



Supporting you through
amputation and limb loss

IM, irwinmitchell



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If you or a loved one has suffered an amputation or limb loss, the emotional and physical impact is life-changing. We're here to help you access the best medical care, rehabilitation and support.

We'll investigate your case to find out if anyone was at fault, and work to get you the justice you deserve. We'll assess what support you'll need now and in the future, and work to secure early interim payments to fund your needs while we progress your claim. You'll be offered help to secure rehabilitation or retraining, sophisticated prostheses, an adapted property, specialist aids, care support and other household assistance, as well as private medical treatment and therapies.



After my accident I was left battling a bone infection that eventually resulted in having my lower part of my right leg amputated. Recently the case came to an end and I can't thank Richard Biggs and Irwin Mitchell enough for what they have provided me with. I highly recommend.

Simon
5* Trustpilot review



This information relates to the law and procedures in England and Wales. Please contact us if you need advice about the law and procedure in other legal jurisdictions.

0800 023 2233

Your team of experts

By building a relationship based on openness, trust and honesty, we're better placed to provide the expert advice you need.

Our client's interests are at the heart of everything we do. Our specialist team combines powerful legal knowledge with care and consideration to ensure the best possible outcome for you.

We'll help you with the practical issues and the day-to-day impact of your injury, as well as getting you access to the best medical care and rehabilitation.

Our friendly, professional service includes:

Early compensation payments, where possible, to pay for private healthcare and rehabilitation

Expert advice on state benefits, your employment rights and other financial issues

Help, if you need it, from solicitors in other departments, in areas such as financial planning, Personal Injury Trusts, Wills advice, Power of Attorney, education and social care needs advice.

We recognise that compensation is only part of the story – we can also support you with:

Help from our team of qualified health professionals who'll liaise with all the appropriate services, ensuring all your needs are met

Protecting your interests around healthcare provision by accessing our solicitors, who can help and challenge decisions made by local authorities and NHS trusts

Important decisions around finances and personal welfare, including advice on state benefits and employment issues.



Kaushik's Story

A life changing road traffic collision left Kaushik with a serious brain injury and the need to have three fingers amputated from his left hand.

Kaushik studied computing at university. He was planning to start a master's degree and then find full-time employment.

On the way home from his first day at a part-time job, his plans changed forever. Kaushik was a passenger in a taxi when the driver lost control and collided with a tree.

Kaushik suffered a traumatic brain injury, fractures to his skull, and multiple rib fractures with lung contusions. He also suffered spinal fractures and a fractured left shoulder blade and wrist. A severe complex injury to his left hand caused his middle, little and ring fingers to be amputated and the partial loss of his thumb.

It was a really difficult time for Kaushik. He had trouble making sense of everything and struggled to find proper care after being discharged from hospital.

Kaushik instructed our serious injury expert, Chani Dhaliwal, to investigate his case. Chani and his team helped Kaushik to access specialist treatment and rehabilitation to aid his recovery and rebuild his life.

When his case settled, Kaushik was overjoyed. He felt secure about his future and about his health; he couldn't thank Chani enough.

After everything he's been through, Kaushik is hopeful for the future, despite all the challenges he's faced and continues to face.

Kaushik is now being supported by our Asset Management team to protect his finances and his future.



What makes me happy is a smile on my mum's face, a day without pain, or an email from Chani.

Kaushik
Our client

Key things to consider

Limb loss and amputation claims usually need to be made within three years of the incident that caused your injury.

But that limit can vary and may be shorter or longer depending on the circumstances of your case.

Do you have a case?

All cases are unique, and we won't know your chances of securing compensation until we look into the circumstances that caused your injury. We'll assess your case free of charge, tell you what we think and then you can decide if you want to go ahead.

What are your chances of winning?

Many people come to us who don't think they have a claim, and we go on to secure them rehabilitation and financial security for the future.

We're realistic in our assessments, so when you contact us we'll give you honest, straightforward advice on your chances of winning, based on the information you've provided. It's not possible to give a definitive answer on any case, but the more information we have, the more accurate an assessment we can make.





What happens when I claim?

We'll investigate your case thoroughly by gathering witness statements and other relevant evidence about your amputation or limb loss and your on going requirements.

Progressing your claim

Once we have all the information, a thorough investigation of the events leading to your amputation or limb loss can be made, and we'll be able to advise you on the prospects of your case.

We'll then put forward the claim to the party who was at fault and their insurance company. Most claims are settled before they go to court. If your case is one that is decided by a judge, it's nothing to worry about; we'll be there to support you through the process.

How much will it cost?

Contacting us for initial advice on your claim will cost you nothing. If you do go on to pursue a claim with us, we'll review all the options for funding it.

Funding your case

When we discuss your claim in more detail, we'll also be able to look at the funding options available to you.

Examples include:

Conditional fee agreement – commonly known as a 'No Win No Fee' agreement*

Legal expenses insurance – as part of your household or car insurance, you may have legal expenses cover to help with any legal costs

Trade union – if you're a member of a trade union, they may provide assistance for some legal issues.

Can you take over from my current solicitor?

If you're concerned about the way in which your claim is being handled, you should raise this with your solicitor immediately. If you aren't satisfied with their response, you're perfectly entitled to seek a second opinion from another law firm.

We understand that:

You want to know that your solicitor has the experience needed to bring your claim to a successful conclusion

You may have previously experienced poor quality service, such as delays or periods of inactivity, and are concerned about whether you're receiving the right advice

You want the very best award of compensation to provide for any long-term needs you may have.

We offer a free confidential discussion about your concerns. We'll review the papers and meet with you to discuss our views on how your case is being progressed. We'll then advise you of your best options.

We've helped many people who've been dissatisfied with the advice or service they've received from their initial solicitors. After moving to us, they've gone on to achieve the best possible outcome, which includes access to the best medical care, rehabilitation and the compensation they deserve.

* Subject to entering into a 'No Win No Fee' agreement and complying with your responsibilities under its terms.

‘No win no fee’ agreements

If we recommend that a ‘No Win No Fee’ agreement* is your best option, you can be assured that there’s no financial risk to you if you’re unsuccessful.

If you win:

Your opponent will pay the majority of our basic legal costs and disbursements (e.g. court fees, medical reports)

Any costs not payable by your opponent will include:

- The premium for your insurance policy to protect you fully against any risk of legal costs
- Some of your basic legal costs which cannot be recovered from your opponent
- A ‘success fee’ which compensates us for the risk that we wouldn’t recover any legal fees at all if it was unsuccessful

You won’t have to pay a penny out of your own pocket until your claim has successfully come to an end and then any of the costs not paid by your opponent will be deducted from any compensation awarded to you

If any disbursements can’t be recovered from your opponent these will be covered by your insurance policy

To help you with your legal costs, the government has provided a 10% increase in the amount awarded to you for your pain, suffering and loss of amenity.

If you lose:

We can promise you there’s no financial risk to you if your claim is unsuccessful*

There will be no charge to you

You’ll be fully covered by your insurance policy for any disbursements

You’ll be fully protected by your insurance policy from any of your opponent’s legal costs.

We’ll do everything we can to protect and support you to proceed with your claim and we’ll keep you updated at all times. Remember, there’s absolutely no financial risk to you or your family if you’re unsuccessful.

* To make a No Win No Fee claim, you need to enter into an agreement that’s linked to a suitable insurance policy. We’ll explain this in more detail before we start your claim.



How much compensation will I get?

The amount of compensation you receive will depend on the severity of your injury, and how it has affected your life, how much money you've lost or will lose as a consequence, and whether you'll need extra support in the future.

Individually assessed

We'll advise you at the outset on how courts approach the assessment of compensation and how that will apply to your case. It's important to bear in mind that everyone is different, and the consequences of the same injury will vary from person to person.

Keeping you informed

As we learn more about you and your circumstances, we'll be able to provide a more accurate estimate of the financial value of your claim. You can be assured that we'll do everything we can to recover the maximum amount of compensation available to you, and organise payment terms to suit your immediate and ongoing needs.

As well as securing financial compensation, we'll help you and your family with the practical issues and day-to-day impact of your injury, as well as helping you get access to the best medical care and rehabilitation.

What else can we help you with?

Whether it's business or personal we understand that everyone's situation is different.

If you need legal advice or support with financial planning, we're here to offer expert advice tailored to your circumstances, so you can focus on what really matters.

We're here to help you with:

- Buying or selling a house
- Court of Protection
- Divorce, children and family matters
- Planning disputes
- Financial planning and wealth management*
- Support with your business and employment issues
- Social, education and healthcare provisions
- Tax and trusts
- Welfare and healthcare matters
- Wills

* Financial planning and wealth management services are provided by IM Asset Management Limited which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Its Financial Services Register Firm Reference Number is 402770.



Contact us:

☎ 0800 023 2233

💻 irwinmitchell.com

Useful contacts

We have close relationships with organisations and charities that can provide extra support when you need it most.

Blesma: Military Charity for Limbless Veterans

Blesma is an armed forces non-profit charity supporting limbless veterans in the UK for the duration of their lives.

Frankland Moore House
185-187 High Road
Chadwell Heath Romford
Essex
RM6 6NA

☎ 0208 5901 124
✉ ChadwellHeath@blesma.org
🌐 blesma.org

The UK Sepsis Trust

This charity exists to fight this life threatening condition, stop preventable deaths and support those affected by sepsis.

2nd Floor
36 Bennetts Hill
Birmingham
B2 5SN

☎ 0800 389 6255
🌐 sepsistrust.org

The Douglas Bader Foundation

The Douglas Bader Foundation exists to advance and promote the physical, mental and spiritual welfare of persons who are born without or have lost one or more limbs, or are otherwise physically disabled.

Administration Office
14 Raynham Road
London
W6 0HY

☎ 0208 7488 884
🌐 douglasbaderfoundation.co.uk

Finding Your Feet

Finding Your Feet support families affected by amputation or limb difference, through a range of sporting initiatives and social inclusion projects.

Skyhub
Skypark 1
8 Elliot Place
Glasgow
G3 8EP

☎ 0141 2584 868
✉ info@findingyourfeet.net
🌐 findingyourfeet.net

The Limbless Association

The Limbless Association provides information and support to the limb-loss community. They aim to support people of all ages and backgrounds through a variety of programmes and services.

Unit 10
Waterhouse Business Centre
2 Cromar Way
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 2QE

☎ 0800 6440 185
✉ enquiries@limbless-association.org
🌐 limbless-association.org

LimbPower

Limb Power aims to engage amputees and individuals with limb impairments in physical activity, sport and the arts to improve quality of life, and to aid lifelong rehabilitation.

Whitecroft
Tandridge Lane
Lingfield
Surrey
RH7 6LL

☎ 0750 2276 858
✉ info@limbpower.com
🌐 limbpower.com

Meningitis Now

Meningitis Now is the first meningitis patient group in the world, founders of the meningitis movement and the only charity dedicated to fighting meningitis in the UK.

Fern House
Bath Road
Stroud
Gloucestershire
GL5 3TJ

☎ 0808 8010 388
✉ info@meningitisnow.org
🌐 meningitisnow.org

PORT-ER

PORT-ER is the charity where mobility matters. Their vision is to bring about better patient care for people with mobility challenges through national and international development.

1 Nelson close
Teignmouth
Devon
TQ14 9NH


☎ sandy@port-er.com
🌐 port-er.com

STEEL BONES

STEEL BONES charity is completely voluntary. They work to connect the amputee community, create friendships and provide an extensive proactive support network.

Stirling House
3 Abbeyfields
Bury St Edmunds
IP33 1AQ

☎ 0122 3734 000
✉ hello@steelbone.co.uk
🌐 steelbone.co.uk

 0800 023 2233

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