

MR JOSEPH PEREZ MBBS FRCS (Ed) FRCS (TR & ORTH)
Consultant Trauma & Orthopaedic Surgeon
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All Correspondence to:

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Current Terms & Conditions for Medico Legal Work - 15 January 2021

All medico legal work is charged at my hourly rate of £345.

Simple Personal Injury reports start at £600 to £900.

Straightforward Breach of Duty reports start at £1500 to £1800.

Industrial Injury and Employment Tribunal reports start at £900 to £1500.

We can provide you with an estimate once in receipt of all records/imaging before proceeding with the case if required or we anticipate higher charges.

All medico legal work thereafter is charged at my hourly rate, this includes:

- Addendum medical reports
- Response to CPR Part 35 Questions
- Telephone conferences with Solicitors and or Counsel
- Extensive queries

Face-to-face conferences with Solicitors and or Counsel take travel time into consideration and are charged for a minimum of 3 hours.

Attendance at Court is charged at £2750 per booked day, cancellation charges apply as follows:

6-8 weeks	10%
4-6 weeks	25%
2-4 weeks	50%
2 weeks or less	100% of full fee

Travel, subsistence and accommodation costs may also apply.

Our normal payment terms are 90 days, but this can be extended to 6 months with established clients. All prices are exclusive of VAT.

Explanation for Court Cancellation Fees

There are genuine reasons for medical experts having court cancellation fees, particularly those in active clinical NHS practice.

Doctors have a limited number of annual and study leave days and are contractually obliged to provide 8 weeks' notice. This is closely monitored by hospital management. As soon as the written electronic request is submitted, clinic appointments are cancelled and theatre lists redeployed to other surgeons/specialities; this process is usually irreversible.

In the Pre-Covid era this could give rise to patient dissatisfaction and sometimes official letters of complaint, for which the consultant is contractually obliged to respond within 28 days. Post-Covid, allocated theatre lists have become a scarce and shared resource; this will become self-evident to the general public over time with predicted increased waiting lists times for elective surgery from months to years.

There is also a statutory requirement for annual appraisal and quinquennial revalidation with the GMC, so as to be able to practice medicine in the United Kingdom. This is a time-consuming process and again subject to scrutiny from NHS and private healthcare facilities, with lapses in documentation leading to disciplinary action or loss of practising privileges.

There are similar knock-on effects for private clinical and medicolegal practice, again more severe since the start of the pandemic. Private hospitals insist that operating lists be filled many weeks in advance (at the time of writing, 3 weeks) otherwise they are reallocated. Current requirements for enhanced consent, pre-operative self-isolation, and screening investigations with a minimum "cooling off" period for elective surgical operations (Montgomery and Thefaut) mean that operating lists cannot be filled at short notice after a cancelled court case.

Therefore, if the court requires expert medical opinion from those currently engaged in clinical practice in order to perform its function, it needs to be cognisant of the above facts.

By instructing Mr Perez in this matter, you therefore confirm that you agree to the above said terms and conditions, including court cancellation charges and will be responsible for settling these fees. These should be discussed at an early stage with the trial judge and your legal counterparts so that appropriate provision is made for the same when agreeing a settlement.

Mr Perez is aware that ultimately judges have the power to review and curtail all legal costs.

The London Hand Clinic Data Policy

By instructing Mr Perez in this matter, you confirm that:

- a) You and or any other intermediary agent are GDPR compliant and have obtained the necessary consent, implicit or explicit from your clients whether Claimant or Defendant, for data sharing with us, pertaining to the legal matter on which you have instructed us.
- b) You have read and agree to the terms of our data policy management policy which is reviewed regularly in keeping with changes to UK legislation and or GMC guidelines, as posted on the company website:

www.thelondonhandclinic.com