

A blue-tinted photograph of two women embracing. The woman on the left has curly hair and glasses on her head, wearing a plaid shirt. The woman on the right has straight hair and glasses, wearing a grey top. They are both smiling warmly.

FAMILY GUIDES

Claiming for someone else



**Patient
Claim
Line.com**

Can I make a claim for someone else?

Do you think someone you know might have a medical negligence claim?

Is it possible to make a claim for someone else?

In short, the answer is yes and here we'll explain everything you need to know before making a claim on someone's behalf.



What is Medical Negligence?

Medical negligence can take place at any point whilst receiving medical attention, from an initial GP visit, to surgery and aftercare.

This can happen in a number of ways; including misdiagnosis, mistakes made during surgery or being given the incorrect treatment.

When medical malpractice results in unnecessary suffering and consequences for you or your loved ones, you may be entitled to make a medical negligence claim.

Some of the negligence claims we cover include:

- [Hospital Negligence](#)
- [Brain Injury Negligence](#)
- [Cancer Negligence](#)
- [Surgical negligence](#)
- [Errors in prescriptions](#)
- [Misdiagnosis](#)
- [Wrong site surgery](#)
- [OBG negligence](#)
- [NHS never events](#)

All that is required to make a claim at the initial stage is your voice, if you think someone you know has a claim speaking to one of our experts is the first step.

How we can help

At Patient Claim Line we have more than 100 solicitors with combined experience of over 400 years and they will work on your behalf to achieve the best result possible for you.

It's not enough to use a solicitor who sometimes covers medical negligence. You need someone who knows this area through and through. That is what the solicitors here at Patient Claim Line do. They deal exclusively in this area of law and are experts in the field.

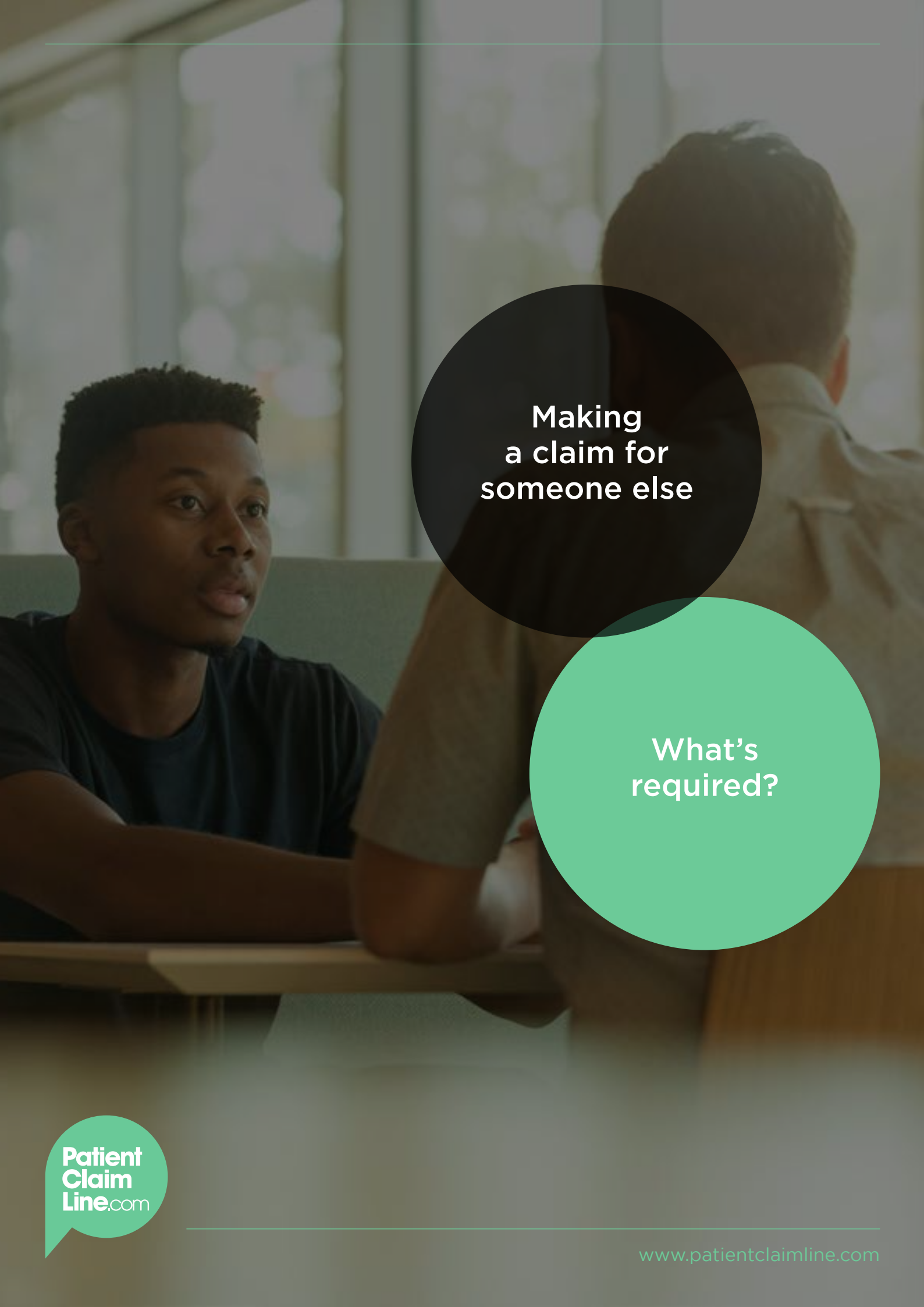


TRY OUR
COMPENSATION
CALCULATOR

Calculating compensation

To discover how to much compensation the person you know may be entitled to, take a look at our [compensation calculator](#) which will help you to assess the amount of compensation secured in similar cases to yours.

We are unable to guarantee compensation amounts, as they differ on a case-to-case basis.



**Making
a claim for
someone else**

**What's
required?**

Claiming for a child

A child aged under 18 can't bring a claim on their own and needs to be done by a responsible parent or guardian. A claim can be carried out by either a parent, a grandparent or even an older adult sibling, acting in the best interests of the child. That responsible person will be known as the Litigation Friend.

If the child is a teenager when the claim is ongoing it is possible that they may want to be involved in their claim and this is perfectly acceptable. It's important to acknowledge this is their claim and that this happened to them but overriding decisions will always be made by the Litigation Friend.

You'll stop being a Litigation Friend if the child becomes 18 during their claim and they can make their own independent decisions.



Claiming for someone with reduced mental capacity

You may become a Litigation Friend for a fellow adult who lacks the mental capacity to bring a claim forwards.

If the adult in question regains full mental capacity during the claim, you may need to apply to stop being the Litigation Friend and enable them to take over the claim.

Making a claim for someone with disabilities

It's possible that negligence left someone with disabilities which mean they don't have the mental or physical ability to bring a claim forward themselves.

There are some situations that we can take instructions from a next of kin or relative if the person whose claim it is provides verbal and written authority for us to do so. This authority can be removed at any time. Like a Litigation Friend, you must act in the injured person's best interests at all times. As long as they have mental capacity, they will need to sign their own paperwork and you are unable to do this on their behalf.



At times we will need to take instructions directly from the client, however we are always mindful of difficulties they may have and may require your help in these situations to get the information that we need.

Making a claim for elderly relatives

If you want to help an elderly parent or grandparent make a claim, you might be able to give instructions on their behalf whilst the claim is ongoing if you have their permission for this. There will be times when they're needed to sign their own paperwork or give instructions directly to us. They can however revoke their permission of authority at any time.

It could make sense for an elderly relative to get Power of Attorney set up in order for someone to help make decisions about things like medical care or managing finances.



Making a claim for someone who has passed away

Making a claim for someone who has died means there are specific criteria that apply. If the deceased person left a Will, only the Executors are legally allowed to bring the claim forwards. If there was no Will, there is a chain of entitlement that we must follow.

If you wish to investigate a claim for someone who has died, we recommend speaking to us and we will be able to provide tailored advice specific to your circumstances.



Similar cases we've worked on in the past

Pensioner awarded £18,000 following late wife's hospital fall



Negligent ultrasound causes fatality in elderly woman



Parents receive £30,000 settlement after baby boy dies one week after birth

