

Pankaj Madan

Call 1997



Clerks

 Ian Spencer
 0113 203 1971

 Megan Hawke
 0113 203 1985

Appointments

- Deputy District Judge – Civil (2010)
- Accredited Advocacy Trainer – North Eastern Circuit

Memberships

- Personal Injuries Bar Association (member)
- Senior Associate Member of the Royal Society of Medicine

Education

- Accredited Advocacy Trainer North Eastern Circuit
- Trained by CEDR – “Representing Clients in mediation”
- Harmsworth Scholar of the Middle Temple (1996)
- Astbury Scholar of the Middle Temple (1996)
- Law, Magdalene College, Cambridge University (1993 – 1996) M.A. (2:1)
- Leeds Grammar School (1982 – 1992)
- 4 A-Levels at Grade A
- Theaker Economics Prize

Personal Injury

Called to the Bar in 1997 and with over two and a half decades at the forefront of personal injury law, Pankaj’s career is marked by a deep commitment to catastrophic injury cases. He specialises in severe and catastrophic injury cases, some with a potential value of over £20m. Most involve brain injury in particular. His practice is rooted in a profound understanding of the intricacies of brain injuries, severe pain, FND and amputation cases, ensuring meticulous representation for the side he is instructed for.

His role extends beyond the courtroom as a writer and lecturer, contributing to the body of knowledge with recent publications such as “A Practical Guide to Catastrophic Brain Injury Claims” published in June 2024. He sits as a Deputy District Judge (since 2010) and is the first lawyer ever to sit on the Royal Society of Medicine, Pain Section Council.

He has excellent expertise in costs management of severe and catastrophic injury claims securing budgets in excess of £1m in some cases.

Clients also benefit from his expertise in alternative dispute resolution, honed through rigorous analysis of medical evidence and strategic use of experts. Recognised repeatedly by The Legal 500 and in 2025 again for a “Tier 1” legal service, he is dedicated to securing favorable outcomes for clients on whichever side.

As a member of the Equality and Diversity Committee, he advocates for progressive change, fostering an environment where excellence in legal practice is synonymous with equality and diversity.

Cases

BXR (2020) – Successfully concluded a catastrophic child brain injury case (led by Gerard McDermott QC) in just over a year from instruction and before the 3rd anniversary of the accident. The Defendant insisted on a COVID Clause that if the client dies within a year of further damages will not be payable. This was only the second case in history where this clause was utilised. Settlement of £8.6 m on a lump sum basis including contributory negligence.

GXK (2020) – Successfully secured (with Leader) £3.8 million on a case of a severe traumatic brain injury in a young man with dismal prospects, a criminal conviction and almost no prior history of earning capacity. Severe nature of injury was identified and likely need for support and rehabilitation.

AXH (2020) – Successfully secured (with Leader) a settlement of £9.25 million lump sum on a case of a passenger in his mother's vehicle who was severely brain injured in a road traffic accident aged 13. Resolved in 2020 after careful handing over many years to bring Claimant into outside external rehabilitation.

PH (2020) – Settled at £1.4 million in damages on a subtle brain injury case where Claimant, despite falling a height through a fragile roof, barely lost consciousness. The issue of any continuing brain injury was put in dispute early on by the Defendant.

P v B (2021) – Acting for the Defendant in a case of allegedly serious Complex Regional Pain Syndrome in which liability is also in dispute. The value of the claim would be over £1m. The Defendant alleges fundamental dishonesty.

AXB v CXB (2020) – Successfully concluded what is believed to be the first Joint Settlement Meeting using video-link technology. The case involved a severe brain injury to a young man in a road traffic accident, leaving him with significant cognitive and behavioural impairments.

CXA v BXD (2020) – Successfully secured a £1.4 million lump sum settlement for a man who suffered a traumatic brain injury after a serious accident at work bringing a 4-year legal battle to an end. Settlement was reached after a remote mediation held by video with all parties working from home.

Khuzan Irani v Oscar Duchon (2019) – The court had been correct to employ the broad-brush approach in *Blamire v South Cumbria HA* [1992] 10 WLUK 104 where there was a lack of reliable evidence to assess the damages owed to a road traffic accident claimant whose injuries had led to his redundancy and consequent loss of his immigration status in the UK.

PERSONAL INJURY – DAMAGES

[2019] EWCA Civ 1846

CA (Civ Div) (Sir Terence Etherton MR, Hamblen LJ, Holroyde LJ)

6/11/2019

References: LTL 6/11/2019 : [2019] 11 WLUK 45 : [2020] PIQR P4

I v D – Claimant suffered serious injuries in a road traffic accident. Claimed his immigration status had been affected and that he must return back to India. Deputy High Court Judge awarded him £406,000 but then appealed to the Court of Appeal contending that the Judge should have awarded him around £1m. Appeal was dismissed due to insufficient evidence of earnings.

GXR (2018) – Successfully secured a settlement of £5m with Leading Counsel for a Catastrophically Brain Injured Claimant with very limited speech and reduced cognition.

NXG (2018) – Successfully secured a settlement with Leading Counsel of around £4.5m at a JSM for a Catastrophically brain injured Claimant with reduced life expectancy. All issues in dispute.

A v B – Successfully secured a settlement of around £2.2m at JSM for a catastrophically injured Claimant in his late 50's. The Claimant had been substantially brain damaged, profoundly affecting his speech. He also suffered upper and lower limb injuries which affected his mobility.

C v D – Acted for a high net worth motor-biker with profound leg injuries as a result of a road traffic accident with a car. Claim settled for £1.2m – provisional and contingent on their not being an amputation in future.

D – Acted for a subtle brain injured claimant motorcyclist. Settled at £800,000

R – Acting for the Defendant against Leading Counsel in a Complex Brain Injury case where the claimant was struck in an accident at work. Settled at £1.9 million.

D – Acted successfully for the Claimant in a severe case of Complex Regional Pain Syndrome arising out of a modest RTA. The case illustrates the importance of provisional damages in CRPS cases due to the risk of spreading. £550,000 provisional damages settlement.

AB v CF – Acted for the insurer defending a subtle traumatic brain injury claim. Exposed as fraudulent. Settled for an old offer of £10,000.

M – Acted for the Defendant insurers from an early stage in an alleged CRPS case with a claim of over £2m. Settled at £350,000

H – Acting (with Leader) for a young man with a severe TBI. Potential claim up to £18m.

R – Acted successfully for a brain injured 92 year old Claimant (90 at date of accident) Securing damages within 12 weeks of instruction at JSM of £350,000.

Recommendations

“Pankaj is a master of his specialism. His advocacy is strong, being both straightforward in style and effective.”

“Pankaj has a huge store of medical knowledge to draw upon. He is meticulous in his approach to expert evidence and is very good at assimilating a large amount of complicated medical material, he is particularly knowledgeable in relation to brain injury claims, in which he has great expertise, and his advocacy is strong, being both straightforward in style and effective.”

The Legal 500 2025

“Pankaj is great with clients and has a brilliant ability in risk-assessing cases to identify the strengths and weaknesses.”

“His strength is in the detail and he’s very good at technology, which is good in big cases. He is very client-focused.”

Chambers and Partners 2025

“Pankaj is an expert on complex and difficult brain injury cases. He is technically sound in his advice, compassionate yet firmly objective, and good on his feet. His client manner is superb.”

The Legal 500 2024

“He’s a very good detailed practitioner and has great client care.”

Chambers and Partners 2024

‘His vast experience in complex or unusual injury claims, easy manner with the insurer clients and forensic approach when in conference with experts marks him out. Pankaj is tremendously knowledgeable when it comes to complex brain injury cases, and he is incredibly thorough and pragmatic.’

‘Pankaj Madan has a wealth of experience in subtle and catastrophic brain injury claims’

The Legal 500 2023

“Pankaj Madan is regularly sought after by claimant and defendant firms for his expertise in catastrophic brain injuries, and has notable strength in cases involving subtle brain injuries”

Legal 500 2022

“Pankaj is a great strategist. He has an encyclopedic knowledge of subtle brain injuries, and is committed to securing the best outcomes.”

Legal 500 2022

“Pankaj has a really good analytical mind. He has good insight into the way judges tend to view cases. He is always thorough in his preparation and is very careful in how he uses experts. A great junior.”

Legal 500 2022

“A first rate lawyer with IT and technology skills second to none. Combative with charm. Knows exactly what he is doing. Has a real touch for big PI claims. More hard-working than almost anybody I know. More than a safe pair of hands.”

“Works very hard to achieve the right result. Doing a mixture of Claimant and Defendant work is able to present a balanced view whichever side has instructed him. Very detailed analysis of complex medical issues.”

Legal 500 2021

“Very detailed and methodical.”

“He has particular expertise in chronic pain and subtle brain injury cases.”

Legal 500 2020

“Recommended for his superb strategic approach to brain injury cases.”

“He has a brilliant client manner.”

Legal 500 2018/19

“He has the ability to challenge the unusual in cases.”

“Very experienced in high-value catastrophic injury claims.”

Legal 500 2017

“He specialises in brain injury, chronic pain and severe limb injury cases.”

“Recognised for his expertise in brain injury cases.”

Legal 500 2016

“Experienced in fatal accident cases, and understands the medical issues in high-value catastrophic injury claims.”

“His wide-ranging expertise includes brain injuries, chronic pain and psychiatric injuries.”

Legal 500 2015

“Understands the medical issues in catastrophic and fatal accident cases.”

“Respected by leading firms, both claimant and defendant.”

Legal 500 2014

Described as “extremely thorough” and providing “advocacy of the highest quality.”

Legal 500 2011

Publications

A Practical Guide to Subtle Brain Injury Claims (2016)

A Practical Guide to Chronic Pain Claims (2017)

A Practical Guide to Catastrophic Brain Injury Claims (2019 forthcoming)

(Law Brief Publishing and available on Amazon)

Beyond the Bar

Pankaj enjoys keeping fit, fell running, photography, travel, the theatre and the opera. He is from a medical family background and is married to a Consultant Child Psychiatrist and is a dad to a 15 year old.