



# CLINICAL NEGLIGENCE CLAIMS

If a member of the CNPF is unhappy with the treatment and care provided by a GP, hospital or other medical practitioner and wishes to make a clinical negligence claim, they should consider the following:

## INITIAL STEPS TO BE TAKEN

- Make a formal complaint to the GP, hospital or medical practitioner. Your complaint should be made within 12 months of the event complained of
- Photographs are always helpful if possible, as well as contemporaneous notes of the treatment
- Keep a note of all healthcare institutions where you have been receiving treatment
- Keep a note of all expenses and losses incurred as a result of the injuries and all receipts in support
- Keep a note of any privately funded treatment or rehabilitation funded through the Police Rehabilitation Centre

## INITIAL STEPS TAKEN WHEN INVESTIGATING A CLAIM

The first few steps in investigating a clinical negligence claim are usually:

- Take a detailed history of the events and decide if there are issues to be investigated
- Investigate funding options
- Obtain and review full set of medical records
- Obtain independent expert evidence on the issues of standard of care and whether any identified negligence has caused damage
- Send a Pre-Action Protocol Letter of Claim to formally approach the defendant practitioner, hospital or defence organisation, setting out the allegations of negligence against them

## WHAT COSTS ARE COVERED?

- If your claim is accepted, as a CNPF member you will be asked to endorse a no win, no fee (conditional fee) agreement
- An after the event insurance policy will be taken out by you and the premium will be deducted from your damages
- If you have claimed state benefits as a result of negligent treatment, these benefits may be repayable to the Department of Work and Pensions
- Other than the cost of the insurance premium and any recoverable benefits, you will keep 100% of any compensation obtained. **This could save you a considerable sum of money that other firms will charge you.**

## FIND OUT MORE

For further information, please contact:



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