

Charles Feeny CV



Charles Feeny is a Barrister and a Legal Analyst. He practises as a Barrister with support from Complete Counsel, an innovative digital business providing services to Barristers. His activities as a Legal Analyst are focused on the web-based project, Pro-Vide Law.

Charles began his practice as a general common law practitioner and in his early years had very extensive advocacy experience, including jury advocacy. As the trend for specialisation of the Bar developed, his practice became centred on personal injury work where it remains, in particular, in high value personal injury actions, industrial disease claims and clinical negligence litigation.



There are clear similarities in the challenges faced in such areas of work involving, as they do, complex medical, technical and legal issues. Charles has been acknowledged as a leading specialist in his practice fields for many years. He has achieved the highest ratings in legal directories, including the status of star individual in Chambers UK Directory, both in relation to clinical negligence and personal injury work. Whilst Charles is usually associated with Defendant instruction, he has a significant and developing Claimant practice, in particular in clinical negligence work.

Charles has appeared in over 50 reported cases and has been the cutting edge of litigation in his specialist fields for nearly two decades. In particular, he has appeared in,

- *Briody v St Helens and Knowsley NHS Trust* [2011], claim for damages for surrogacy in clinical negligence.
- *Matthews v Portland Cement* [2011], part of the Fairchild litigation.
- *Maguire v Harland and Wolff* [2005], leading case on date of knowledge for mesothelioma.
- *Barker v Corus UK Limited* [2006], application of Fairchild principle and apportionment in mesothelioma claims.
- *Shortell v Bical Construction* [2008], causation in asbestos related carcinoma of the lung.
- *Sienkiewicz v Grief UK Limited* [2011], application of Fairchild principle to low level exposures.
- *Williams v University of Birmingham* [2011], contemporaneous knowledge of risk in mesothelioma claims.
- *McCarthy v Marks and Spencers* [2014], liability for low level exposure in mesothelioma claims.
- *Reaney v University Hospital of North Staffordshire NHS Trust* [2015], approach to causation in clinical negligence where breach has exacerbated pre-existing disability.

Charles is regularly invited to lecture on legal, medical and technical issues in his specialised fields. He has published extensively, in particular, in 2013 an

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article by him, “The Dust Settles? Fairchild to Williams”, was published in the leading Australian academic journal, Tort Law Review.

In 2013, he ,with others ,established Pro-Vide Law to act as a focus for lecturing, training and writing activity. Pro-Vide Law operates through a website with a number of contributors and organises training events.

In 2015, Charles left Chambers and became a sole practitioner. He established Complete Counsel which operates as a digital support business for Barristers, but also with dedicated support in terms of practice development, financial management and paralegal support. Complete Counsel aims to provide an efficient, economic service for Barristers which will enable them to practise successfully in a developing and changing market for legal services.

In 2016, Complete Counsel will launch its sister company, Complete Mediation, which intends to provide, amongst other things, a specialist mediation service for the settlement of personal injury and clinical negligence disputes.

