

3PB Barrister Profile



Colin McDevitt

Call 1995

Email: colin.mcdevitt@3pb.co.uk

Academic Qualifications

BSc (Hons), Dip. Law (City)

Personal Injury & Clinical Negligence

Colin McDevitt read Biochemistry and Physiology at University and then worked for a number of years in pharmaceuticals. His background in the life sciences and experience in industry gives him an invaluable understanding of the medical and commercial aspects of the claims he assists with. He specialises in personal injury, clinical negligence and fatal accident claims including those with multiple injuries and claims with experts from a number of disciplines. He receives regular instructions from his solicitors in the following areas.

- Employers? liability (workplace regulations including manual handling operations regulations)
- Industrial injuries (including HAVS)
- Defective machinery
- Occupiers? liability
- Road traffic accidents
- Clinical negligence (including cosmetic surgery, dental)
- Ancillary matters including: Extension of time for issuing a claim form; Limitation; Contribution; Causation (including medical causation); Costs; Costs-only proceedings.

Colin McDevitt is a member of the Personal Injuries Bar Association (PIBA) and the Professional Negligence Bar Association (PNBA)

Professional Qualifications and Appointments

- Accredited Mediation Advocate

Professional Bodies

- Employment Law Bar Association (ELBA)
- Personal Injury Bar Association

- Professional Negligence Bar Association (PNBA)

Notable Cases

A (a child) v Jersey [2007]

Acting for the infant claimant who was born 3 months after her father's death from pituitary adenoma at the age of 29 years. The dependency claim on behalf of the child arose out of the negligence of an ophthalmologist who failed to diagnose the deceased's condition. High value claim.

B v Royal Bournemouth Hospital [2009]

An administrative failure led to a 6 month delay in the claimant undergoing a hysterectomy which resulted in an aggressive cancer significantly reducing the claimant's 5 year survival rate. The defendant disputed causation and quantum before the claim was compromised.

C v Harley Medical Group [2009]

Acting for the claimant who underwent a breast reduction procedure in the absence of a warning as to the risks of fat necrosis if the claimant did not lose weight. The procedure resulted in fat necrosis and infection which required 4 further operations to debride the wounds, close of the wounds and cosmetically revise the scars. The claimant suffered pain, distress and anxiety.

Davies v Bunney [2010]

Acting for the passenger in a car who suffered serious injury when the driver lost control on black ice. The claimant suffered significant injuries to his chest, lungs and spine. He was kept in hospital for 17 days. There was a substantial dispute on liability. The claim was compromised shortly before trial.

Greene v O'Connell & Shea [2011]

A High Court claim in which Colin acted for the claimant who fell 18 feet from a ladder inside a lift shaft that was being constructed. He suffered a brain and orthopaedic injuries causing cognitive, psychiatric and physical symptoms. There were issues of contributory negligence, causation and quantum. Each side instructed 5 experts to deal with the myriad of injuries. Extensive past and future losses were claimed and the parties attended procedural hearings and a joint settlement meeting. The claim was successfully compromised.

Hirson v Zmudka [2011]

Colin acted for the claimant who was injured in an accident which damaged her spine and caused psychiatric symptoms. The claim involved detailed analysis of video surveillance evidence in respect of the significance of which the experts disagreed. Significant damages were claimed and the claim was successfully compromised at a joint settlement meeting.

M (a child) v Bellemoor School [2011]

Colin represented the 12 year old claimant student who was assaulted by a teacher while at school causing minor physical but significant psychological injury. He became isolated within his community and withdrew from religious and cultural activities. He became electively mute as a result of PTSD. There was a dispute as to causation and it was alleged that the claimant's allegedly dysfunctional family had contributed to a large extent to his symptoms. Difficult claim to quantify given the effect on the claimant's schooling.

P v C [2012]

Acting for the claimant who underwent a breast-enhancing injection of hyaluronic acid. She claimed she did not give informed consent due to a failure to inform of the risks of the procedure and the lack of any 'cooling off' period. The claimant developed encapsulated cysts which required remedial surgery. The claim involved allegations of tampering with medical records and allegations amounting to fraudulent non-payment for the procedure. The claim was compromised 2 weeks before trial.