

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.



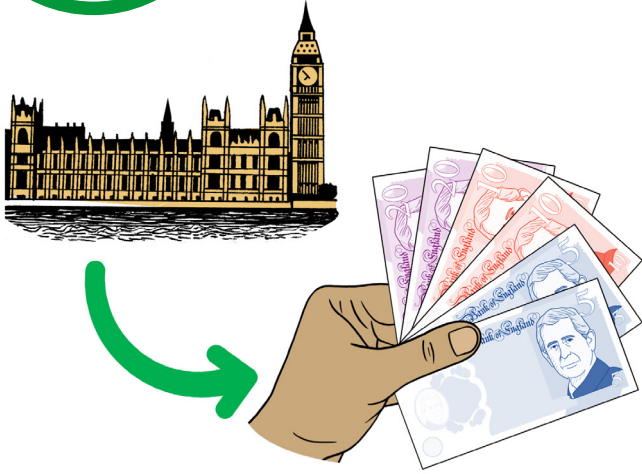
You can learn about what benefits are and the different types of benefits.



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



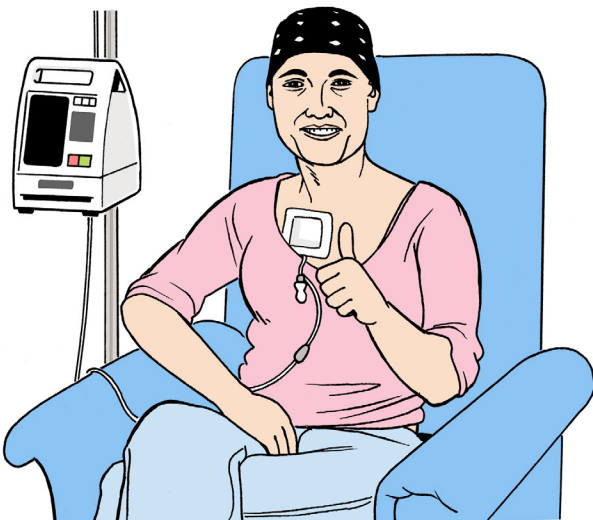
What are benefits?



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 an asylum seeker.



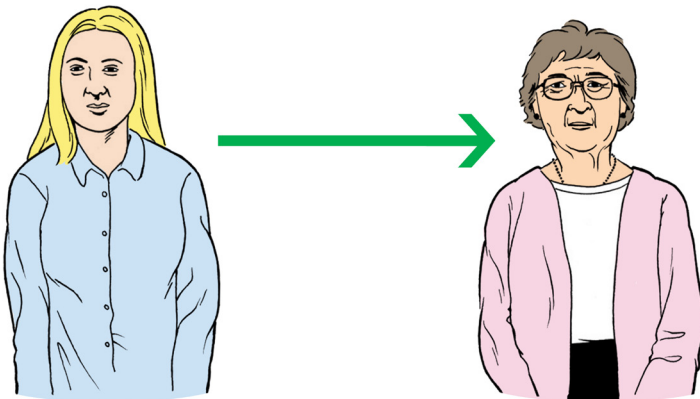


The rules can be hard to understand.

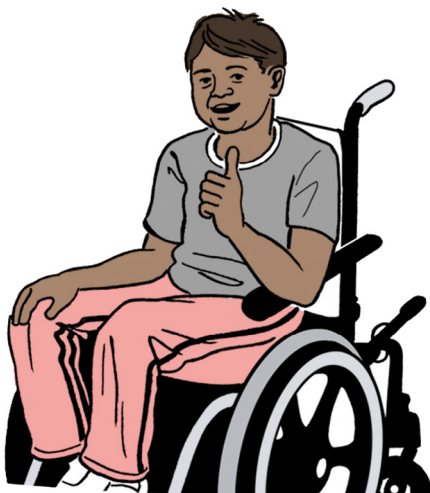
Call our welfare rights advisers on **0808 808 00 00** for advice.



If you need help to care for yourself and move around



Personal Independence Payment (PIP) is for people aged 16 to 64.

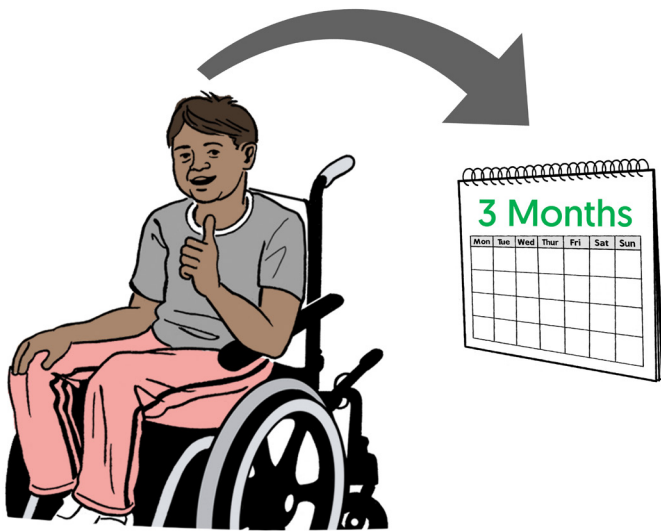


It is for people who need help to:

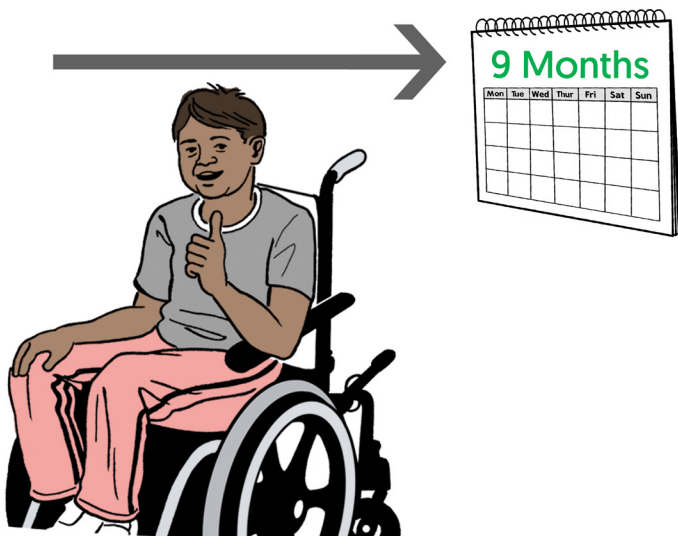
- move around



- look after themselves.



You must have needed help for 3 months to get PIP.



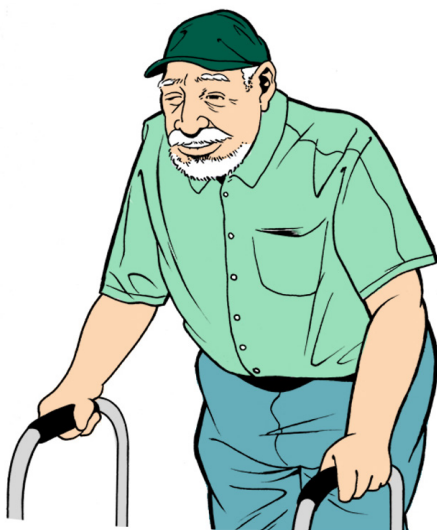
You must expect to need help for at least 9 more months.



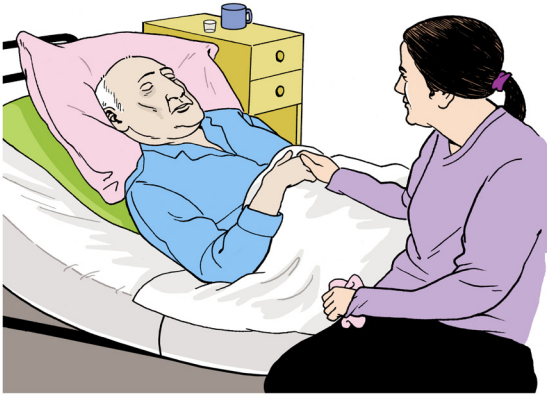
Attendance Allowance is for people at or above **state pension age**. This is the age you can start getting your pension from the government.



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 your doctor thinks you may only live for 6 months or less. These are called **special rules**.



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



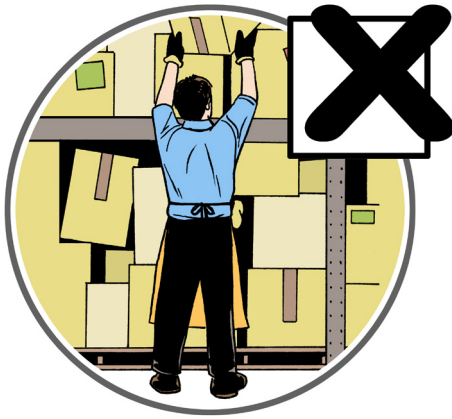
If you can not work or do not earn much money



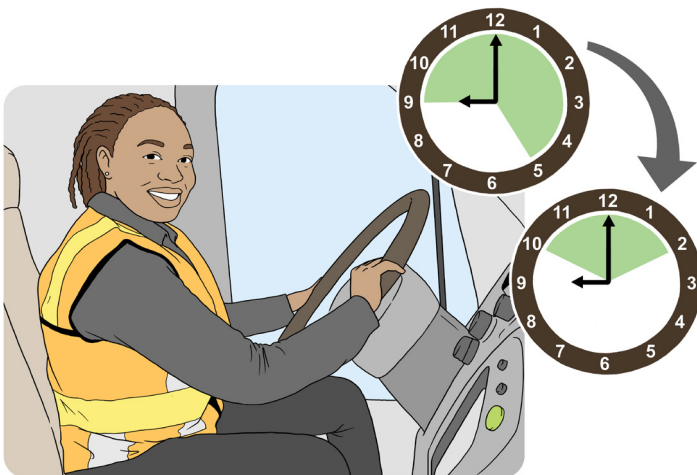
Statutory sick pay is for people who are ill and can not work.



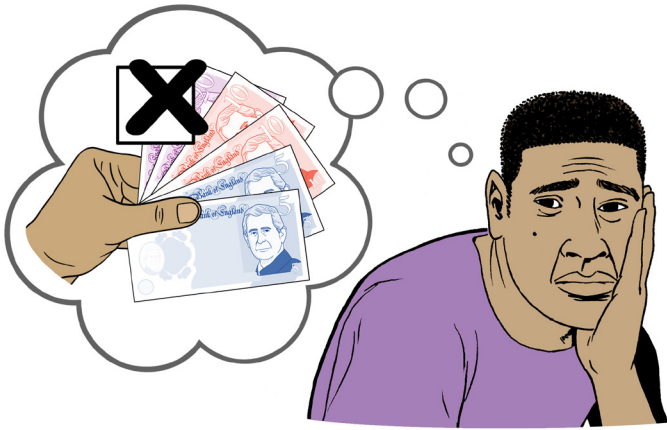
Your employer will pay this every week for up to 28 weeks.



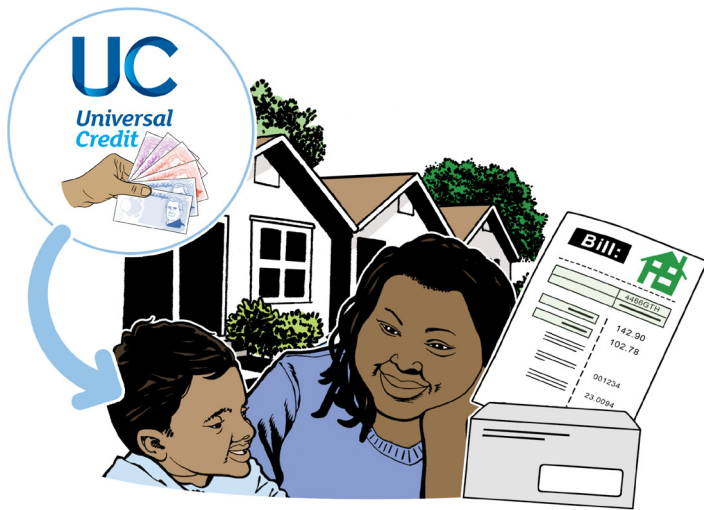
Employment and Support Allowance is also for people who can not work. They may be ill or disabled.



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**.



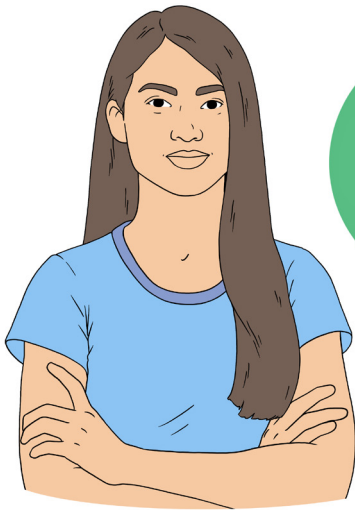
Universal Credit can include money for basic living costs, looking after children and housing.



If you look after someone with cancer



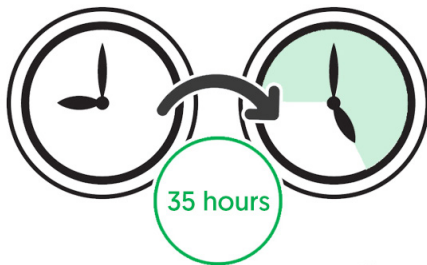
Carer's Allowance is for people who look after someone who needs lots of help.



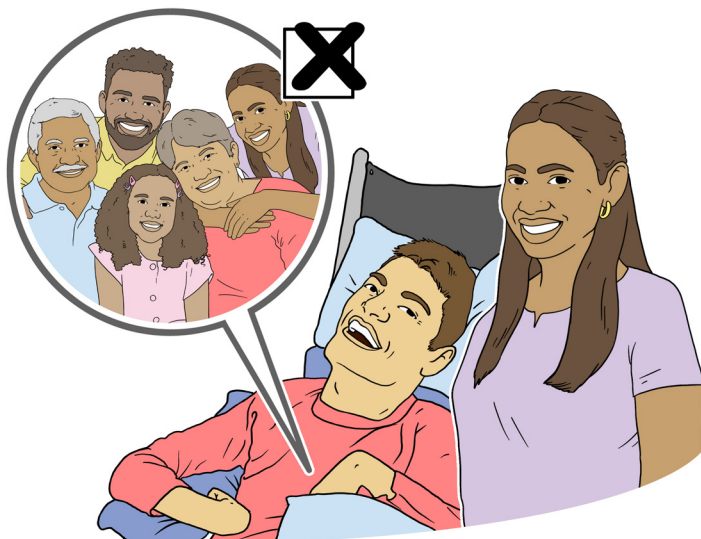
16+

To get Carer's Allowance, you must:

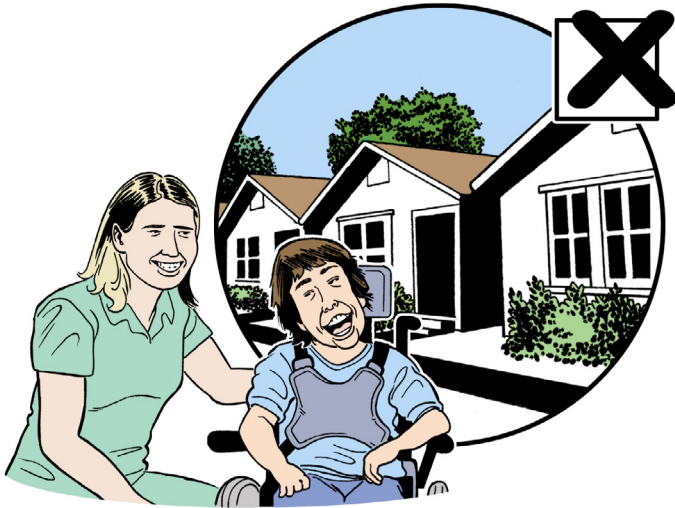
- be 16 or over



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



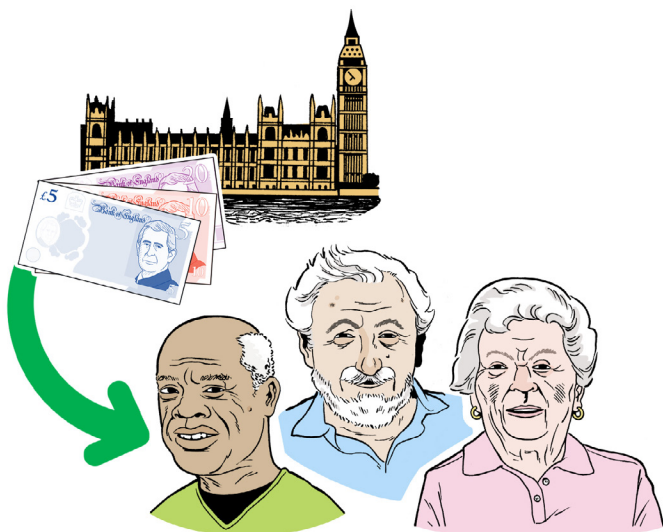
The person you care for does not have to be family.



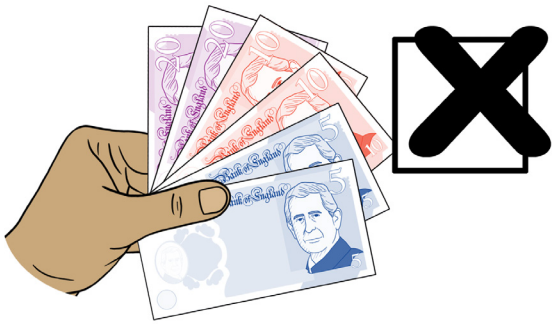
You do not need to live with them.



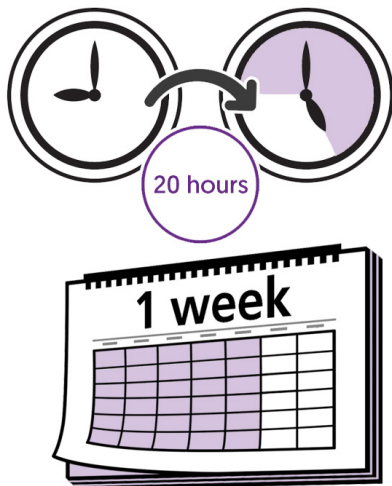
You can still do some paid work and get this benefit.



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

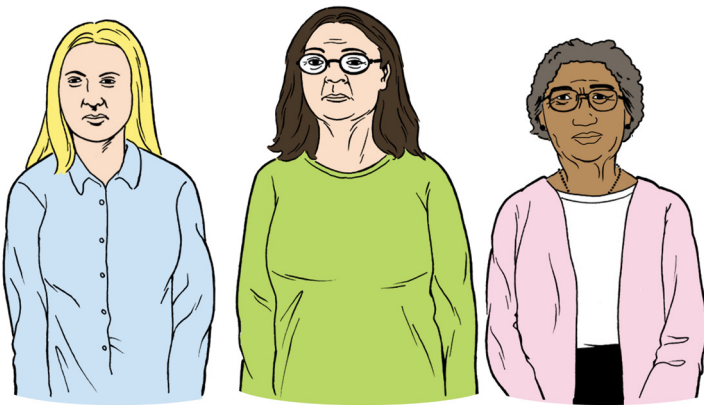


Housing Benefit helps you to pay your rent.

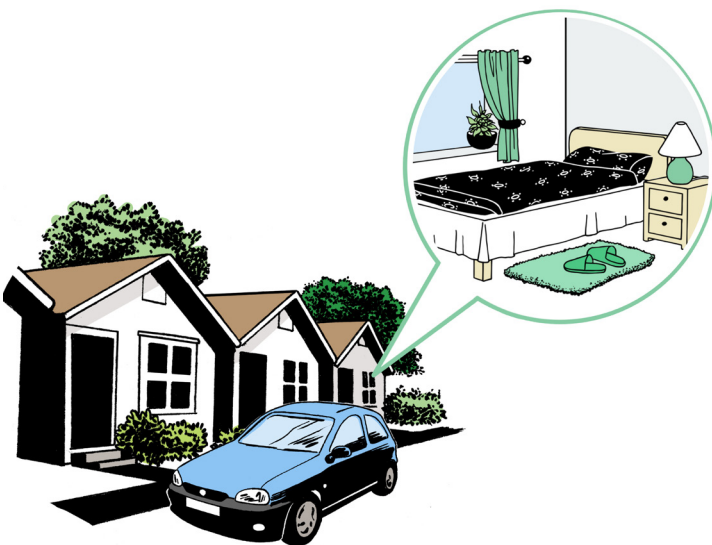


The amount you can get depends on:

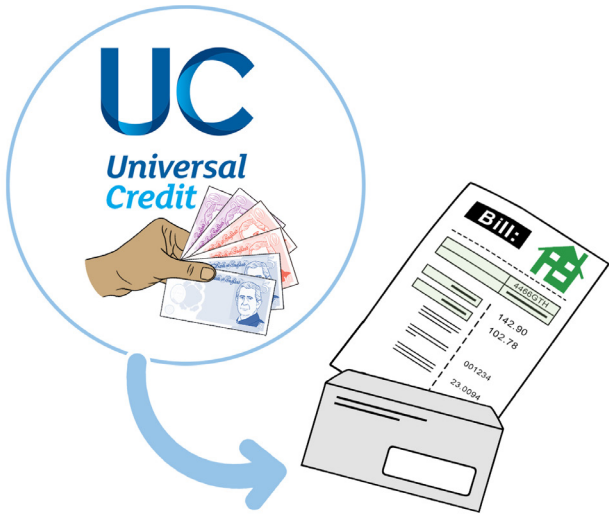
- where you live



- your age



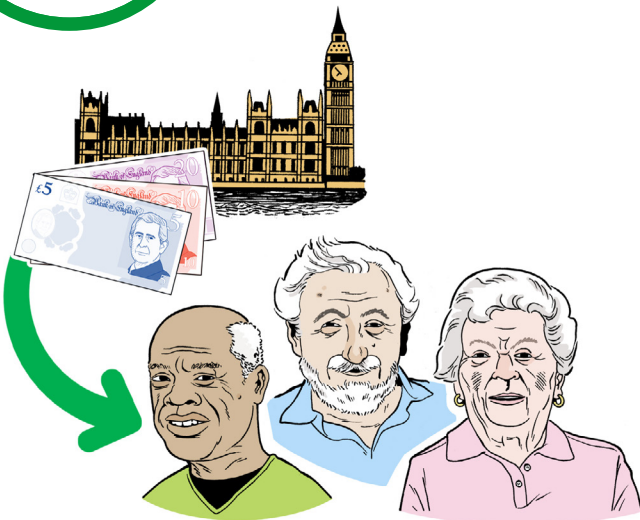
- the number of bedrooms your house has.



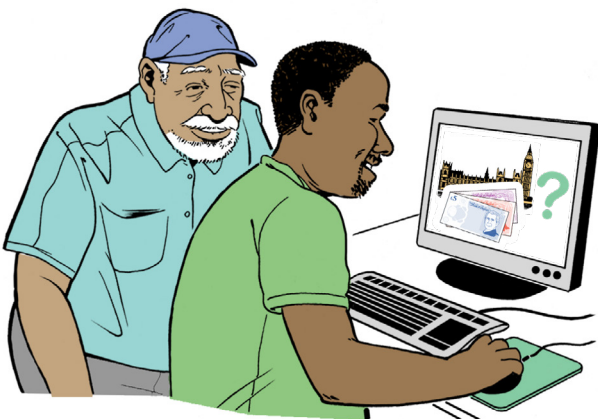
Universal Credit can also help to pay your rent.



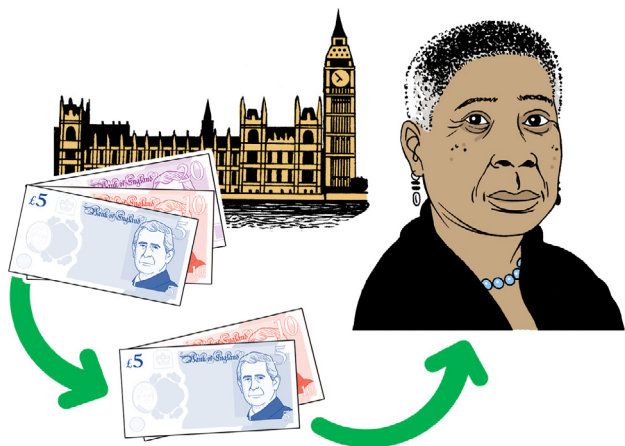
If you are of pension age



State Pension is money some people get every week from the government.



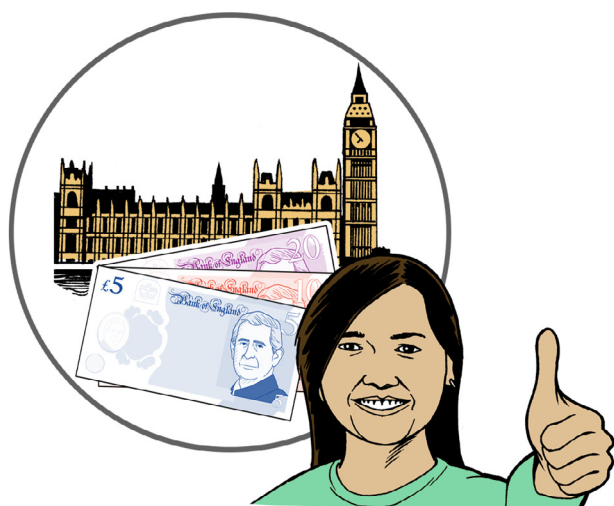
You can get a State Pension when you reach a certain age. You can find out your pension age at [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)



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.



You could talk to one of Macmillan's welfare rights advisers to find out more.

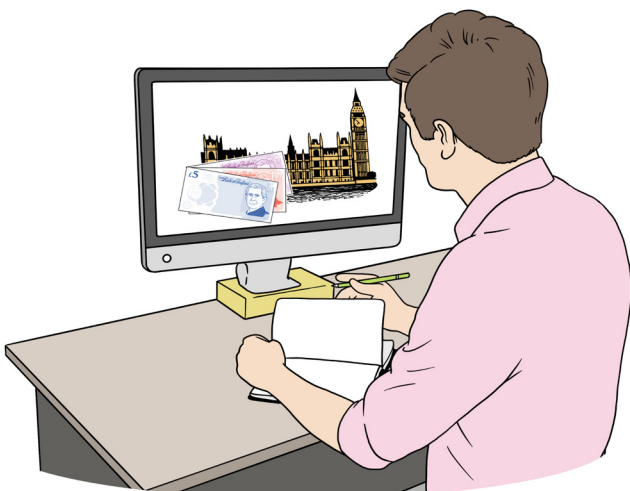
Call us free on **0808 808 00 00**.



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



We can also help you apply for benefits.

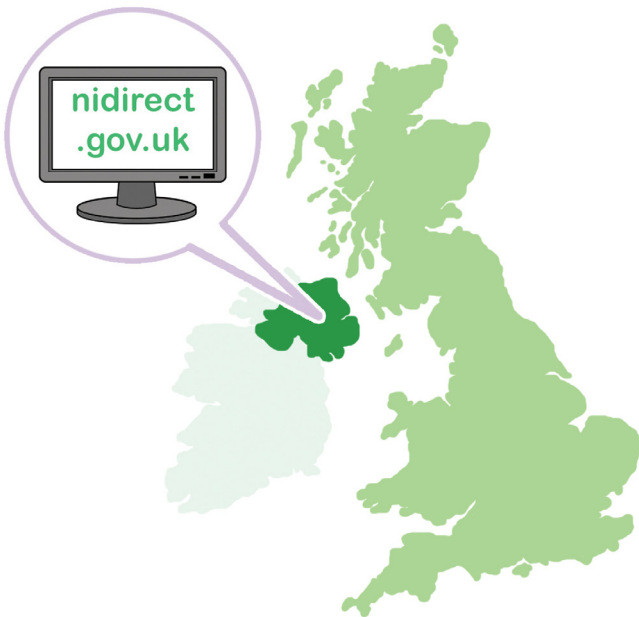


You can find out more and apply for benefits online.



Visit:

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



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



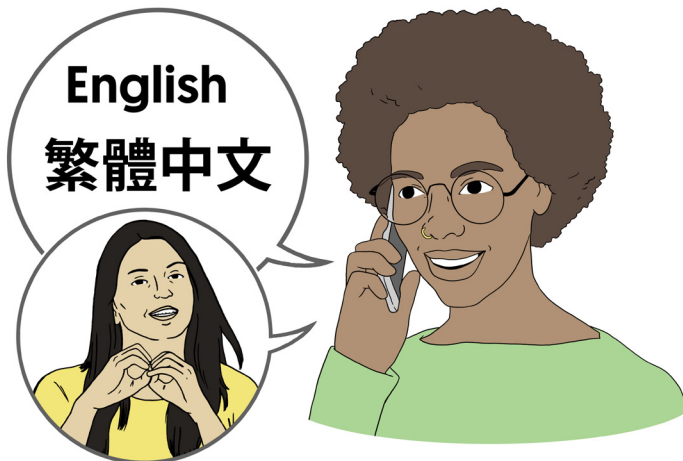
How Macmillan can help you



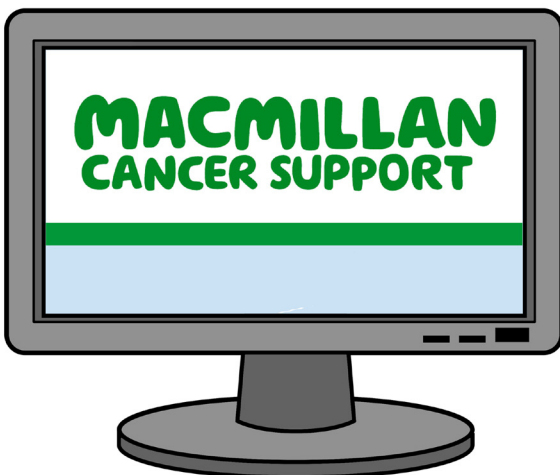
You can get support from:

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.

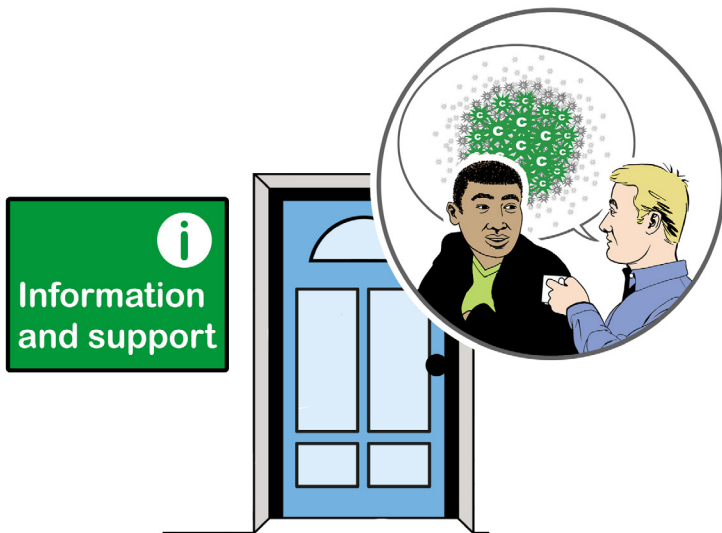


The Macmillan website

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)



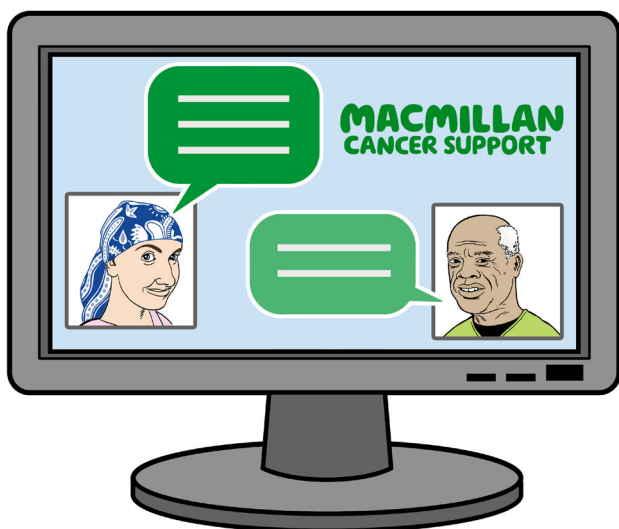
Information centres

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.



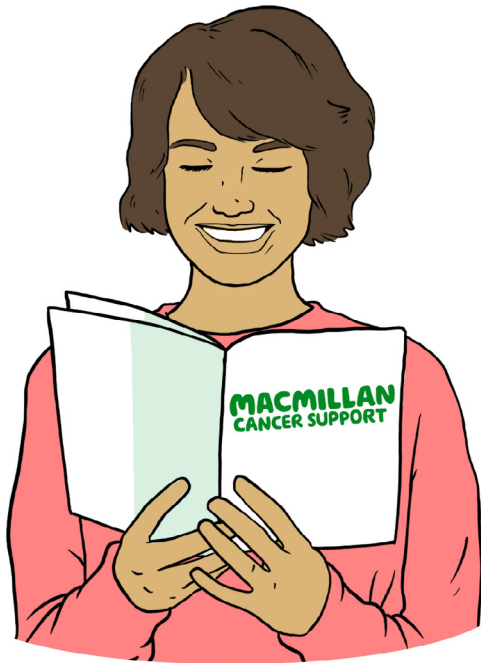
Local support groups

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

be.macmillan.org.uk



Videos

You can watch videos about cancer at

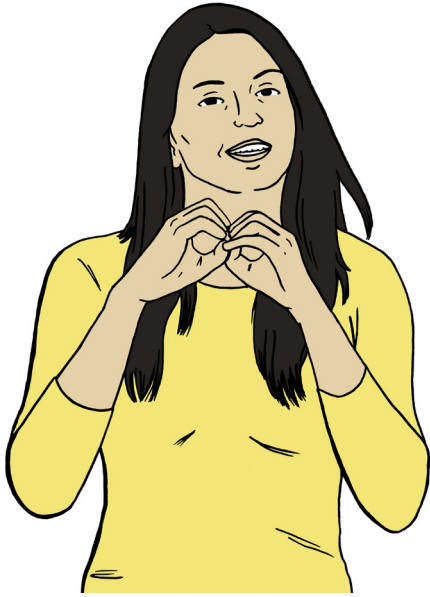
macmillan.org.uk/videos



Audio

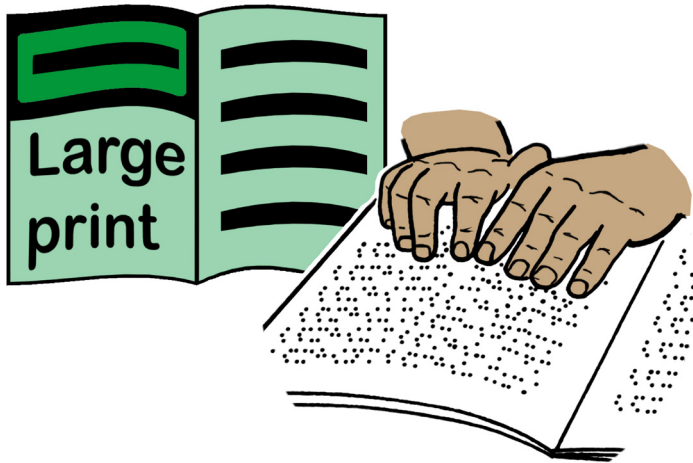
You can listen to information about cancer and order CDs from

macmillan.org.uk/audio



British Sign Language (BSL)

You can watch information in BSL at [macmillan.org.uk/bsl](https://www.macmillan.org.uk/bsl)



Large print or Braille

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

Email: informationproductionteam@macmillan.org.uk



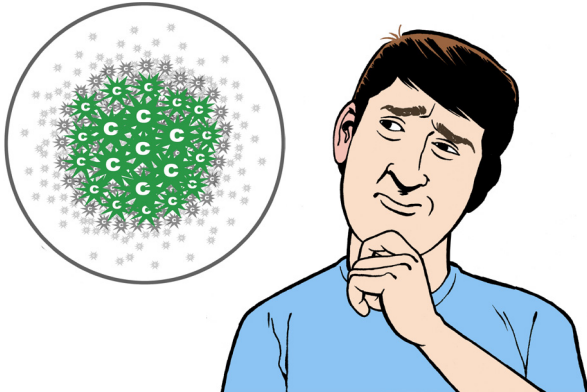
Translations

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?

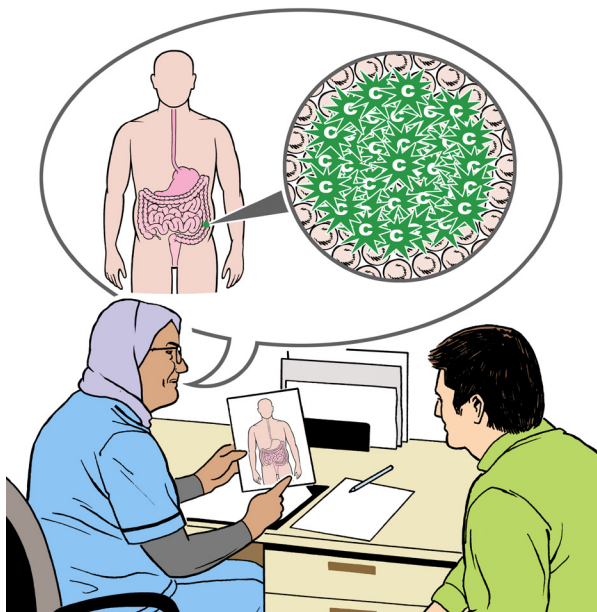
Signs and symptoms

- 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

Treatment for cancer

- Chemotherapy
- Deciding about treatment
- Giving your consent
- Having surgery
- If you are unhappy with your care
- Radiotherapy
- Side effects from chemotherapy
- Side effects from radiotherapy
- Treatments for prostate cancer





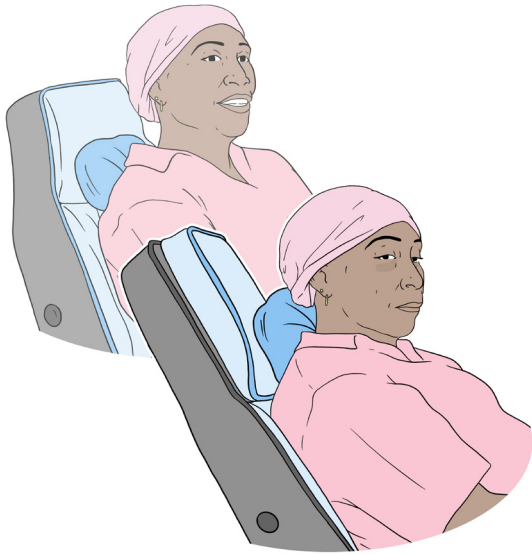
Living a healthy life

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

Living with cancer

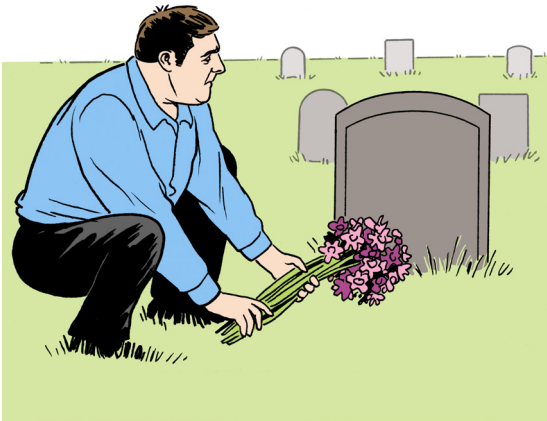
- 7 steps to equal healthcare
- Cancer and covid
- Claiming benefits when you have cancer
- Complementary therapies
- Help with costs when you have cancer
- LGBTQ+ people and cancer
- Talking about cancer and your feelings
- Things that are important to me
- What happens after cancer treatment ends
- 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
- Who can help if you are dying
- Your feelings if you are dying



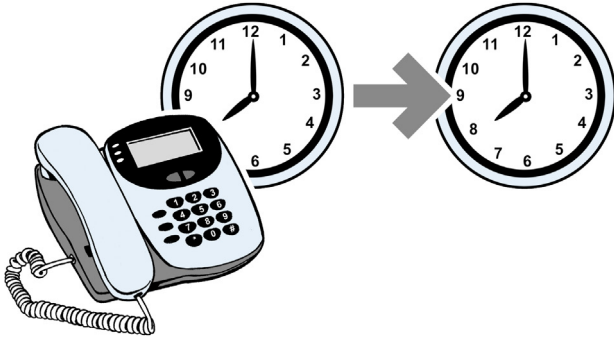
After someone dies

- 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:

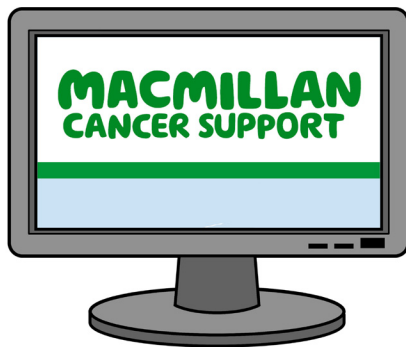
0808 808 00 00

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



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CANCER SUPPORT**