

In partnership with

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

easy
read

Claiming benefits when you have cancer





About this easy read booklet



This booklet is about claiming benefits when you have cancer.



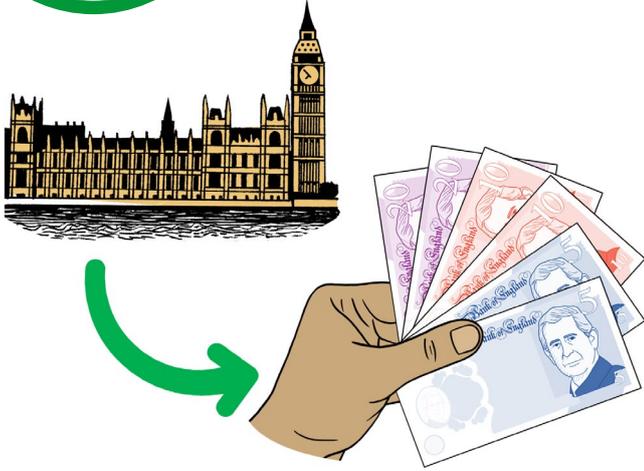
You can learn about what benefits are and the different types of benefits.



If you are worried about your health, you should talk to a doctor or nurse.



What are benefits?



Benefits are extra money some people get from the government.



This money is for people who need help with the cost of living.



If you have cancer, you might be able to get benefits because you are ill.



You might also be able to get benefits if:

- you have a disability



- you do not earn much money



- you are looking after someone.



There are lots of different benefits. This book will explain some of them.



If you were not born in the UK

You may not be able to get some benefits if:

- you have come from another country to live or work in the UK



- you are seeking asylum.



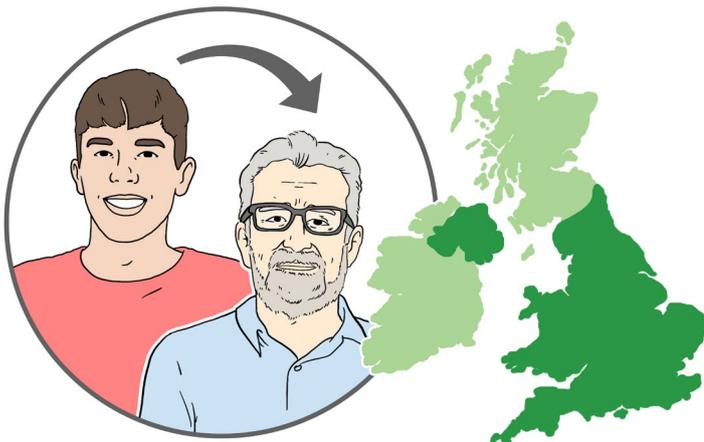


The rules can be hard to understand. Our Money Advisers can give you some advice.

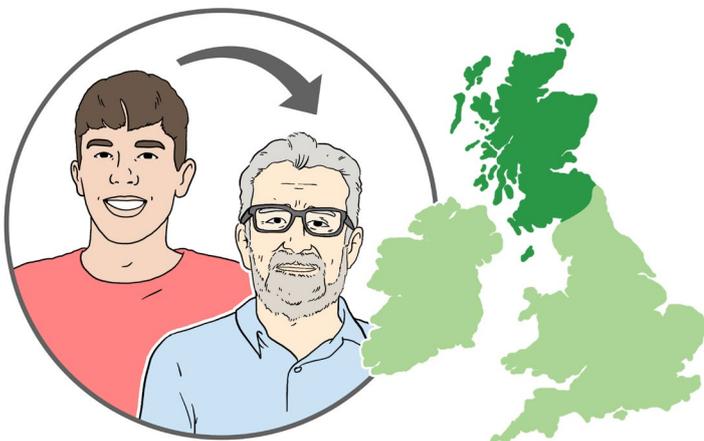
Call us for free on
0808 808 00 00



If you need help to care for yourself and move around



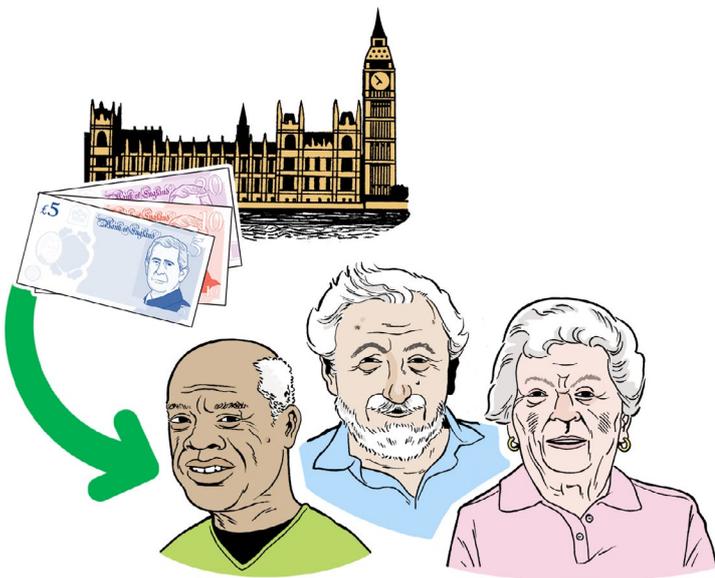
Personal Independence Payment (PIP) is for people aged 16 to 64 who live in England, Wales or Northern Ireland.



If you live in Scotland, this is called **Adult Disability Payment (ADP)**.



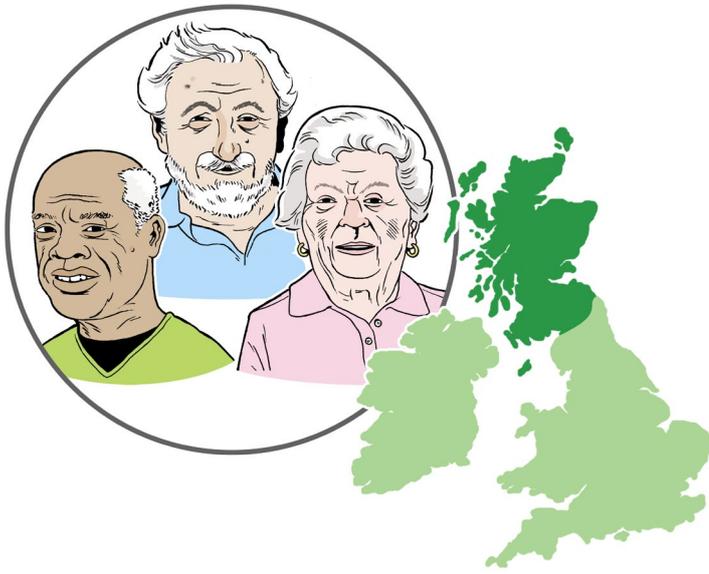
It is for people who need help to move around, or need help to look after themselves.



State pension age is the age you can start getting your pension from the government.



Attendance Allowance is for people at or above state pension age who live in England, Wales or Northern Ireland.



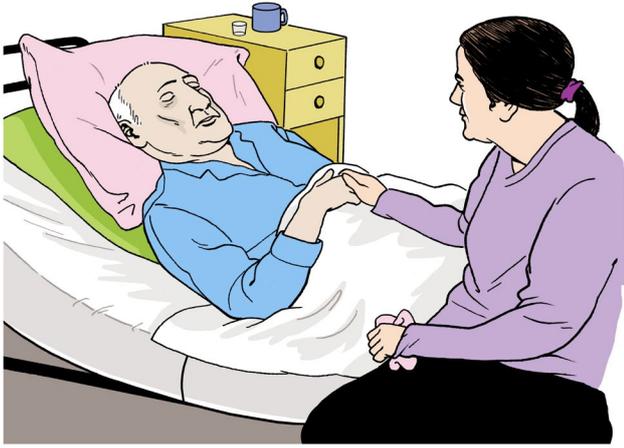
Attendance Allowance is called **Pension Age Disability Payment** if you live in Scotland.



It is for people who find it hard to look after themselves. This is because they are ill.



Or because they have a disability.



You may be able to get benefits quicker if you are at the end of your life. These are called **special rules**.



Talk to your doctor or cancer team if you need help with this.



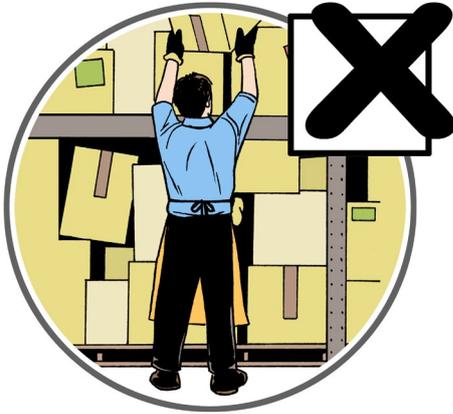
If you can not work or do not earn much money



Statutory sick pay is for people who are ill and can not work.



Your employer will pay this every week for up to 28 weeks.



Employment and Support Allowance is also for people who can not work. They may be ill or disabled.



You may be able to get this if you can only do a small amount of work.



If you do not earn much money or can not work, you may be able to get **Universal Credit**.



Universal Credit can include money for housing, basic living costs and looking after children.



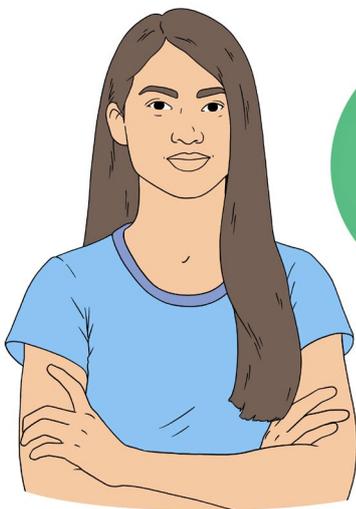
If you look after someone with cancer



Carer's Allowance is for people who look after someone who needs lots of help, and live in England, Wales or Northern Ireland.



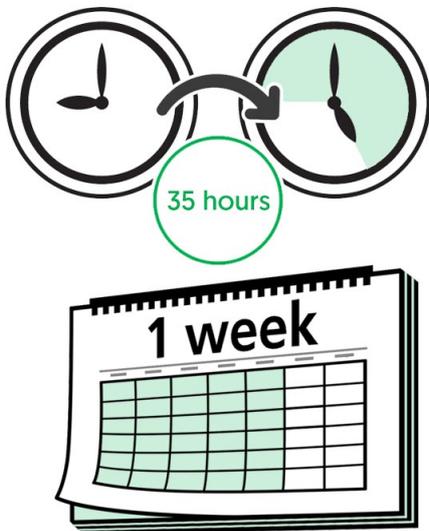
This is called **Carer Support Payment** if you live in Scotland.



16+

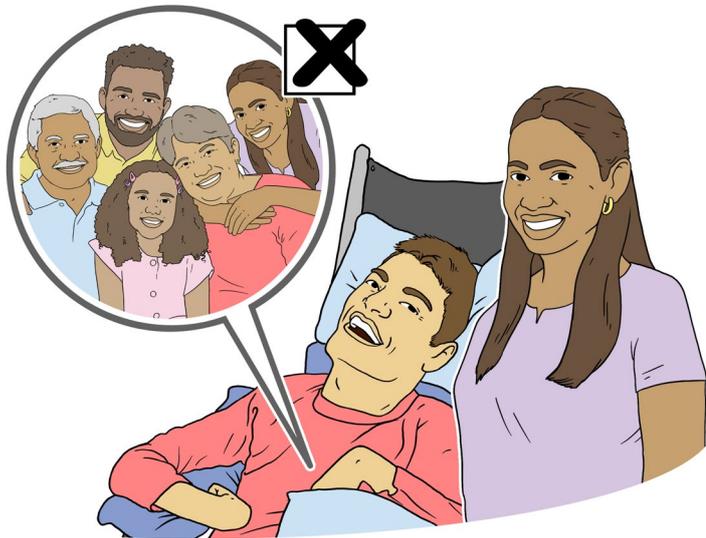
To get these benefits, you must:

- be 16 or over

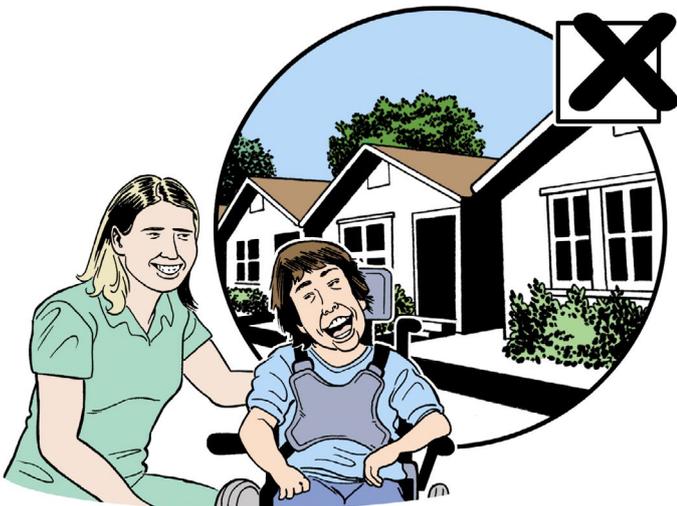


35 hours

- care for the person for at least 35 hours each week.



The person you care for does not have to be family.



You do not need to live with them.



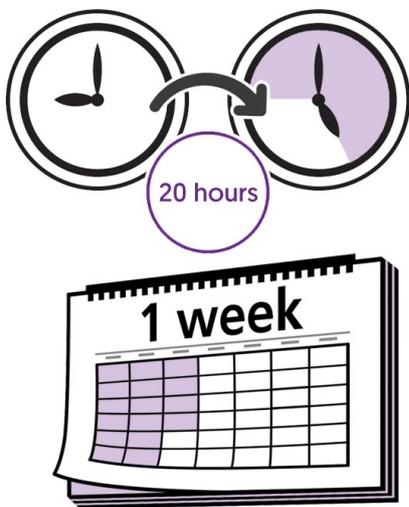
You can still do some paid work and get this benefit.



Carer's Credit helps make sure you can still get a pension when you are older.



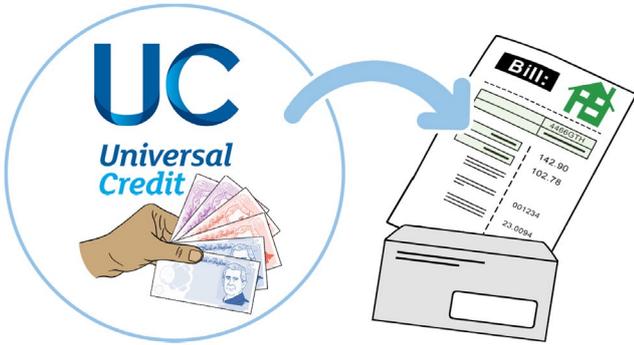
Carer's Credit does not give you any money. But it might help you in the future.



You must look after someone for at least 20 hours a week to get Carer's Credit.



If you need help with housing costs



If you get **Universal Credit** this can help pay your rent.



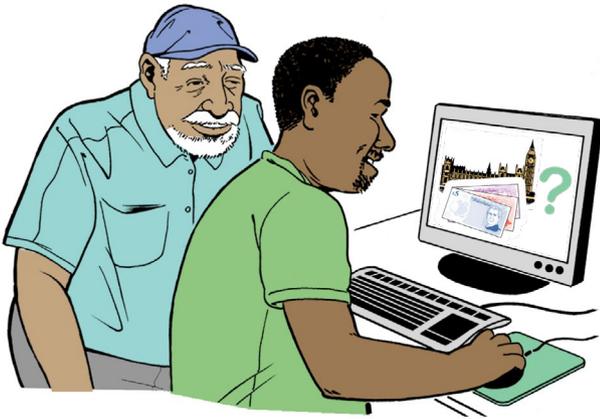
Housing Benefit could help you pay rent too. For example, if you live in supported, sheltered or temporary housing.



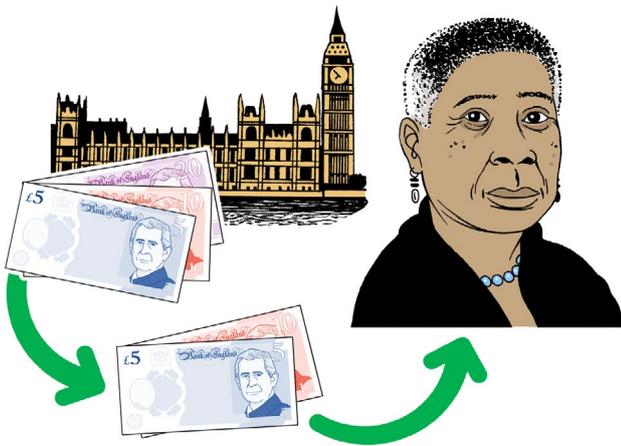
If you are of pension age



State Pension is money some people get from the government.



You can get a State Pension when you reach a certain age. You can find out your pension age at [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)



Pension Credit gives you extra money on top of your pension. It helps people who do not have much money.



What to do next



You might be able to get other help with money.



We can tell you more about where you may be able to get help with money.



You can call our support line to find out where to get help.

Call us free on **0808 808 00 00**



You can find out more and apply for benefits online.

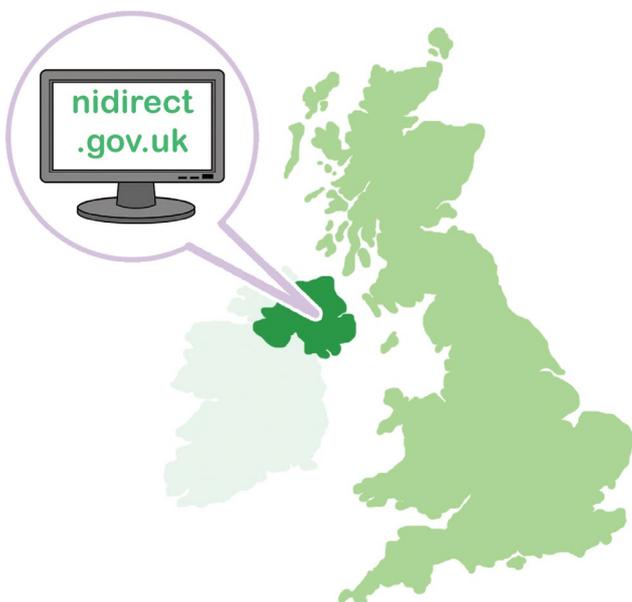


Visit:

- **gov.uk** if you live in England, Scotland or Wales



- **socialsecurity.gov.scot** if you live in Scotland



- **nidirect.gov.uk** if you live in Northern Ireland.



How Macmillan can help you



You can get support from:

The Macmillan Support Line

Call **0808 808 00 00** 7 days a week, 8am to 8pm.

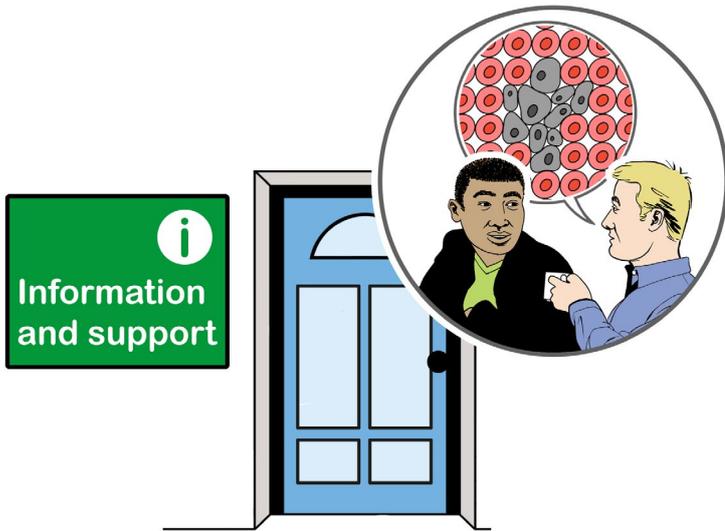


You can speak to us in your language, including British Sign Language (BSL). Just tell us what you need when you start the call.



The Macmillan website

Visit [macmillan.org.uk](https://www.macmillan.org.uk) for information about cancer. You can also use our web chat to ask questions at [macmillan.org.uk/talktous](https://www.macmillan.org.uk/talktous)



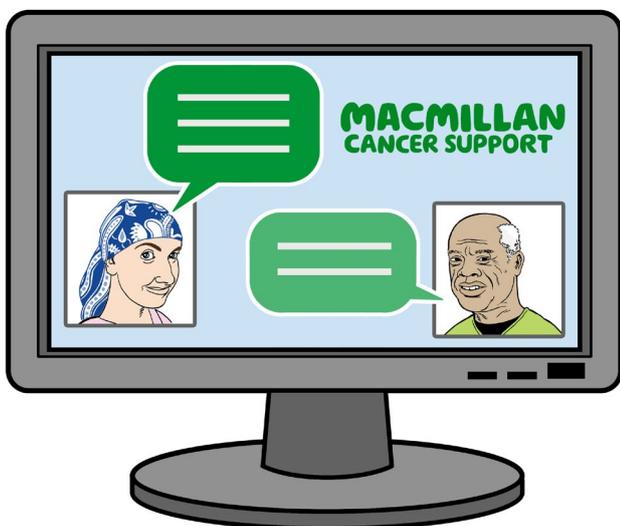
Information centres

You can talk to a cancer support specialist and get written information. Find your nearest centre at [macmillan.org.uk/informationcentres](https://www.macmillan.org.uk/informationcentres) or call us.



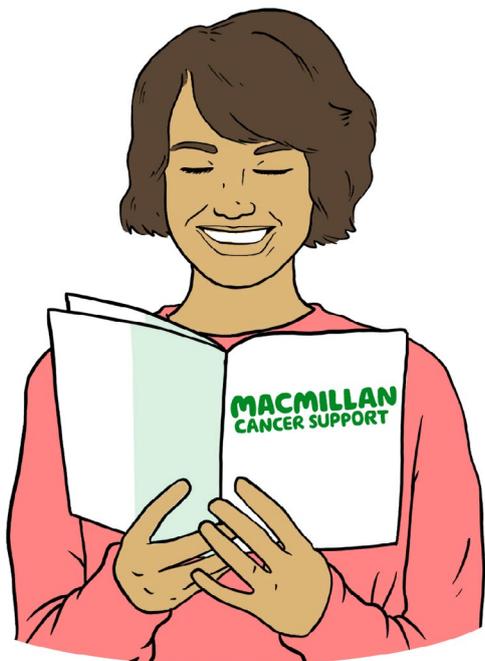
Local support groups

Find a group near you at [macmillan.org.uk/supportgroups](https://www.macmillan.org.uk/supportgroups) or call us.



Macmillan Online Community

You can talk to other people in similar situations at [macmillan.org.uk/community](https://www.macmillan.org.uk/community)



Macmillan can give you information in different ways:

Booklets about cancer

You can order booklets about cancer from

orders.macmillan.org.uk



Videos

You can watch videos about cancer at

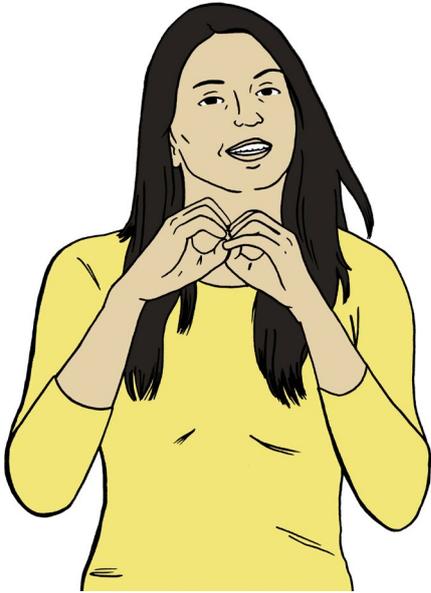
macmillan.org.uk/videos



Audio

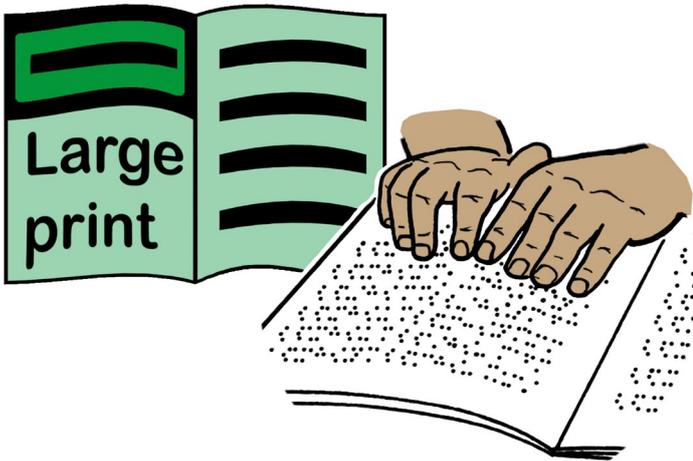
You can listen to information about cancer and order CDs from

macmillan.org.uk/audio



British Sign Language (BSL)

You can watch information in BSL at macmillan.org.uk/bsl



Large print or Braille

Tell us if you need information in large print or Braille.

Email: informationproductionteam@macmillan.org.uk



Translations

Tell us if you need information in another language.

Email: informationproductionteam@macmillan.org.uk



More easy read booklets



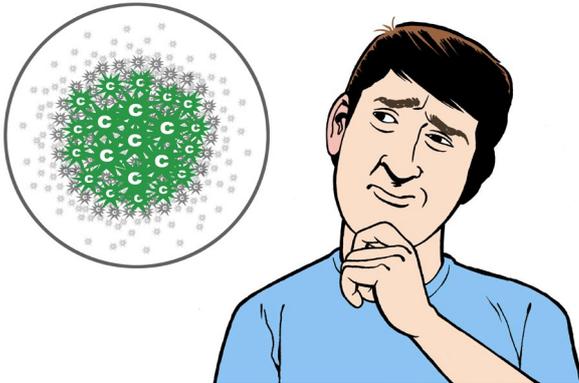
Order more easy read booklets from [macmillan.org.uk/easyread](https://www.macmillan.org.uk/easyread)

There are booklets on lots of topics:



About Macmillan

- How Macmillan Cancer Support can help you
- Holistic Needs Assessment (HNA)



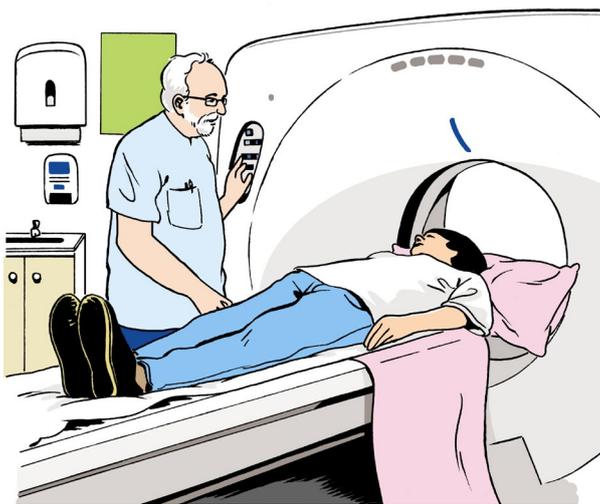
About cancer

- Lung cancer
- What is cancer?



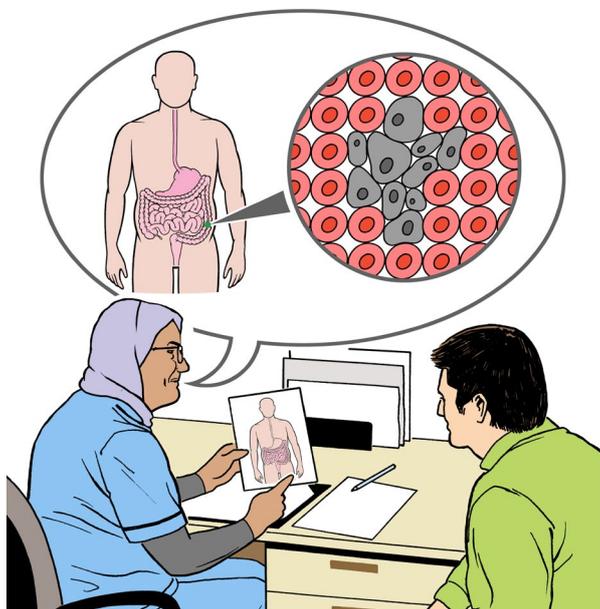
Signs and symptoms

- Breast care and screening
- Cervical screening (smear test)
- How to check your balls (testicles)
- Signs of cancer
- Symptoms of cervical cancer
- Symptoms of prostate cancer



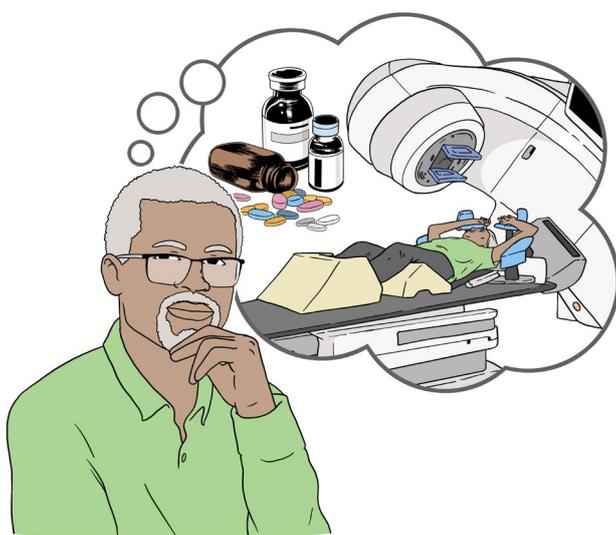
Tests for cancer

- Having a biopsy
- Having a colonoscopy
- Having a CT scan
- Having an endoscopy
- Having examinations and blood tests
- Having an MRI scan
- Having an ultrasound
- Having an x-ray



Being told you have cancer

- Finding out you have cancer
- Getting your test results
- Seeing the doctor



Deciding on your treatment

- All about me – notes for my healthcare team
- Deciding about treatment
- How to get equal healthcare
- If you are unhappy with your care



Treatment for cancer

- Chemotherapy
- Giving your consent
- Having surgery
- Radiotherapy
- Side effects from chemotherapy
- Side effects from radiotherapy
- Treatments for prostate cancer



Living a healthy life

- Be safe in the sun
- Drink less alcohol
- Eat a healthy diet
- Exercise
- Have safer sex



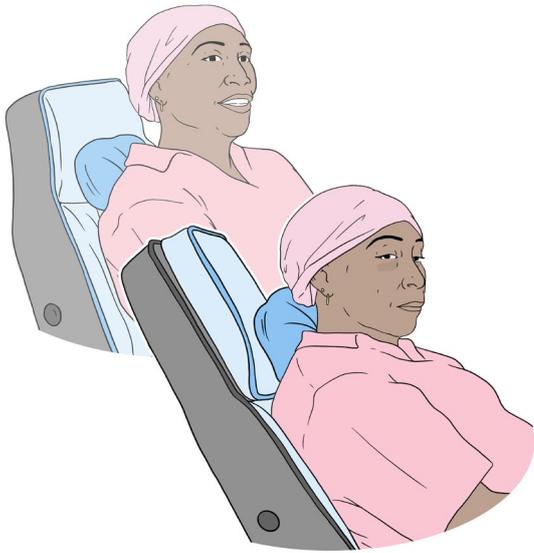
Living with cancer

- Claiming benefits when you have cancer
- Complementary therapies
- Help with costs when you have cancer
- LGBTQ+ people and cancer
- Talking about cancer and your feelings



Living with cancer

- What happens after cancer treatment ends
- Work and cancer
- Your sex life and cancer
- Your social life and cancer



End of life

- Changes that can happen at the end of life
- Choosing where to die
- Things you can do when getting ready to die
- Thinking about your funeral
- Who can help if you are dying
- Your feelings when you are dying



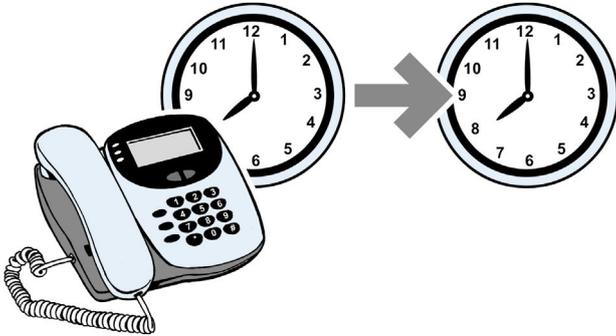
After someone dies

- Going to a funeral when someone dies
- Your feelings when someone dies and what can help

To order easy read booklets like this one go to the website macmillan.org.uk/easyread or call us on **0808 808 00 00**

This booklet is about claiming benefits when you have cancer.

It is for anyone who finds easier words and pictures helpful. If you have more questions about cancer or would like to talk to us, call the Macmillan Support Line.



- Call us free on:
0808 808 00 00
7 days a week from 8am to 8pm.



- If you use a textphone, you can call:
18001 0808 808 00 00



- Or go to the website:
macmillan.org.uk

This easy read booklet has been produced by Macmillan Cancer Support working with CHANGE.

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Patient Information Forum



In partnership with

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**