

# Rehabilitation following a serious injury



After a serious accident, compensation is one way in which we can help you to get your life back on track. We are also committed to helping you access the care and rehabilitation you need to ensure that you recover both physically and mentally from your injuries.

In many cases rehabilitation is most effective when started as soon as is practical, so we'll consider it from the very start of your case and throughout your claim.

## How can rehabilitation help me?

If you've suffered an injury, rehabilitation can help you regain your strength and mobility, amongst other things. It can also help you learn ways of overcoming any problems associated with your symptoms.

If your injuries are substantial or permanent, rehabilitation can teach you coping strategies to help you deal with your long-term future. The type of rehabilitation will vary between injuries but can involve physiotherapy, counselling or training for a prosthetic limb.

## Can I access rehabilitation for my type of injury?

Even if you've suffered only a moderate injury, rehabilitation may still be able to help you recover more quickly.

However it can be particularly beneficial if you've suffered a substantial or potentially life changing injury, such as one to your head, brain or spinal cord.

For the best chance of recovery from your injuries, it's crucial that you're able to access relevant rehabilitation specialists as soon as you need them, but the claims process can take some time and you'll often need to fund some or all of your specialist care costs before your settlement is awarded.

## The 2007 Rehabilitation Code

Whilst the personal injury claims process aims to put you back in the same position you would have been in before. The purpose of the Rehabilitation Code is to provide a framework within which your health, quality of life and ability to work are restored as far as is possible.

If the insurers admit that they will be liable for some damages, the Rehabilitation Code can be used by us and

the insurer to agree an Initial Needs Assessment. If accepted, the insurer is obliged to consider the best way to help you recover from your injuries and how to fund your expenses.

## How is an Initial Needs Assessment carried out?

This depends upon the needs of the case. For example, a simple claim may include a telephone interview, whilst a more complex case could involve a face-to-face discussion between you and the assessor.

They'll prepare a report which will normally cover the following:

- + The injuries you sustained
- + Your current disability/incapacity arising from your injuries
- + Your domestic circumstances, including your mobility, accommodation and employment, where relevant
- + Any injuries for which early intervention or rehabilitation is suggested

## Can you help me access specialist rehabilitation?

Whilst we're assessing your compensation claim, we'll also consider whether early rehabilitation, care or specialist treatment may help or improve your long-term chances of recovery.

Rehabilitation can be provided by a private supplier or be made available to you in your home.

Returning to work after an injury can be hugely beneficial for your morale and self-esteem, but if you're unable to return to your previous role, we can also help you access vocational rehabilitation.

This will help you look at other jobs as well as training schemes, further education and work experience placements.

## Further information

Our aim is to ensure that you're able to lead the fullest life possible, regardless of the severity of your injury. For further help and guidance, call our specialist team on **0117 325 2929** or go to **barcankirby.co.uk**.

**BEDMINSTER** 25 North St, Bristol BS3 1EN  
**BISHOPSTON** 60 Gloucester Rd, Bristol BS7 8BH  
**BRISTOL CITY CENTRE** Prince House, Bristol BS1 4PS

**KINGSWOOD** 111/117 Regent St, Bristol BS15 8LJ  
**THORNBURY** 36 High St, Thornbury BS35 2AJ

**Barcan+Kirby**

📞 0117 325 2929    ✉ hello@barcankirby.co.uk    ➡ barcankirby.co.uk    ✖ @barcankirby

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