

Jessica Atkin

Senior Associate

“Jessica Atkin has been my lead lawyer since the beginning and I cannot say enough good things about her. Her knowledge on the field of clinical negligence is outstanding. She is a great listener, but also ruthless when she needs to be and can cut through any of my waffle to filter out anything that is irrelevant to helping us move forward with the case.”

(The Legal 500, 2024)



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Jessica joined Freeths in 2014 and, following completion of her training, qualified into the Clinical Negligence team.

Jessica works on a wide range of matters and supports Partner Jane Williams in complex and maximum-severity claims. She has experience in dealing with complex maternity negligence, orthopaedic cases, birth injury matters and neurological claims.

Jessica is thorough and approachable. She seizes opportunities to work dynamically on matters and considers alternative ways to achieve the best outcome for her clients. She is always keen to reassure clients and put them at ease.

Jessica is listed as a Recommended Lawyer and recognised as a Rising Star in The Legal 500 (2024 edition) in Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence, and is ranked as an Associate-to-Watch in Chambers & Partners (2024 edition).

Legal Services

Acquired Brain Injury

Jessica has acted and continues to work on cases involving significant brain injuries which have arisen as a result of negligence.

Selected Cases

- Jessica assisted Partner Jane Williams in achieving an out of court settlement of a case involving a claimant who suffered a hypoxic brain injury following a routine operation. The Claimant was left with a significant neurological injury when her symptoms were dismissed and the settlement (with a capitalised value of over £5 million) will go towards her care and rehabilitation moving forward.

Cerebral Palsy Claims Solicitors

Jessica has assisted with many high value settlements on birth injury claims, including those involving a diagnosis of cerebral palsy.

Selected Cases

- Assisted Partner Jane Williams in achieving settlement of a claim relating to the mismanagement of the claimant's birth, which sadly led to the claimant suffering cerebral palsy. The capitalised value of the settlement totalled around £10 million.

Nottingham Maternity Negligence

Jessica is currently acting on cases arising from the investigation into Nottingham maternity services.

Selected Cases

- Achieved an out of court settlement of £80,000 for a woman who was negligently overdosed with anaesthetic during the birth of her child.

Clinical Negligence

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Jessica acted on the Maxillofacial Group Action brought against University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust. She continues to act on cases involving Oral and Maxillofacial surgery.

Recent cases:

- Achieved an out of court settlement of £200,000, as part of the Leicester Maxillofacial Group Action, for a family of a much loved mother and grandmother who died in 2019. Before her death, the patient underwent surgery at the Leicester Oral and Maxillofacial Service. She was not counselled as to her options for reconstruction and was left shocked after surgery to find that bone had been taken from her hip and shoulder.
- Achieved an out of court settlement of £46,000 for a client who was left with a bony spur following a genioplasty operation to improve the asymmetry of her face.

Delay in Cancer Diagnosis

Selected Cases

- Achieved an out of court settlement of £380,000 for a woman whose cervical smear was misreported and who had to undergo a radical hysterectomy as a result of her subsequent cancer diagnosis.

Sectors