GUIDE TO VIBRATION WHITE FINGER

What is Vibration White Finger?

Vibration White Finger (VWF) is an industrial disease caused by the exposure of the hands to severe vibration from hand-held tools or pieces of equipment, such as pneumatic drills and grinders.

The vibration causes neurological and vascular symptoms which are believed to be caused by the repeated pressure on the nerves and arteries on the hands.

Symptoms of Vibration White Finger can lay latent for a considerable period of time. Symptoms include:

- tingling sensation in the fingers
- numbness in the fingertips
- cold sensation in the fingers
- whitening of the fingers, and
- loss of dexterity

The severity of the condition can vary depending on the length and level of exposure suffered by the individual. Vibration White Finger can affect any individual who has used hand held or operated vibratory tools or equipment at work over a period of time.

What can you do?

Simpson Millar LLP has a highly experienced occupational disease team that can help you to claim compensation for Vibration White Finger.
If you believe you are suffering with Vibration White Finger or have any of the symptoms outlined above and have worked in an industry using vibrating tools you may be entitled to make a claim for compensation. Since the mid 1970s it has been recognised that vibrating tools could cause Vibration White Finger and, therefore, a duty of care was placed on employers to protect their employees.

In order to prove that there has been a breach in the duty of care it is necessary to prove that a person has been exposed to a quantity of vibration which was known at the relevant time to create a risk of injury in most of the population.

Time limits

Any claim for Vibration White Finger must be made within 3 years of the date you knew or ought to have known that you were suffering with the condition. It is, therefore, important that you contact a solicitor as soon as possible to seek legal advice.

Simpson Millar LLP’s specialist team of dedicated and highly skilled solicitors deal with claims of this nature frequently and will advise you fully and help you to make a compensation claim.

This guide contains information on current legal issues applicable at the time of printing. Note there may have been changes subsequently which have not been incorporated into the material. This guide is intended for information purposes only and its content should not be applied to any particular set of facts or relied upon without legal or other professional advice. For further information on how we can help you please contact:

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