

PERSONAL INJURY CLAIMS & MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE CLAIMS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

1. I have sustained an injury that was someone else's fault. Do I have a claim?

If we are able to establish that your injury was not your fault (or only partly your fault), and that another person or organisation was at fault, then you are likely to be able to make a successful claim. At Grope Hamilton Lawyers, some of the types of claims that we assist clients with include:

- Motor vehicle accident claims - where the accident and your injuries occurred because of the negligence of another road user
- Medical negligence claims - where your injury or illness occurred or worsened because of the negligence of treating medical staff
- Public liability claims - where your injury occurred because of the negligence of a business, organisation or government body.

If you are not sure whether your situation falls into one of these categories, Grope Hamilton Lawyers' friendly staff will be able to advise you. Give us a call today.

2. I've heard that some lawyers will represent clients on a "no win, no fee" basis. Will Grope Hamilton Lawyers represent me on this basis?

Grope Hamilton Lawyers represent many clients with injury claims on a "no win, no fee" basis. What that means is that if we agree to represent you on this basis, then you will not need to pay our fees unless your claim is successful.

We understand that many people cannot afford to pay legal fees "upfront", especially if they have been injured and this has affected their employment.

Telephone Grope Hamilton Lawyers today to discuss with us whether your case is suitable to be taken on by us on a "no win, no fee" basis.

3. What can I claim for?

There are many different categories of compensation or “heads of damages”. Some of these attract larger amounts of compensation than others. Some, such as pain and suffering, are capped at a fixed amount prescribed by law. This part of your claim can be complicated. At Grope Hamilton Lawyers, our experienced solicitors ensure that all potential areas of compensation are fully considered. These include:

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- Past and future pain and suffering
- Economic loss due to time off work or loss of work
- The cost of the medical treatment that you have received and the anticipated cost of future treatment
- The monetary value of the help that your partner/spouse, children or parents may have provided due to your injuries
- The effect of your injuries on your ability to work in future

4. How much money am I likely to receive?

First we must establish that your injuries were someone else’s fault, known as “liability”.

Once liability is established, we can then assess the amount of money that you are likely to be able to claim, which is known as “quantum”.

Assessing quantum involves proving the extent of your injuries and loss. Independent evidence is often required, such as medical evidence provided by way of a report from a specialist, and evidence of economic loss provided by considering your past earning history.

The amount of money that you receive at the end of the day cannot always be easily determined at the beginning of your case. However, with Grope Hamilton Lawyers you can rest assured that our solicitors will do their best to ensure that you receive the maximum compensation available considering all of the factors relevant to your case.

5. My spouse was injured and has a personal injury claim. Our relationship has been affected by my spouse's injuries - do I have a claim too?

It is not uncommon for the relationship of an injured person and their spouse to be significantly affected following an accident or injury.

As the spouse or partner of an injured person who has a personal injury claim, you may well have a claim for what is known in legal terms as "loss of consortium". You should seek legal advice from one of Grope Hamilton Lawyer's experienced solicitors.

6. Is there a time limit on making my claim?

Yes. Generally a claim must be made within three years of the date of the injury being sustained or the negligent act taking place. Failure to commence a claim in time can mean that the claim is statute-barred and cannot be pursued.

However, the law in this area is complicated and it is sometimes possible to start a claim "out of time".

If you believe that you may have a claim, but that the time limit has expired or is close to expiring, don't delay. Contact one of Grope Hamilton Lawyers' solicitors urgently for advice.