Holly Tibbitts

Call: 2010

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Holly Tibbitts is a leading junior barrister specialising in personal injury and clinical negligence claims. She is ranked in both Chambers & Partners and the Legal 500.

She has a busy and varied case load, mainly representing claimants with life changing injuries. She acts exclusively in multi-track claims and most of her cases are issued in the High Court. She is often instructed as sole counsel but also has an impressive junior practice, working with leading silks on multi-million-pound claims of the utmost complexity.

Holly has significant experience of high value quantum cases across a range of injuries, including catastrophic brain and spinal injuries, lifechanging orthopaedic injuries, birth injuries, pain conditions, loss of sight and hearing, psychiatric injury, bowel and bladder dysfunction, gynaecological issues, and diseases such as cancer. She is regularly instructed to act in fatal and lost years claims.

Her practice covers the full range of liability issues across personal injury and clinical negligence. Her PI claims encompass everything from road traffic accidents to accidents at work, public liability, and product liability, as well as claims under the Animals Act. Her clinical negligence work covers issues from surgical negligence to missed or delayed diagnosis, negligent clinical decision making, inappropriate treatment, and consent issues.

Holly regularly advises on a wide range of procedural and tactical matters. She is frequently instructed to act on behalf of claimants who lack capacity and has a solid understanding of the procedural complexities involved in these claims.

Client care is at the forefront of Holly's practice. She is personable and reassuring with clients and aims to provide her advice in timely and straightforward manner.

Holly is a contributing editor to Kemp & Kemp: Quantum of Damages and frequently writes and lectures on a range of topics within her practice.

Areas of Expertise

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Clinical Negligence & Healthcare

Holly is ranked as a leading junior for clinical negligence in both the Legal 500 and Chambers & Partners.

Her practice encompasses the full range of clinical negligence claims including surgical negligence, consenting issues, missed and delayed diagnoses, and unnecessary and inappropriate treatment. She deals with claims involving on complex issues of breach and causation across a range of medical disciplines on a daily basis. She has a thorough grasp of the significant tactical and procedural considerations that apply, particularly in higher value claims. She is adept at drafting and frequently prepares complex clinical negligence pleadings, including £multi-million schedules of loss.

Holly has a special interest in catastrophic injury claims, including birth injuries, severe brain damage and lifechanging spinal injuries. She receives instructions in relation to a wide range of injuries including significant orthopaedic complications, cancer, gastro-intestinal injuries, pain conditions and psychiatric illness. She also has significant experience of claims relating to bariatric surgery. She is regularly instructed to act in fatal and lost years claims.

Notable Clinical Negligence & Healthcare cases

Unusually complex linked claims relating to two triplets with cerebral palsy, one brought on a wrongful birth basis and one as a clinical negligence claim. Holly is led by Ed Bishop KC.

Claim on behalf of a child following delayed diagnosis of a diaphragmatic hernia resulting in small bowel syndrome and developmental delay, involving complex issues around the attributability of the Claimant's neurocognitive presentation and his ongoing needs. Holly is led by Giles Mooney KC.

Liability disputed claim against an ambulance Trust on behalf of a child with cerebral palsy arising from a delay in conveying mother with antepartum haemorrhage to hospital. Holly is led by Giles Mooney KC.

Claim arising from delayed diagnosis of chronic limb ischaemia resulting in below-knee amputation.

Delayed diagnosis of malignant melanoma resulting metastatic disease, short life expectancy and a significant lost years claim.

Claim arising from delayed diagnosis of a peri-prosthetic fracture, resulting in the need for multiple remedial procedures leaving the Claimant with significantly reduced mobility and extensive care needs.

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Liability disputed claim arising out of mismanagement of a measles infection resulting in a severe brain injury requiring full time care. Holly is led by Giles Mooney KC.

Complex claim against multiple defendants arising out of delayed diagnosis of a brain tumour in a child.

A claim on behalf of a young woman with a delayed diagnosis of kidney disease, resulting in a kidney transplant and a significant loss of life expectancy.

Tarrant v Monkhouse [2025] EWHC 2576 (KB): Holly acted for the Claimant in this highly complex claim relating to complications following a balloon dilatation performed after sleeve gastrectomy, which proceeded to a High Court trial on liability.

Severe brain injury claim in an adult arising from delayed diagnosis of a subdural haematoma which settled for £2.75million plus PPOs of £230,000. Holly was led by Giles Mooney KC.

Liability disputed fatal claim arising out of mismanagement of a femoral artery bleed in a working mother. Settled at JSM for £1/2 million and subsequently approved by the Court. Holly acted as sole counsel.

Liability disputed cauda equina claim on behalf of a young woman left with permanent lifechanging bladder and bowel dysfunction and significant psychiatric symptoms. Settled for £350,000 after Holly walked away from the inadequate offers at JSM.

Historic claim involving loss of vision in a child. Holly was responsible for pleading the schedule of loss at over £5.3m.

Personal Injury

Holly is recognised as a leading personal injury barrister and is ranked in the Legal 500 and Chambers & Partners for her work on personal injury claims. She acts in cases involving the full range of liability issues, including road traffic accidents, accidents at work,

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public liability claims, and claims under the Animals Act.

Many of Holly's cases involve significant and life changing injuries. She is experienced at dealing with severe and subtle brain injuries, serious orthopaedic and spinal injuries, complex internal injuries, long term psychiatric disorders, and pain conditions among others. She regularly acts in fatal accidents and lost years claims. She is confident dealing with expert evidence across a range of disciplines. She is frequently instructed to prepare complex pleadings including high value schedules of loss.

Notable Personal Injury cases

An extremely complex high-level tetraplegia claim arising out of an firearms accident at work. Settled for a lump sum of £17.65m. Holly was led by Ed Bishop KC.

Paraplegia claim arising from a road traffic accident. Holly is led by Stuart McKechnie KC.

Liability disputed brain injury claim against the MIB on behalf of a child pedestrian hit by an uninsured moped.

A historic brain injury claim on behalf of a teenage boy involving a significant dispute about future capacity. Holly settled the claim for £650,000 at JSM. This was subsequently approved in the High Court.

A claim on behalf of a young man who was rendered paraplegic following a road traffic accident. Holly is led by Ed Bishop KC.

Multiple claims relating to traumatic toe amputations in children sustained while using escalators on the public transport network.

A claim on behalf of a young woman with multiple complex internal, orthopaedic, and spinal injuries arising from a road traffic accident. Pleaded at over £850,000.

A catastrophic brain injury claim on behalf of a cyclist hit by a tractor. Holly was led by Ed Bishop KC. Settled at JSM for a capitalised sum of £7.6m.

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Inquests

Holly is regularly instructed to appear at inquests where a death has resulted from personal injuries or suspected clinical negligence. She has a solid understanding of inquest practice and procedure and a thorough appreciation of the interplay between inquests and civil proceedings.

Notable Inquests cases

Acting for the husband of a pregnant woman who died of infection following cervical cerclage.

Acting for the mother of a baby who died due to injuries sustained at birth.

Appearing on behalf of the family of a farm worker who was crushed in a tipper truck door. The inquest was held before a jury and the claim was subsequently settled.

Acting for the family of a teenage boy who died following a failure to diagnose appendicitis.

Acting for the family at a jury inquest touching the death of a man killed while inside a machine at a recycling plant.

Acting for the parents of a teenage girl who died due to consequences of an eating disorder.

Appearing on behalf of the parents of a young boy who died as a result of complications of routine surgery.

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Education

- MA (Cantab) Archaeology & Anthropology, St John's College Cambridge (1st class)
- Graduate Diploma in Law, City University (Distinction)
- Bar Vocational Course, BPP (Outstanding)

Memberships

- Personal Injuries Bar Association
- Middle Temple

Awards

- Middle Temple Rosamund Smith Mooting Cup
- Middle Temple Certificate of Honour
- Middle Temple Astbury Scholarship (GDL & BVC)
- McMahon Law Studentship, St John's College Cambridge
- Whytehead Scholarship, St John's College Cambridge (twice awarded)
- Gaskell Year Prize, St John's College Cambridge
- Goody Wright Prize, St John's College Cambridge
- Glyn and Ruth Daniel Fund Award, St John's College Cambridge

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