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S O L I C I T O R S

LawTalk Blog



## Do you have chronic pain after surgery?

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You've got a medical condition and it's being suggested surgery will improve it. So you go into surgery or undertake the medical procedure hoping your problem will be solved. You come out, the problem is gone but you're faced with a new one or the problem remains and its worse. What do you do? What are your options?

What is chronic pain?

Chronic pain can be the result after surgery and based on research it affects many of us. It can be debilitating and the impact on a person's life can be all encompassing.

[Reference: [Pain Australia](#)]

It is very real and very serious.

Chronic pain is pain that lasts beyond the time expected for healing following surgery or trauma or other condition. It can also exist without a clear reason at all.

A large body of basic research indicates that chronic pain is associated with neuroplastic changes in the nervous system at peripheral, spinal cord and brain levels. [It has a] distinct pathology that often worsens over time, and constitutes a serious separate disease entity.

Left untreated, chronic pain can have a devastating impact on all aspects of sufferers' lives. ... interference with daily activities including sleep, sex, work, exercise and routine self-care, which

can have a negative effect on personal relationship, social interactions and lifestyle.

[Reference: [Pain Australia](#)]

It is important to remember that even though something has gone wrong after surgery or medical treatment it does not mean the doctor did something wrong. If the doctor did do something wrong or did not inform you of the risks of the medical procedure you may have a case for a medical negligence compensation claim.

## **What if the doctor did not warn me about the risks associated with surgery?**

One of our previous articles, "[Sweaty palms and a failure to warn](#)" explains the situation and options where your doctor failed to warn you sufficiently of the risks involved in the surgery or medical procedure. If your doctor failed to inform you of the relevant risks and one of those risks eventuated you may have a case in medical negligence.

## **What if something went wrong during surgery?**

If something went wrong during surgery or medical treatment, you may have a case for medical negligence. There are a few aspects of this which really require you chatting with an experienced medical negligence lawyer to ascertain if, in your situation, there may be medical negligence.

## **How is any negligence during surgery related to my current chronic pain?**

If something went wrong during surgery or your medical procedure, you need to ask if that is the cause of the problem you're now facing; your chronic pain. Causation can be a tricky question and our blog "[Establishing causation is a major aspect of medical negligence claims](#)" should help to explain this.

If you are suffering chronic pain after your medical treatment and you have questions about your legal options, you should speak with an appropriately skilled medical negligence lawyer to determine if you have a potential claim for medical negligence.

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