

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Hospital admits liability for little girl's severed ring finger.

A two-month-old little girl whose fingers, including her ring finger, were severed on the lid of a hospital incubator has been awarded nearly £30,000 to be paid by Barts and The London NHS Trust.

Shineece Cudjoe of Muswell Hill, was born in 1999 and had to go back to hospital after two months to have a hernia removed. When her mother went to see her, she found three of her daughter's fingers bandaged and was told that she had damaged them on the lid of the incubator.

But during the next week, as the bandages fell off, her mother, Doris Obeng had to pick up pieces of bone from the floor as the fingers became worse.

Kirstin Moss, a clinical negligence lawyer for the London law firm, Bolt Burdon Kemp, said: "This was a clear case of negligence by the hospital, which they have admitted. No-one will ever know what really happened in that ward but the result is that Shineece will have a deformity that will have to be treated as she grows up and may never be healed."

Shineece's mother, Doris Obeng, said: "They sent us home from the hospital, but as I was bathing her, the bandage fell off and I clearly saw bones sticking out, I screamed and eventually, after going between the GP and various hospitals, she was given antibiotics to stop them going green, but for several days after that, I kept finding pieces of bone on the floor.

Bolt Burdon Kemp managed to get a full admission of liability from Barts and The London NHS Trust and Kirstin Moss commented: "Shineece will either have to have a toe-to-finger transplant or a prosthesis, either way, if she ever

marries and chooses to wear her ring on that finger, she will always have a disfigurement that could have been avoided.”

“In our Kenyan culture, you can wear your ring on either finger”, added Doris Obeng, who already has one disabled daughter. “ Amongst Kenyans, a little girl is always seen as a joy and a blessing and to have her disfigured like this is heartbreaking,” “ Sometimes, now she is older, she asks me why did it happen and I can’t answer her. “

Ends.

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