



## Medical Accident Group

Lives we've changed





### **Medical Negligence**

We all put our trust in medical professionals when we need help with our health. Unfortunately however, sometimes things can go wrong.

Medical Accident Group brings together the legal professionals you need when a medical error, lack of care or negligence breaks that trust.



### **Catastrophic Injury**

Sometimes life does not go as we had planned, and serious injury can occur. We are dedicated to working for those who have suffered a serious personal injury, using our expertise and experience to give our clients the best possible service and to ensure you receive the compensation you need to move on with your life.

We can offer you the support that you need to cope with the possible long-term effects on your life, health and family.



### **No win no fee**

We offer 'no win no fee' agreements because we understand that whilst legal advice can be costly, no one should be prevented from seeking the justice that they deserve.

**The best  
advice when  
you need it  
most**

## Car crash victim facing a life of pain receives £525,000 settlement

Broken bones, scarring and psychiatric trauma were the legacy of a short journey to the cinema for Ellie, aged 20, who came to Peter Savage at Medical Accident Group for help after the uninsured driver she was with crashed head-on into an oncoming car when overtaking.

Ellie, who then spent more than 11 weeks in hospital in three different hospitals, had to have multiple operations on her left leg, ankle and wrist as well as on her right leg and foot. She could not walk independently for another five months and not only suffers constant pain, but is also starting to suffer from osteoarthritis.

### Have you been injured in a road accident? Our experts can help you to seek compensation

Peter said: "I was very glad to be able to help her to come to a settlement for £525,000, which will help to support her for the rest of her life. It sounds like an enormous sum of money but she was only 20 when this happened and she faces a life with pain and disability because of this accident.

"She was working full-time and tried hard to do that again, though she had to change professions to do so. But her injuries made that impossible, even though her employer was sympathetic and tried to accommodate her needs.

"Since the accident, she has got married and she wants to start a family, but she and her husband, who provides a lot of the care that she now needs, know that it will be a challenge. I wanted to make sure that she had what she needed to live a good and happy life, just as she would have done before this happened to her."

### PTSD, stress and depression added to injuries

Ellie not only suffered physically but also psychologically – she had Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) for three years after the accident, frequent flashbacks to the accident and continues to suffer from depression.

On a bad day, she cannot walk or stand for more than a few minutes at a time and is very easily tired.

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## Starting a new life after sepsis

A chef who lost her right index finger because three NHS hospitals failed to treat sepsis fast enough has received £225,000 in compensation after Elizabeth Wickson of Medical Accident Group took on her case.

Elizabeth said that the hospitals' multiple failures had "a devastating effect on the patient's life" - simple antibiotics, given quickly, could have prevented it.

She said: "The compensation goes some way towards making her life easier in the future, although the loss of her finger, especially in her job, will be difficult."

### Have you suffered from wrong or delayed treatment? We can help

The chef went into A and E in Milton Keynes in the early hours of one morning with a painful and swollen finger and was incorrectly diagnosed with compartment syndrome, which causes lack of blood flow and oxygen to muscles and nerves, damaging them.

Eventually she was transferred to a Bedfordshire hospital, where blood tests were not correctly interpreted and the signs of infection were missed. She was finally given antibiotics that evening, after doctors diagnosed imminent gangrene in her finger.

### Infection led to amputation

24 hours after she first came into hospital, she was transferred to another hospital, where a septic infection was correctly diagnosed. Her finger and hand were operated on in an attempt to stem the infection, but too much damage had already been caused to her finger, and it was amputated the next day.

It was admitted that staff should have recognised sepsis and given antibiotics, with an immediate transfer to a hospital with a hand surgery unit.

Elizabeth added: "This illustrates how vital it is for medical staff to be aware of sepsis and to act quickly. The simple provision of antibiotics could have avoided the amputation altogether."

### Elizabeth Wickson, Senior Associate

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## Breast cancer patient lied to by surgeon

A patient who was left distraught after surgeon Ian Paterson lied to her about the type of surgery he carried out has said that “the fact that Mr Paterson lied to me without flinching is something I will never recover from.”

Support from Ally Taft of Medical Accident Group brought her compensation after her request for a total mastectomy was ignored, leaving her at risk of her cancer recurring. Mrs Booth was one of many victims of jailed breast surgeon Ian Paterson, who took no notice of her clear choice before he operated, performing what is now termed a ‘cleavage-sparing’ mastectomy.

### Requests for full mastectomy ignored

Mrs Booth faced surgery after being diagnosed with breast cancer, and made it clear that she wanted a mastectomy because she wanted to keep the risk of the cancer returning as low as possible. She had two very young children and had recently lost her father to cancer. She even opted for a double mastectomy to further reduce her risk.

With Ally’s support, she received a share of the £37m compensation ordered by the High Court for about 750 patients to settle their cases against the surgeon and the hospitals in which he worked.

Mrs Booth said: “He was someone I put my complete trust in. His actions have left me distraught.”

### Have you had your wishes ignored? We can help you

Ally said: “Ian Paterson wreaked havoc with many people’s lives and ignored Mrs Booth’s specific request, so that she had to have further surgery.

“I have supported several of his patients, and his actions and the lies he told people, meant that many were at increased risk and were really afraid that their cancer would recur. That fear has scarred their lives, and I am glad I’ve been able to help them take back some control and be compensated for their suffering.”

**Ally Taft**, Head of Clinical Negligence

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## Patient left paralysed after poor medical care for spinal tumour

Delayed diagnosis, reporting and treatment left Simon on crutches and doubly incontinent – a tumour on his spine which was eventually removed was found to be linked to testicular cancer which had spread, needing chemotherapy, blood transfusion and bone marrow transplants.

Simon came to Amrit Dhaliwal of Medical Accident Group for help - he had been to hospital four times complaining of severe and increasing back pain with no evidence of any injury. On his fifth visit, when he could not move or use his right leg and rapidly lost power in his left leg, he was scanned.

### Has your life been blighted by delayed diagnosis or treatment? We can help

The scan showed a large tumour on his spine which was pressing on his spinal cord – he underwent emergency surgery and was left with very limited movement from the waist down and was doubly incontinent. He suffered from pressure sores while in hospital and was also injured, while undergoing chemotherapy, by a drip stand falling on his leg.

To treat his testicular cancer, Simon had three batches of chemotherapy, the last of which almost killed him – he was in intensive care for six weeks.

### Nerve damage blighting his life could have been avoided

Now out of hospital, he cannot walk without crutches and uses a wheelchair. Expert opinion has established that if he had been diagnosed or treated properly at one of his earlier hospital visits, with scans and the involvement of neurologists, he would have been spared the extensive nerve damage which has caused his current difficulties.

Amrit said: “It’s clear that there was negligence here – if he had been referred earlier, he would not be in such difficulty now. The A and E and radiology failures had a devastating impact on him, both in term of his mobility and possible life expectancy. I was glad to be able to help him to find answers and to make sure that lessons are learned.”

**Amrit Dhaliwal**, Associate

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## Three months of pain from fractured ankle missed by doctors

An accident at work left Jack with a fractured ankle which went undiagnosed for more than three months – he later had to have two operations to correct problems that late diagnosis caused.

He came to Fahmidah Ali of Medical Accident Group and her support and advice helped to achieve a settlement of £70,500.

Jack slipped and fell in mid-January and went to A and E complaining of bruising, swelling and pain in his right foot. He had no X-ray and he was diagnosed as having a soft tissue injury, which would be improved by resting and elevating his foot, and taking ibuprofen. He was advised to see a GP if it didn't improve.

"I was limping and in pain," he said; "I used walls, chairs and bannisters to support me. I missed not being able to work and seeing my friends."

### Have you suffered from late or wrong diagnosis? We can help

He did seek help at his local surgery – they followed the hospital's diagnosis too, and his condition didn't improve – his ankle was swollen and deformed. Finally, he was correctly diagnosed when his fracture was confirmed at another hospital.

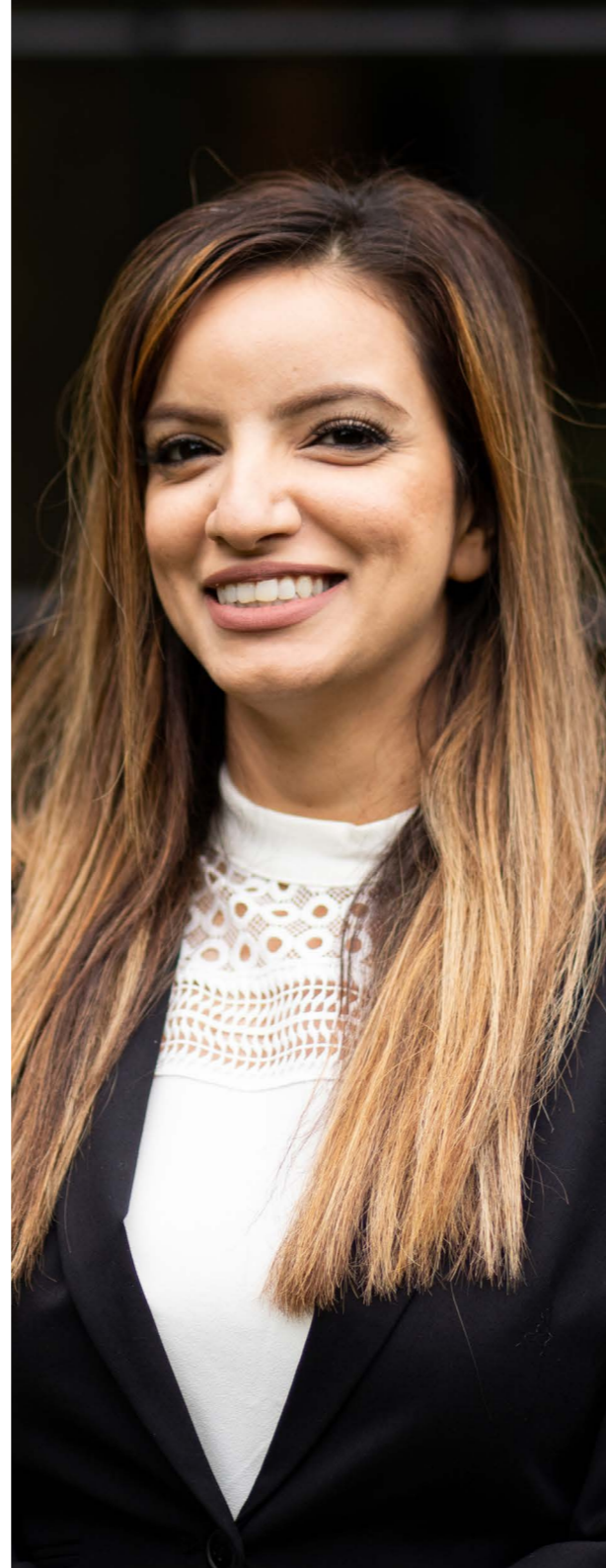
A specialist told him that the fracture was healing and that surgery might not improve matters. But he opted for surgery and his ankle was pinned. Another operation was needed later, after he had suffered an infection, eventually cleared by several courses of antibiotics - Jack is now left with early arthritis in his ankle and may well need further physiotherapy.

Fahmidah said: "I'm delighted that I was able to help Jack after such a straightforward diagnosis was missed – he suffered not only the pain before the correct diagnosis and the after-effects of two operations, but also loss of earnings and the worry of how the injury will affect the rest of his life."

### Fahmidah Ali, Associate

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## Sepsis, pneumonia and sores from poor medical treatment

Tim, who had Parkinson's disease, spent months suffering from bedsores and infections acquired in hospital, with his health deteriorating until he contracted sepsis because of an ulcer which had not been treated properly. He was eventually transferred to a nursing home where his ulcer improved due to excellent care.

His wife, Caroline, came to Sophie Keatley at Medical Accident Group to help her to find out more about her husband's care in the hospital. Sophie's investigation revealed that warning signs about Tim's vulnerability to sores were not heeded, and Caroline received a settlement of £20,000.

### Have you or a loved one suffered from poor medical care? We can help you

Tim went into hospital with a broken hip, which was operated on and he was able to move around and had no broken skin, but it was noted that he was at very high risk of pressure sores (bed sores). He suffered from a urinary tract infection after surgery and was given antibiotics – he was later treated for pneumonia and was very dehydrated.

He suffered from pressure sores 10 days after being admitted, and his health deteriorated – he was confused and drowsy, and was put back onto antibiotics again to treat an infection; his sores continued and got worse, and he was diagnosed with deep vein thrombosis.

### Move to nursing home from hospital improves treatment

His health continued to decline and eventually, four months after he was admitted, he was transferred to a nursing home, where his ulcer, and his general health, improved. He was by then in the end stages of Parkinson's disease, and died six months later.

Sophie said: "The hospital knew that he had a high risk of developing sores. His pain and suffering could have been prevented in the hospital - he was very vulnerable and deserved better care."

### Sophie Keatley, Chartered Legal Executive

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“Peter was extremely helpful, empathetic and determined to bring our case to a satisfactory result. I was also very pleased our meetings were carried out at my house.” - Mrs J

“I am so grateful to Ally and the team. No amount of money will give me back my health but at least I know I can provide for my family once again.” - Mrs S

“The service I received from Sophie was first class.” - Mr U

“A big thank you to Amrit for all of her hard work throughout my case following my birth injury. The resolution of my case was positive and this has helped my family and I to move forward.” - Mrs C

“Elizabeth is excellent at explaining. I was listened to and understood, and I felt I was her priority at all times.” - Mrs P

“I valued Ally’s personable nature. I would highly recommend Ally and MAG to other potential clients” - Mr M

“The service I have received from Fahmidah has been exemplary. She was very attentive, pleasant to deal with and proactive.” - Mr C

“From our very first meeting, Peter Savage showed compassion and understanding. Legal jargon and implications were always explained to me so that I fully understood what was going on.” - Mrs P

## Our team



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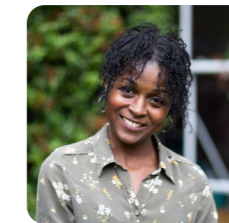
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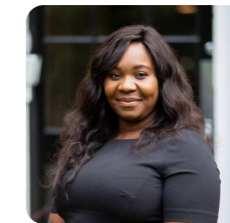
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