

Injuries and the law

Your route to a quicker recovery

Accident or negligence?

An accident is simply an incident which no one could have reasonably foreseen and for which no one should be held responsible. Negligence is defined, in short, as something which you can reasonably foresee will injure someone else who is likely to be affected by your actions or lack of actions. Full explanation: www.apil.org.uk/accidentornegligence

If you have been injured as a result of someone else's negligence there are a range of benefits available to you, in addition to much-needed medical treatment and financial redress.

APIL's Think Rehab! campaign raises awareness among lawyers of care and rehabilitation facilities. APIL lawyers are committed to ensuring the injured people they act for make the best and quickest possible recovery after an injury.

APIL lawyers are the gateway to finding the care, financial help and benefits which will speed your recovery. They can help you to obtain the following from the negligent party or their insurers:

- Upfront payments, e.g. taxis to hospitals
- Domestic care
- Equipment and adaptations to make your life easier, while you recover e.g. wheelchair, ramps at home
- Early private medical treatment e.g. physiotherapy
- Arranging flexible return to work
- Retraining, if needed, which will give you access to future employment

Social security benefit advisers can also offer help and guidance – visit:

www.dwp.gov.uk/lifeevent/benefits

Medical health insurance

Health insurance can cover the cost of medical treatment, or pay a lump sum, in certain circumstances, or pay regular amounts during the period of your injury or incapacity.

PEOPLE First is a national programme providing information, guidance and support run by APIL (Association of Personal Injury Lawyers) which is committed to supporting injured people and their families. www.apil.org.uk/PEOPLEFirst or telephone 0870 609 1958

(Factsheet 2)

