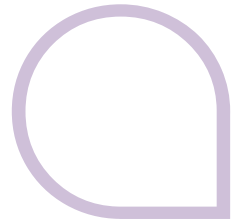


LAURA ELFIELD

Mediator | Global Mediation



PROFILE

Laura is currently ranked tier 4 in the Legal 500 for both clinical negligence and personal injury work.

She is an accredited mediator, head of the ADR team at Deka Chambers and faculty member of the London School of Mediation.

Laura undertakes a range of serious and complex clinical negligence work, which in 2024 included cancer misdiagnosis claims (gynaecological and testicular); surgical negligence leading to incomplete tetraplegia; fatal failure to diagnose/treat myocardial infarction; and vertical transmission of HIV.

She has a niche practice in gynaecological injuries, in particular pelvic mesh claims, including acting for numerous members of “Sling the Mesh” for leading claimant firms including Osbornes, Lime, Russell-Cooke and Thompsons Solicitors.

Laura spoke at the AVMA conference 2024, together with Dr Agur, consultant urogynaecologist, on gynaecological mesh claims. She has lectured recently to Shoosmiths and Enable Law on consent and Montgomery. Her seminar on “Secondary Victims after Paul & Polmear” was broadcast by MBL in February 2024.

Laura is the editor of Kemp & Kemp’s ADR chapter and also wrote the ADR chapter for Chambers’ guide to “Clinical Negligence Claims”, to be published this year.

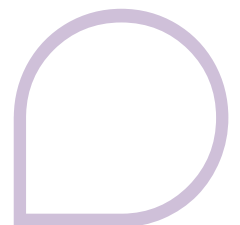
In the personal injury field, a significant part of Laura’s practice is made up of employer’s liability and occupational disease claims, including accidents at work; asbestos claims; and work-related upper limb disorders. Her practice encompasses complex and high value work, including brain-damaged children, catastrophic and long-term psychiatric injury claims.

She has a particular interest in the interface between employment and personal injury claims, most relevant to stress, bullying and harassment claims.

Laura co-authored Chambers’ guide to “Asbestos Claims” published in 2024 and presented a case law update to Chambers’ solicitors in June 2024 in connection with the book launch.

QUALIFICATIONS

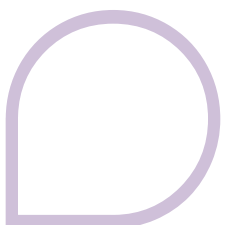
- Barrister
- Accredited Mediator





SUCCESSFULLY SETTLED IN 2024

Laura regularly appears at settlement conferences and mediations. Examples of cases successfully settled in 2024 include:

- An employer's liability claim for stress at work. This settled at mediation for in excess of £200,000 after a failed JSM.
 - An employer's liability claim for permanent ankle injury arising from an unsafe system of work when a cleaner fell downstairs. Settled at JSM for £500,000.
 - An employer's liability claim for bullying and harassment which settled at JSM for in excess of £250,000.
 - A clinical negligence claim arising out of insertion of a TVT. This settled at mediation for in excess of £300,000.
 - A clinical negligence claim for OBPI suffered at birth. This settled, subject to the Court's approval, for £430,000, at JSM.
 - A clinical negligence claim for psychiatric injury caused by the deceased's mother and sister witnessing her death from a nut allergy. This was a high profile claim which settled on the morning of the SC decision in Paul/Polmear for in excess of £200,000.
 - A clinical negligence claim arising out of a drug's trial which left the claimant, a haemophiliac, with permanent neurological symptoms. Settled for in excess of £200,000.
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