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# **Ways To Maximise Your Dental Negligence Claim To Achieve The Compensation You Deserve**

[www.dental-mistake.co.uk](http://www.dental-mistake.co.uk)



# 1

## Pain, Suffering & Loss of Amenity

When making a dental negligence claim, you can claim for the pain, suffering, and loss of amenity that you have suffered as a result of the negligent treatment received. This is sometimes known as “general damages”.

This could include the pain of undergoing unnecessary dental treatment (if treatment was carried out that should not have been) and the pain of future treatment to rectify any dental problems caused by the failures of your treating dentist.

It could also include any pain suffered as a result of failure to provide appropriate treatment. It may be that you suffered pain and discomfort from untreated tooth pain, infections, and abscesses. This can all be claimed for from the dentist who provided negligent treatment.

It could also include the loss of amenity that you have suffered as a result of losing teeth as a result of negligence. In general, the loss of a front tooth is worth more than the loss of a back tooth.

The Judicial College publishes guidelines on how much a dental injury is worth. The most recent guidelines set out a typical valuation from around £1,090 for the loss of a single back tooth up to around £38,000 for the most significant dental problems.



## 2

## Immediate Treatment Costs

If you need to have dental treatment to rectify any damage done by the negligent dentist, then these costs can also be recovered from the negligent dentist. This is important as these costs can be very expensive.

These costs can include the costs of fillings, root canal treatments, and even more expensive endodontic treatments such as crowns and implants. These can be expensive, and implants can cost up to around £2,000 per implant with the cost of a crown on top. A complicated root canal treatment can cost between £600 and £800 on its own. Private fillings can cost £300 to £400 each.

You are not obliged, even if the treatment was provided on an NHS basis, to undergo further treatment on an NHS basis. You are entitled to the private treatment costs of such treatment. There are a number of significant benefits of seeking private treatment, which can include a better overall level of service and much shorter waiting times. We will seek to recover private treatment costs on your behalf.



### 3

## Future Treatment Costs

It is not just the immediate treatment costs that you can recover from the negligent dentist who treated you, but also treatment costs that will be incurred in the future.

This is important as not all dental treatments will last forever and will often need to be replaced. It is often expected that a crown will require replacement every 15 years or so and a filling every 10 years or so. It is essential that we also recover these costs for you, as you will not just need to pay for the immediate treatment costs of dealing with the negligent dentist's treatment now, but also the costs of replacing the treatment carried out to fix this damage.

It can also cover treatment costs that aren't needed yet but will be needed in the future. This could include where the prognosis of a tooth has been reduced and may need treatment in the next 5 to 10 years but not straight away.



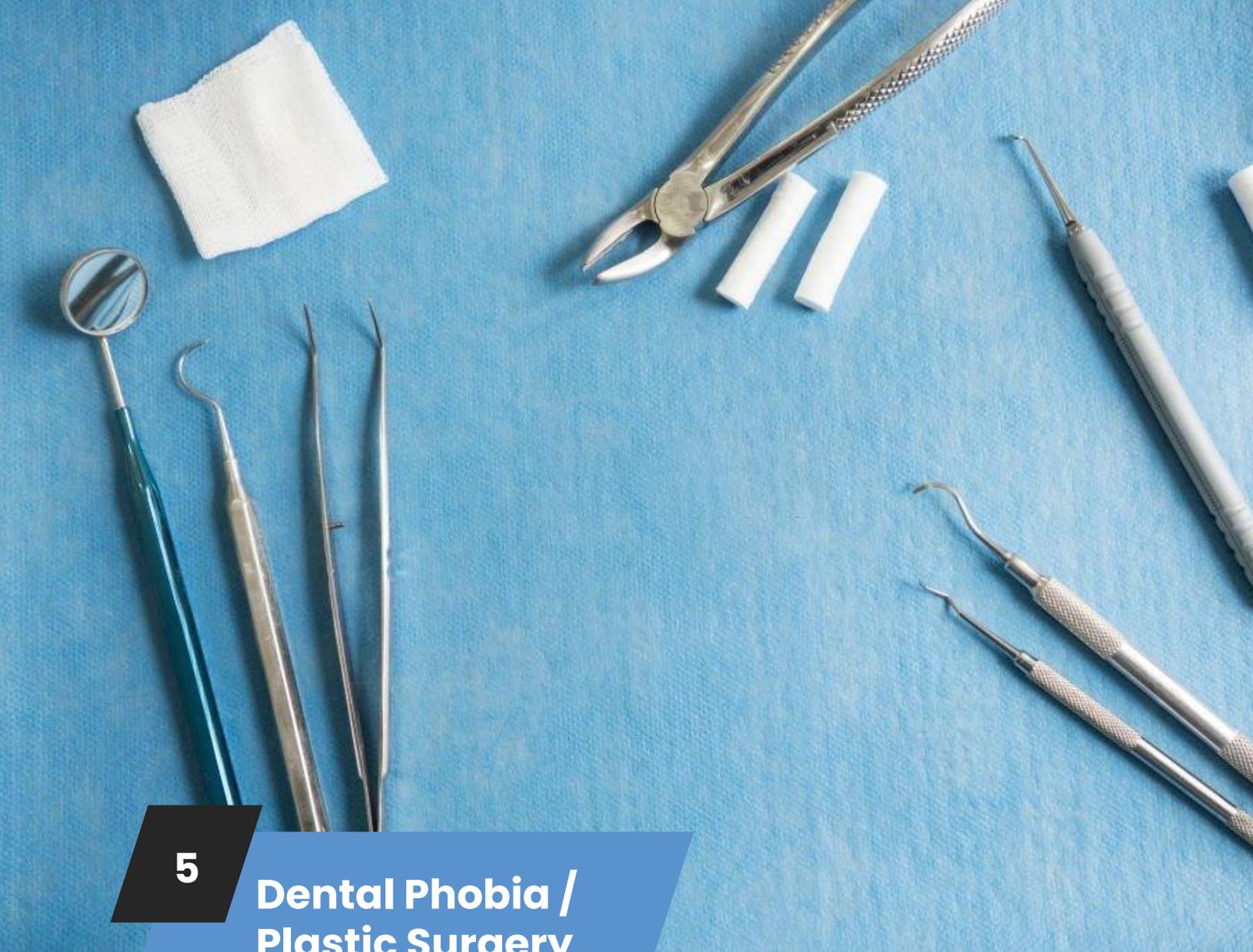
## 4

## Expenses

It isn't just dental treatment costs that you can recover from the negligent dentist. You can also recover any out-of-pocket expenses that you have incurred or will incur as a result of the negligent treatment.

This can include if you have taken time off work or will need to take time off work in the future owing to negligent treatment. It can also include other costs such as if you had to cancel plans or holidays as a result of your dental treatment.

It can even include more modest costs such as travel expenses and parking costs for attending treatment. Don't leave yourself out of pocket by paying for these yourself!



## 5

# Dental Phobia / Plastic Surgery

In some, more extreme cases, it might be the case that the negligence that you have suffered has left you with a dental phobia. If this is the case, then this can also be explored, and it can be possible to obtain additional compensation for such a phobia in addition to the costs of treating the phobia. This would normally be treated with cognitive behavioral therapy.

It might also be the case that the treatment that you received has left you with scarring or other consequences. It can also be possible to claim for plastic surgery to treat/reduce any scarring that you have suffered.

## NEXT STEPS

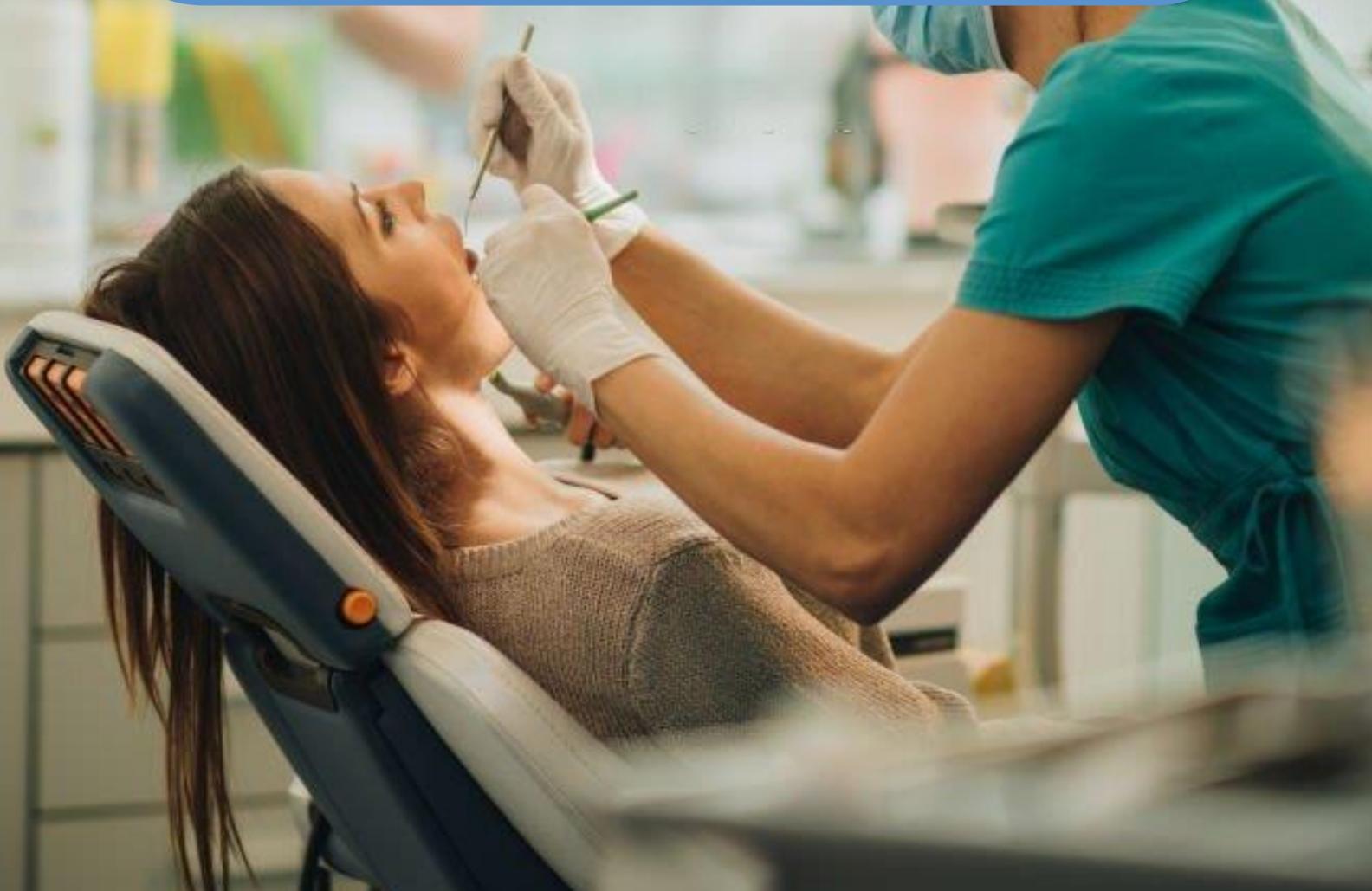
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Please do not hesitate to contact Adam Belcher at Wixted & Co. Solicitors for a free consultation to see if we could act for you on our “no win, no fee” basis.

5 minutes of your time spent now could make a huge difference to your future financial security.

**ACT FAST, DO NOT DELAY. PROTECT YOUR FINANCIAL SECURITY FOR TOMORROW BY ACTING TODAY.**

The materials appearing within this guide do not constitute legal advice and are provided for general information purposes only. No warranty, whether express or implied, is given in relation to such materials, and we do not accept any liability for error or omission. Specialist legal advice should be taken in relation to specific circumstances.



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Adam Belcher is a Senior Associate at Wixted & Co and has been with the firm for over 13 years.

Adam specializes in dental negligence claims and has a particular interest in claims arising from untreated/poorly treated gum disease and periodontal disease. Adam has represented a large number of clients, in respect of claims for dental negligence, at all stages of the process and has recovered significant sums of compensation for former clients.

For a free initial discussion, please email [adam@wixtedandco.co.uk](mailto:adam@wixtedandco.co.uk) or call **0808 531 5394** and ask to speak to **Adam Belcher** in relation to a new dental negligence claim.

