

Andrew Lewis QC

Called: 1985

Silk Date: 2009



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Practice Overview

Chambers & Partners 2022 (PI) Band 1

Andrew Lewis QC is a highly regarded barrister who is noted for his vast experience handling claims involving injuries of the utmost severity. He also fields considerable expertise in cases involving allegations of fraud and exaggeration.

PRACTICE AREAS

Personal Injury
Clinical Negligence
Industrial Disease
Inquests
Health and Safety

APPOINTMENTS

2001 - Recorder (Civil)
2004 - Recorder (Crime)
2009 - Queens Counsel
2010 - Deputy High Court Judge

ASSOCIATIONS

Personal Injury Bar Association
North Eastern Circuit

Criminal and Regulatory

Related to his personal injury practice Andrew regularly defends Health and Safety prosecutions, usually those involving catastrophic or fatal injury.

Andrew regularly attends coroner's hearings not only in respect of accidents at work but also fatalities in RTA's and children in school care.

Andrew also undertakes work involving Professional Disciplinary tribunals.

Sample Concluded cases

HSE v R Ltd [2013] HSE prosecution of fatal accident at work.

S (Deceased) [2010] Coroner's hearing involving fire service vehicle driving through red light, and loss of on board CCTV footage, resulting in fatality and brain damaged child, with rule 43 recommendations regarding fire service driving policies and training.

Sample Concluded cases

Inquest for fatal RTA involving issues of police driving in 'chase'.

Defence of HSE prosecution involving fatality from collapsing bales stored in a warehouse.

Clinical Negligence

Andrew has vast experience of all areas of clinical negligence work. He works for Claimants, the NHSLA and GPs undertaking cases of all types up to the most serious cerebral palsy negligent birth claims.

Andrew has dealt with a wide range of claims with particular experience of Accident & Emergency and orthopaedic failures, obstetric claims (cerebral palsy/shoulder dystocia), paediatric cardiac surgery, delayed diagnosis of cancer, gastro-intestinal claims and failed cosmetic surgery.

Sample Concluded cases

F v SL [2013] High Court approved cerebral palsy liability only settlement.

R v LT [2013] High Court liability trial on failure to supervise brain damaged patient in hospital ward.

P v SY [2012] High Court approval of £9m historical CP case (1968 birth) with PPO's.

B v LT [2011] Delayed diagnosis of adrenal tumour leading to death 7 years later. Complex apportionment issues.

H v G [2011] GP delay in diagnosing cervical cancer in 20 year old mother in terminal condition.

C v NHS Yorkshire [2009] Cerebral Palsy liability trial involving issues of the standard of obstetric care that should have been provided in the 1960's.

Sample current cases

- Andrew is leading counsel in numerous Cerebral Palsy claims involving issues of breach of duty, causation and quantum.
- Failure to diagnose kidney failure in neo-natal period.
- Delayed diagnosis of breast cancer and lost years claim.
- Failed to treat an abscess and infection leading to stroke and substantial brain damage.
- Delayed treatment of foot ulcer leading to amputation.

Personal Injury

Andrew has vast experience in all areas of personal injury and clinical negligence work having specialised in this field since joining the Bar. He is a contributor to Butterworth's Personal Injury Litigation Service.

Andrew's personal injury practice consists largely of fatal and catastrophic injury claims, particularly brain and spinal cord injury case. Andrew is very experienced in work involving competing claims of exaggeration/fraud versus subtle brain injury/chronic pain/somatoform disorder. His disease work is now largely based around

asbestos induced mesothelioma claims. Andrew works for both Claimants and Defendants. In his employer's liability work Andrew will also become involved in conducting Inquests and defending Health and Safety prosecutions.

Andrew's work not only includes drafting, advising and court work but he attends a considerable number of Joint Settlement Meetings and Mediations in high value claims.

Andrew is currently one of the leading counsel in the Mau Mau group litigation against the British Government.

Sample Concluded cases

N v J [2013] High Court Settlement of spinal cord injury and symptomatic syring claim (gross £5.5m with PPO's).

H v B [2013] High Court liability and causation trial on effectiveness of seatbelts in severe brain injury claim.

S v G [2013] High Court approval of £3m settlement (£12m claim) for child pedestrian based on litigation risk.

B v P [2013] High Court trial involving fatal electrocution at music festival.

H v L [2013] High Court liability case involving causation of double amputations from RTA or subsequent samurai sword attack.

H v H [2012] Settlement for double amputee involving pioneering surgery in USA (claim £7.4m)

S v M [2011] Ventilator dependant claimant. Negotiated indemnity PPO of £300k pa in presence of continuing PCT funding.

Riaz v Norwich Union [2009] EWCA Civ. Court of Appeal. Court's right to reject uncontested expert evidence.

Burgin v Sheffield [2005] EWCA Civ 482. Court of Appeal. HAVS case on section 33, establishing evidential burden upon the Defendant

Hensar Leather v Securicor [2002]. Court of Appeal. Employer's liability claim establishing that a failure to provide body armour to security guards was a breach of PPE Regulations

Totty v Snowden [2001] EWCA Civ 1415. Court of Appeal. CPR and time for service of Particulars of Claim.

Sample current cases

- Andrew is currently leading counsel on a number of ongoing catastrophic injury claims involving liability, including a £5m employer's liability tetraplegic claim, an RTA claim involving a ventilator dependant teenager and a fraudulent presentation of brain damage and blindness claim.
- Leading counsel in a Court of Appeal case on seat belt contributory negligence and causation.
- Leading Counsel in catastrophic injury case involving use of a Personal Injury Trust rather than Deputy under the Court of Protection.
- Leading Counsel in substantial brain damage case involving cultural issues and conflicts between Deputy and family.
- Professional negligence claim for under settlement of brain injury claim.

Directory Comments

Andrew Lewis QC is a highly regarded barrister who is noted for his vast experience handling claims involving injuries of the utmost severity. He also fields considerable expertise in cases involving allegations of fraud and

exaggeration.

Strengths: "He is pragmatic, sensible and quick." "One of the most approachable QCs - he makes you feel completely at ease." "Always very well prepared and has excellent attention to detail."
Chambers & Partners 2022 (PI)

Leading silk who maintains an unparalleled practice in the North East. He focuses his skills on multimillion-pound cases and has an outstanding reputation for acting on claims involving serious injury and competing claims of fraud or exaggeration. He is also experienced in the handling of industrial disease claims concerning asbestos-based mesothelioma. He mainly acts for the defence.

Strengths: "Unflappable and well respected by his peers." "A legendary QC who is rightly regarded as one of the best around." "He is very pleasant to deal with, always well prepared and constructive in all his dealings. He is imaginative in the way he thinks about cases and looks for means which might aid resolution. He's pragmatic, has good judgement and does not waste time on points that will not advance his client's cause."

Recent work: Acted in a case concerning a claimant who suffered a severe traumatic brain injury following an RTA.
Chambers & Partners 2020 (PI)

He possesses deep experience in complex clinical negligence, and is frequently sought out to handle major birth injury claims that typically involve cerebral palsy and other brain damage to babies.

Strengths: "He was awesome: he was very human and personable, exceedingly knowledgeable, and he always made us feel involved in the process."
Chambers & Partners 2020 (Clin Neg)

Leading silk who maintains an unparalleled practice in the North East. He focuses his skills on multimillion-pound cases and has an outstanding reputation for acting in claims involving serious injury and competing claims of fraud or exaggeration. He mainly acts for the defence.

Strengths: "Extremely good. Down to earth, approachable and combative when he needs to be. He's realistic and easy to deal with and he has good attention to detail." "Someone we really trust for high-value cases."

Recent work: Acted in a case relating to an RTA in which a child suffered brain damage.
Chambers & Partners 2018 (PI)

Andrew Lewis QC of Park Square Barristers Queen's Counsel and head of chambers with deep experience in complex clinical negligence. He is frequently sought out to handle major birth injury claims that typically involve cerebral palsy and other brain damage to babies.

Strengths: "He's very pleasant, very personable and he knows what he's doing. He's formidable, but he's a nice bloke with it." "Has a wonderful manner both in court and with clients and experts. He's a skilled advocate and negotiator."

Recent work: Represented the claimant in a negligent birth case in which the claimant suffered brain damage and deafness.
Chambers & Partners 2018 (Clin Neg)

Queen's Counsel with deep experience in complex clinical negligence. He is frequently sought out to handle major birth injury claims that typically involve cerebral palsy and other brain damage to babies.

Strengths: "Clients like him. He has a grasp of what is required in these cases, is not out of touch and clients take to him immediately." "He is quick to grasp things and will raise questions ahead of any meeting if he needs to, so everything runs much more smoothly."

Chambers & Partners 2017 (Clin Neg)

He focuses his skills on multimillion-pound cases and has an outstanding reputation for acting for defendants. His experience extends to catastrophic injury claims relating to brain and spinal cord injuries as well as industrial disease matters.

Strengths: "A standout advocate who gives clear advice." "Andrew is a safe pair of hands. He always provides sound advice, is down to earth and so easy to deal with, always putting clients at their ease."
Chambers & Partners 2017 (PI)

"A highly accomplished and very friendly silk" "A very personable silk, who has never lost the human touch"
Legal 500 2017

Deputy High Court Judge, Andrew Lewis QC is frequently sought out to handle a range of complex cases. He has extensive experience acting in brain and spinal injury claims.

Strengths: "He has a very calm manner which puts the clients at ease." "He doesn't get bogged down in the unnecessary issues." "He's very tenacious; he's got good judgement and is prepared to fight."
Chambers & Partners 2016 (Clin Neg)

Offers extensive experience in brain and spinal injuries, most notably acting on behalf of defendants. Commentators enthuse about his accessibility and ability to get to the heart of issues.

Strengths: "He is exceptionally good. A modern, user-friendly silk who is very bright and very capable." "He is an extremely able advocate with a very attractive way of getting a judge's attention."
Chambers & Partners 2016 (PI)

'Excellent with clients and a skilled negotiator.'
Legal 500 2016

"Excellent grasp of papers, adaptable in negotiations, and judges client meetings perfectly"
Legal 500 United Kingdom 2015

"Has a depth of knowledge in relation to brain and spinal cord injuries. Also notable is his experience in a broad range of claims, including fraud and disease work.

Expertise: "He is a charming person and is capable of simplifying challenging law and medical issues." "An absolutely superb barrister, he is tremendous with clients and never lets us down."
Chambers and Partners 2015 - Personal Injury

"Tenacious and persuasive"
Legal 500 2014

"Andrew Lewis QC ... is a first-class lawyer with great attention to detail and a wonderful way with clients. He tackles both personal injury and clinical negligence cases."
2013 Chambers and Partners

"Andrew Lewis QC ...is a skilled and articulate advocate, with a very easygoing manner, and gets on very well with clients. He is recommended for catastrophic injury claims "
2013 Legal 500

"Andrew Lewis QC ... is respected by his opponents. His practice is split between personal injury and clinical negligence. "
2012 Chambers and Partners

"Andrew Lewis QC ... is very well regarded among peers ..."
2012 Legal 500

"Andrew Lewis QC... has vast experience of many severe injury cases, including brain and spinal injuries claims. According to peers, he is a 'disarmingly charming advocate who goes about his business in a highly effective way.' "
2011

"Andrew Lewis QC 'is thought to be 'one of the most approachable silks in the country.' He is popular amongst solicitors and fellow barristers as he offers 'well-rounded and meticulously thought-out advice'."
2010