and assistance to bereaved families who have lost a loved one as a result of medical negligence or a medical injury during treatment.

Our lawyers have specialist experience in claims involving, but not limited to:

- A&E negligence
- Birth injury, including Cerebral Palsy
- Brain injury
- Cosmetic surgery
- Delay in diagnosis
- GP negligence
- Gynaecological negligence
- Misdiagnosis
- Ophthalmology
- Organ damage
- Orthopaedic negligence, including amputation
- Private hospital negligence
- Surgical errors
- Unnecessary surgery
- Wrongful death

Time Limits

Usually there is a three year limitation period that applies from the date of the negligent act. In some instances, it can run from the date you became aware of the negligent act.

For children, the limitation period does not start until they turn 18. In such cases, the three year limitation period will expire on their 21st birthday.

Compensation

Compensation (damages) falls into two categories:

General damages: this is compensation that you will receive for the injuries sustained.

Special damages: this refers to all expenses and losses incurred as a direct result of the negligence, for example, loss of earnings, travel expenses, care, medication or treatment charges.

Fees and Funding

Conditional Fee Agreements ('No Win No Fee')

In some cases, we are able to assist you by way of a conditional fee or a damages based fee agreement, commonly known as 'no win no fee' funding. To determine if your claim is eligible for 'no win no fee' funding, we will assess the prospects of success in your case.

If you win your claim your opponent should be responsible for paying the majority of your legal costs and disbursements. Any legal costs not paid by your opponent could be deducted from the compensation awarded to you. This way, you should not pay anything until your claim has reached its completion, unless our agreement is that you will be responsible for paying the disbursements. We charge a success fee and this sum will be deducted from your compensation upon successful conclusion of your claim. We may be able to assist you in obtaining legal expenses insurance cover to protect you from the possibility of your opponent not paying the disbursements.

Public Funding (Legal Aid)

Legal aid is the public funding of legal services, administered by the Legal Aid Agency to eligible individuals who cannot afford to pay for legal advice and representation. We will advise as to whether legal aid funding may apply in your case. When it does, we can assist you in making the necessary applications for funding and advise you of your financial obligations.

Private Funding

In all privately funded cases, our aim is to offer fair prices in exchange for the specialist services we provide. We offer competitive hourly rates and fixed fee packages to ensure we give your case the best possible chance of success.

At your first meeting with us, we will discuss with you how we calculate our charges. Where possible, this includes a detailed breakdown of the estimated costs.

Legal Expenses Insurance

Legal expenses insurance may be included as part of your household or motor insurance. It is important that you contact your insurance provider before your first meeting with us to check if they may cover your costs.

Offering specialist legal services in the following areas:

- Actions Against Public Authorities
- Business Crime / Investigation
- Business Immigration
- Charity Law
- Child Care
- Civil Liberties and Human Rights
- Civil Litigation / Dispute Resolution
- Commercial and Corporate
- Commercial Litigation / Dispute Resolution
- Commercial Property Services
- Community Care
- Court of Protection
- Criminal Defence
- Debt and Insolvency
- Education Law
- Employment
- Family and Divorce
- Housing - Landlord and Tenants
- Immigration and Asylum
- International Disputes
- Islamic Law
- Medical (Clinical) Negligence
- Mental Health and Capacity
- Motoring Law
- Personal Injury
- Prison Law
- Public Law
- Regulatory Law
- Welfare Benefits
- Wills, Probate and Tax

Offices across England and Wales, including:

London

- 📍 Barnet
- 📍 Croydon
- 📍 Fenchurch Street
- 📍 Hackney
- 📍 Harrow
- 📍 Shepherd's Bush

Outside of London

- 📍 Birmingham
- 📍 Bradford
- 📍 Leeds
- 📍 Leicester
- 📍 Luton
- 📍 Manchester
- 📍 Swansea
- 📍 Tonbridge (Kent)



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