

Guide to spinal injury support

There are many organisations and individuals that can help with the range of issues you and your family need to deal with after a spinal injury.

The list below aims to provide some useful links to services that may be able to offer assistance.

Therapy services

Various forms of therapy are crucial for people with spinal injuries. This includes:

- **Physiotherapy, which helps to improve a patient's physical well-being and mobility;**
- **Occupational therapy, which helps you to cope with day-to-day living and to regain independence by suggesting solutions to the challenges faced.**

The above is available on the NHS and your GP can refer you. However, waiting times can be lengthy and some families may have the means to pay privately for a therapist. For families who have a clinical negligence claim, any money spent on therapy can be claimed back if the claim is successful.

In addition, current therapy sessions can be paid for using interim compensation payments if these are made by the defendant, and the lifetime cost of future therapy will be factored into the final settlement.

To find an accredited therapist specialising in physiotherapy or occupational therapy please use the national registers below.

[Chartered Society of Physiotherapists](#)

[The Royal College of Occupational Therapists](#)

Support

A spinal injury can take a huge emotional and psychological toll on both the patient and those closest to them. Talking to someone who knows exactly what you are going through can have a hugely positive impact.

JMW is in contact with numerous support services that operate helplines providing both emotional and practical assistance following a diagnosis of a spinal injury.

[Cauda Equina Champions Charity](#)

[The Spinal Injuries Association](#)

[Back Up Trust](#)

Health, social care and transport

Your local NHS services and council are responsible for providing health and social care and help with specialist transport needs. [This section of the NHS website](#) has some useful links and information.

JMW's [Oliver Wright](#) also deals with legal issues relating to health, social care and transport provision by the NHS and local authorities if you feel you are not receiving the support you are entitled to.

If you have a successful clinical negligence claim it will be possible to fund some, if not all, of your health, care and transport requirements on a private basis. This will help to avoid lengthy waiting times and provide you with some control on provision.



YOUR CONTACT

Oliver Wright, Partner

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Financial planning

If you have a successful clinical negligence claim, and are awarded a significant compensation settlement to cover the lifetime cost of your care and lost earnings, then you will require sound financial advice.

JMW works with a number of independent financial advisors with vast experience of advising families who have been awarded a compensation settlement.

The companies we regularly refer clients to include:

[Pareto Financial Planning](#)

[Nestor Independent Financial Advice](#)

[Personal Financial Planning](#)

Planning for your family's future

Ensuring your family's financial security is important for everyone but especially so if there are complex needs to consider, or if the ability to work for a living has been lost.

[Paul Gotch](#), a partner in JMW's private client team, can help with a range of issues that your family may need to take care of to provide security now and in the future.



YOUR CONTACT

Paul Gotch, Partner

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This includes:

- Wills, trusts and estate planning
- Probate issues
- Lasting powers of attorney
- Personal injury trusts

Conveyancing

Most patients with a severe spinal injury will require specialist housing to ensure that they can safely cope with their disabilities. JMW has an in-house conveyancing team which can deal with the legalities of a house purchase from a compensation settlement. The team is led by [Andrew Garvie](#).



YOUR CONTACT

Andrew Garvie, Partner

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Employment

Employment issues can arise when a family member suddenly needs to take on the role of a carer, or if you are unable to return to work following a spinal injury. JMW has a specialist employment team that can advise you on how to tackle the employment challenges you now face. The team is led by highly-respected employment solicitor [Paul Chamberlain](#).



YOUR CONTACT

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