

EXPERTISE  
WITH  
EMPATHY



BLAKE   
MORGAN  
INJURY GROUP

# EXPERTISE WITH EMPATHY



*Understanding what support you need and how you adjust to your injuries can be overwhelming, so we are there to support you every step of the way.*



**BLAKE MORGAN'S** injury group is one of the leading teams in the UK for handling clinical negligence, personal injury and travel related compensation claims. We have a long and successful track record of helping people win fair compensation following accidents, and minor or serious injuries that were not their fault – whether they occurred in the UK or overseas.

Our specialist teams combine highly experienced solicitors, as well as qualified healthcare professionals so we understand the legal and medical issues involved in successfully bringing a complex claim.

## HOW WE CAN HELP

We promise to make the process as straightforward as possible, handling your case with the highest level of expertise and care. Understanding what support you need and how you adjust to your injuries

can be overwhelming, so we are here to support you every step of the way. All you need to do is tell us what happened, provide any evidence you have and let our expert teams do the rest.

The cases we handle range from relatively minor accidents through to complex and life-changing injuries. What is important is that we believe that there is a strong case and that we can get a result.

## GETTING YOU THE SUPPORT YOU NEED

We appreciate that you have already suffered as a result of your injury, so we understand the need to make your compensation claim hassle-free and to secure the support you need as quickly as possible.

We pride ourselves on giving honest and straightforward advice, guiding our clients through the process of making a claim in clear, jargon-free language – even in the most complex of cases.

Following a life-changing injury, you may need financial support immediately to help cover the costs of loss of earnings and medical expenses, or to find someone to help arrange your rehabilitation and care – that's where we can help.

## SPECIALIST EXPERTISE

Within our 40-strong team we have the expertise and experience to handle claims in a number of very specialist areas. Some of these are listed below.

### ACCIDENTS OR ILLNESSES ABROAD

– claims arising from package holidays and cruises, skiing and snowboarding injuries, road traffic accidents

### BRAIN AND SPINAL INJURIES

– complex claims where significant compensation is needed to cover large medical bills, professional care, loss of earnings, appropriate accommodation and suffering of the victim

**CLINICAL NEGLIGENCE** – claims arising out of poor medical treatment (private or NHS), such as catastrophic birth injuries, spinal cord damage, failed operations, misdiagnosis or a failure to diagnose

### INJURIES IN THE WORKPLACE

– accidents due to negligence or defective equipment, as well as industrial diseases such as RSI, asbestosis and hearing loss

**ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS** – claims for cyclists, pedestrians as well as cars and motorcyclists

You can find more about these and other areas of our work on our website at [www.blakemorgan.co.uk](http://www.blakemorgan.co.uk)

## TRAVEL TEAM SETTLES MULTI-MILLION POUND CASE FOR HOLIDAYMAKER LEFT PARALYSED IN SKI ACCIDENT

For most people going on holiday is a time to unwind and relax, but unfortunately that is not always the case. When things go wrong, it's important to get the right advice to ensure you receive adequate compensation.

Our specialist travel team recovered several million pounds for a client who suffered life-changing injuries having been caught up in an avalanche in France.

His claim was successfully won by our lawyers in the English courts against the insurer of the ski guide, and the ski school, who were all based in France where the ski excursion was booked.

During his excursion, our client was led down a south east facing slope by the instructor who should have been aware of the high risk of avalanche and that the slope had been exposed to the sun, making it unsafe to ski.

Unfortunately for our client, he was caught up in a series of avalanches which resulted in him being airlifted from the slope to a nearby hospital for a life-saving operation. As a result of his injuries he is now paraplegic and confined to a wheelchair.

Liability was denied throughout the case by the ski school and their insurer, but our dedicated team of travel lawyers were able to challenge them in the courts to secure a successful outcome. The compensation awarded to our client has meant that he can now receive the specialist care and support he deserves, and he was also compensated for his loss of earnings.

We have a wealth of experience in pursuing successful ski accident and other catastrophic claims around the world, either bringing the claim in England or in a foreign jurisdiction.

## WORKPLACE INJURY LEFT FABRICATOR FACING UNCERTAIN FUTURE

**Our client was a fit young man and skilled worker who found employment as a metal fabricator.**

The work required him to use hand held vibrating tools. Unbeknown to him the use of these tools would cause permanent and life changing injuries to his hands. Our personal injury experts helped him to access the support he needed when a workplace injury threatened his future.

His work involved operating a range of air and electric powered tools. Some of these tools were very heavy or unfit for purpose due to their state and condition. Notwithstanding, our client was expected to operate these tools repeatedly for long periods over the course of a shift. During which time he was exposed to harmful levels of hand transmitted vibration which caused damage to the small blood vessels and nerves in his hands and fingers.

It was not until a few years later that the signs of this damage became apparent. Our client began to experience numbness and tingling in his hands. He also noticed on occasions that the tips of some of his fingers turned white in the cold. As time went by these symptoms became much worse. He had difficulty gripping small objects and was woken up at night due to sharp pins and needles sensations in his hands. He had no idea what was causing these problems.

Concerned by these symptoms, he decided to consult his GP to investigate. His GP arranged for him to undergo medical investigations and as a result he was diagnosed with Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome (HAVS) and carpal tunnel syndrome. Despite undergoing surgery his hand symptoms unfortunately persisted.

This turn of events had drastic consequences for his employment. He was unable to cope with his work and was dismissed by his employer. According to the expert medical advice received if he continued to use vibrating tools his hand condition would get worse. This left our client in an extremely difficult situation. He was forced to make a career change and look for a new job. The prospect of having to take work for which he had no previous experience or qualifications on a lower salary left him very anxious about his and his family's future.

Blake Morgan supported our client in making a claim for compensation against his employer. The case was strongly contested but due to the expert knowledge and commitment of Blake Morgan's team of specialist disease lawyers his claim was a success. He was grateful to receive an award in the tens of thousands of pounds which allowed him to pursue his newly chosen career confident in the knowledge that he and his family had some financial security as he sought to rebuild his life.



## CLINICAL NEGLIGENCE LAWYERS SUPPORT BEREAVED FAMILY IN DELAYED DIAGNOSIS CASE

Delayed diagnosis can have a significant impact on the progression of an illness and affect a patient's recovery time and long-term prognosis.

Our clinical negligence experts have assisted patients in misdiagnosis or delayed diagnosis compensation claims for a wide range of health conditions, including representing and securing a successful outcome for a patient with a delayed diagnosis of a parotid gland tumour.

Our client was suffering from intermittent vertigo and tinnitus when she first sought hospital treatment, no action was taken at the time and she was reviewed again approximately four years later with headache and facial pain which was causing her significant problems. She was told if these problems continued she would need a CT scan. These problems did persist but unfortunately she was not reassessed at that time and continued to have right-sided facial problems for the next few years. She attended her GP at least once or twice a year and was felt to have infections and symptoms related to ear infections.

After suffering for almost a decade, she was referred to hospital where her continual problems were assessed. She was treated with grommet surgery and given a hearing aid but unfortunately this did little to ease the facial pain.

Two years later she was given an ultrasound but the results came back clear. It was felt a tooth infection may be causing her right sided facial and neck pain and she was advised to put cotton wool in her ears before showering.

Another year passed as her symptoms worsened she was passed between various hospital departments where she was prescribed painkillers for shooting pains in her jaw. At this point she was advised to come back in six months but insisted on a MRI scan as the pain was becoming unbearable.

She was booked for such a scan a few weeks later and diagnosed with a with a large right parotid gland tumour. She had a biopsy and then was referred to London for major surgery – at this point it was discovered that the tumour had spread up into her brain.

Following the surgery our client started chemotherapy treatment and continued to suffer the health consequences of a large tumour.

Expert evidence from our clinical negligence team confirmed that the tumour should have been diagnosed some years before it was. Not only did the delayed diagnosis result in the extension of the parotid tumour to the brain, but it also sadly caused the premature death of our client almost two years after the correct diagnosis.

This was an extremely distressing time for the family of the patient who wanted answers to what went wrong so that this could help prevent anyone else going through such a traumatic experience. Our team helped the family get the answers they deserved and to accept a six figure settlement to bring the claim to an end without the need to issue court proceedings. They have found it very hard to cope with the fact that their mother had been in so much pain and should have been diagnosed much sooner than she was. The compensation secured helped to provide financially for her dependants.

Sadly this is not an isolated case, but our clinical negligence experts are highly regarded, experienced lawyers, some of whom are also qualified nurses, midwives and doctors. They have the perfect expertise and compassion to assist you if you feel you have a claim for compensation due to suffering from negligent treatment.

### REASSURANCE

Bringing a claim can be a stressful time and so we work hard to provide reassurance, every step of the way. Our years of experience mean that we understand the wider picture, the implications of an injury and the support required until the conclusion of your claim.

You can also be reassured that we are members of the key industry bodies and panels in our field – from the **Law Society's Clinical Negligence** panel through to those of leading support organisations such as **Headway**, the **Spinal injuries Association** and **Action for Victims of Medical Accidents**.

### FUNDING

We offer realistic options for funding so you do not need to be worried by the legal fees. Most of our work is funded by Conditional Fee Agreements (no win no fee). Our clinical negligence team also has a Legal Aid franchise. Contact us for a free discussion about your case and we can talk you through the various options available.



the brain injury association



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AND PARTNERS



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## FOR MORE INFORMATION



Contact us on **0344 620 6600** or email **info@blakemorgan.co.uk**, you can also find further information on our website **www.blakemorgan.co.uk**

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