**Email for Medical Protection members to contact their TD**

Find your TDs and their contact details here: <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/members/>

Please feel free to edit the email and add as much or as little information about yourself and your experience. We find personalising emails to politicians really helps engage them with the issue.

**To:** [Enter your TD(s) email]

**Subject:** Please contact the Minister for Justice about urgent tort reform

Dear [X],

I am writing to you as a local constituent and a member of Medical Protection, to ask you to raise the issue of tort reforms to the Minister for Justice.

Medical Protection have released findings in their latest report, ‘*The human and financial cost of clinical negligence claims: The case for pre-action protocols’*, which show that Ireland is an outlier when it comes to litigation. Claims made in Ireland take longer to resolve than in any other country where Medical Protection has members; for example 14% longer than in South Africa and 56% longer than in the UK. Legal costs are also very high, with the average claim costing €34,646, which is 26% more expensive than in Singapore and 191% more expensive than in the UK.

You can find their full policy report and recommendations here: [www.medicalprotection.org/ireland/about/policy-and-public-affairs/tort-reform](http://www.medicalprotection.org/ireland/about/policy-and-public-affairs/tort-reform)

The experience of undergoing a claim is not easy in any country. However, in Ireland this is made worse by a slow process without mechanisms such as pre-action protocols or case management to assist in resolving claims without delay.

[If you wish, feel free to insert information about yourself and your experience – i.e. I am an obstetrician in Cork and I have seen first-hand the impact of the current clinical negligence system on my colleagues and friends…].

Current clinical negligence processes are letting down healthcare professionals and patients alike. The system doesn’t have to work this way and reforms have been successfully introduced in other countries to reduce the lengthy processes and inflated legal costs.

I urge you to write to the Minister for Justice and call on her to action Medical Protection’s recommendations to ensure rapid reform including the introduction of pre-action protocols. This will undoubtedly benefit patients, while ensuring doctors are able to practice without unnecessary stress caused by unnecessarily lengthy legal processes.

Medical Protection can be contacted for further information on their latest reports, please email [megan.ball@medicalprotection.org](mailto:megan.ball@medicalprotection.org) for more information.

Yours sincerely,

[NAME]

[ADDRESS]