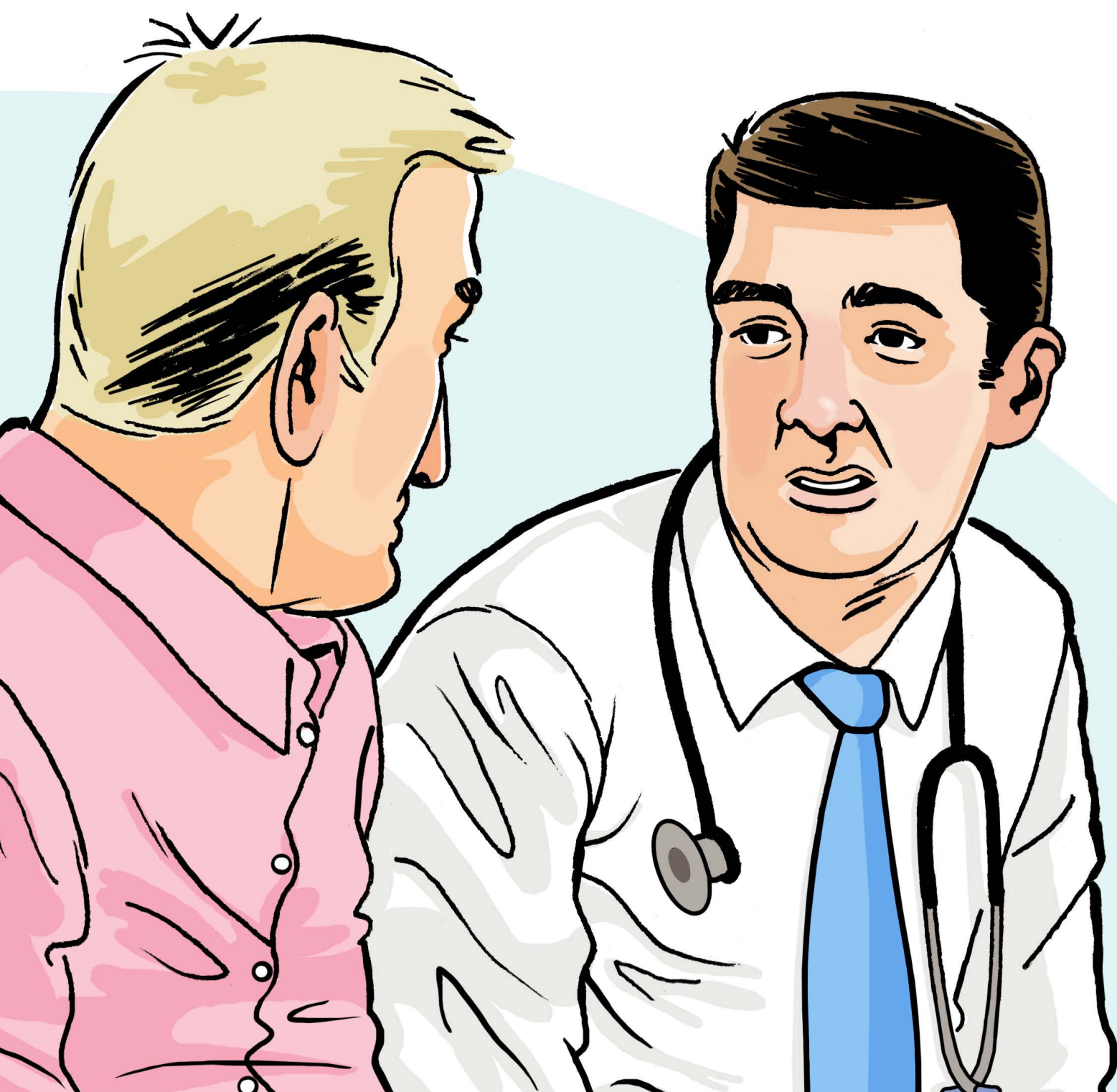


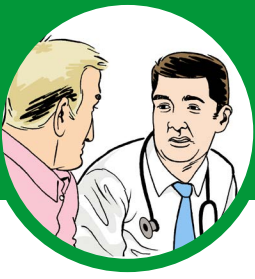
In partnership with

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

easy
read

Seeing the doctor

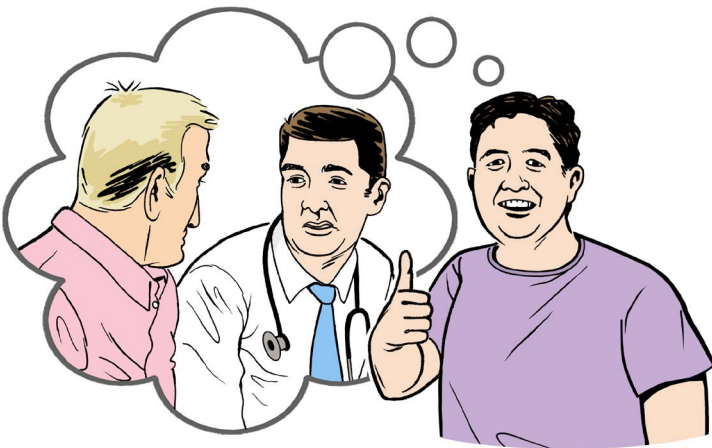




About this easy read booklet



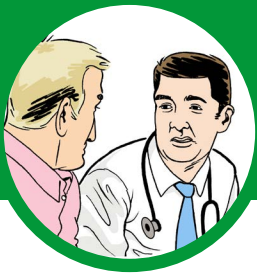
This booklet is about seeing the doctor.



You can learn about what will happen when you see the doctor.



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



Seeing the doctor



The first person you need to see if you have any health worries is your doctor.



It might be helpful if you ask someone to come with you to see the doctor.



Before you go to see the doctor, write down the things you want to say so that you don't forget when you get there.



The doctor will ask you what your problem is and what **symptoms** you have.



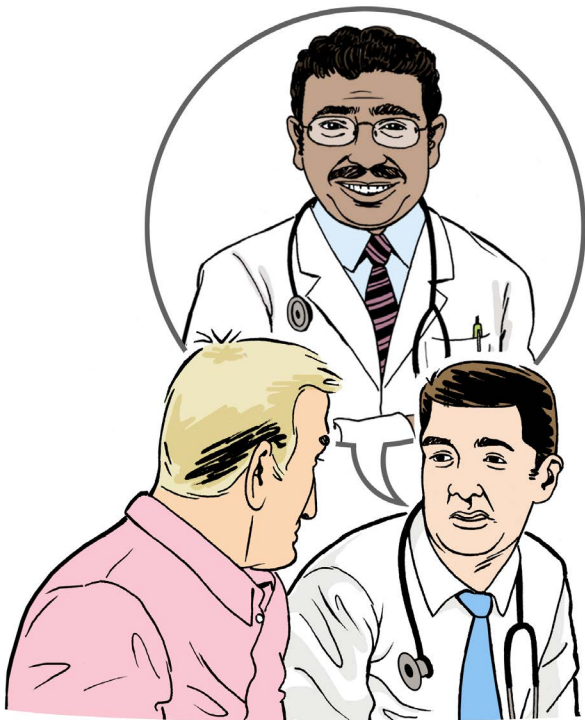
Symptoms are signs that tell you that something is wrong, like feeling tired all the time.



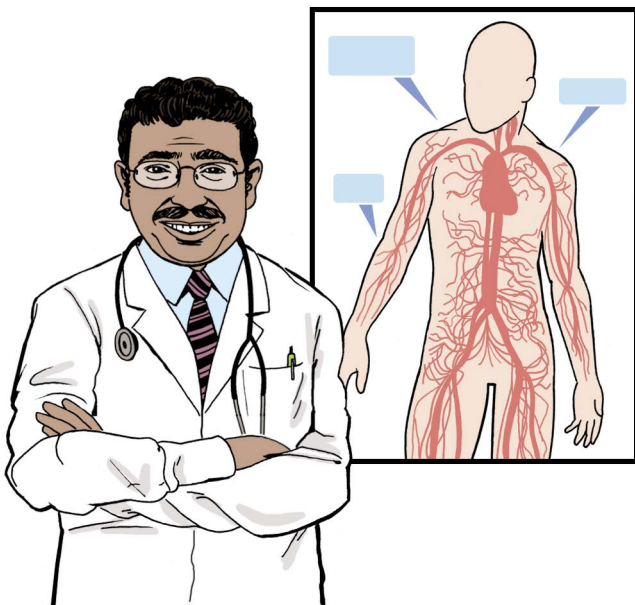
The doctor will try to find out what is causing your symptoms. This is called making a **diagnosis**.



The doctor may also want to check your body for changes. This could include lumps or places where you have pain.



The doctor may decide you need to see another doctor called a **specialist**.



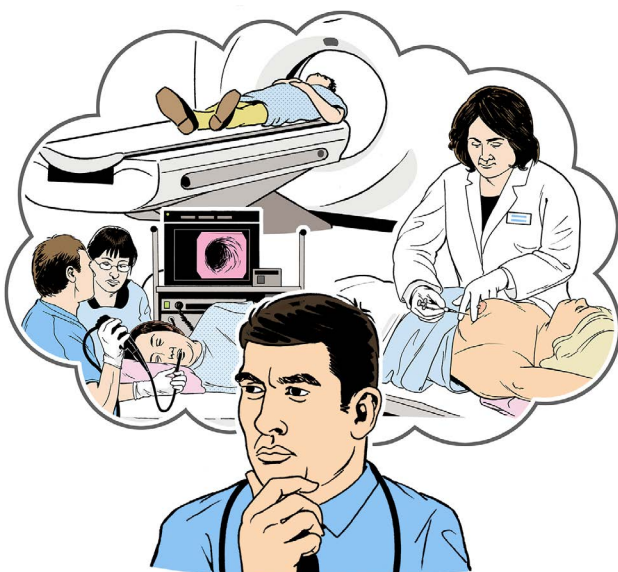
A **specialist** is a doctor who has learned a lot about one part of the body.



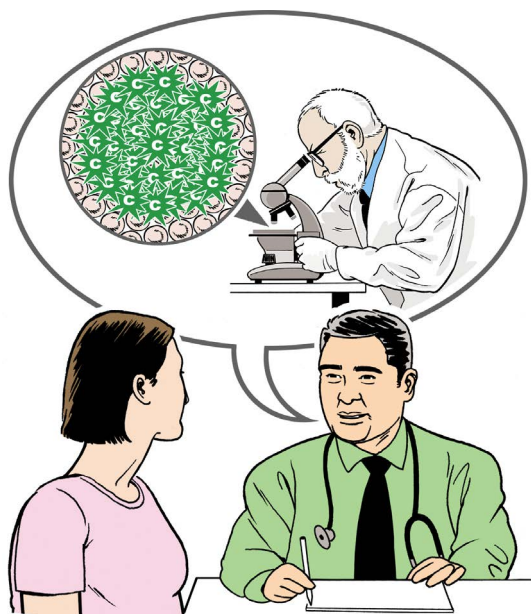
Specialists usually work in hospitals.



The doctor will think about your symptoms and decide how quickly you need to see a specialist.



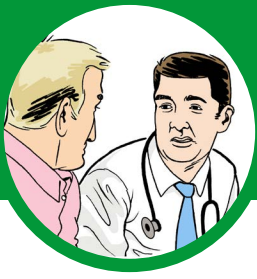
The doctor will also decide if you need to have tests and what sort of tests you should have.



Tests can help the doctor find out what is wrong and whether you have cancer or not.



Ask where you will have to go for the tests. The doctor can tell you what to expect.

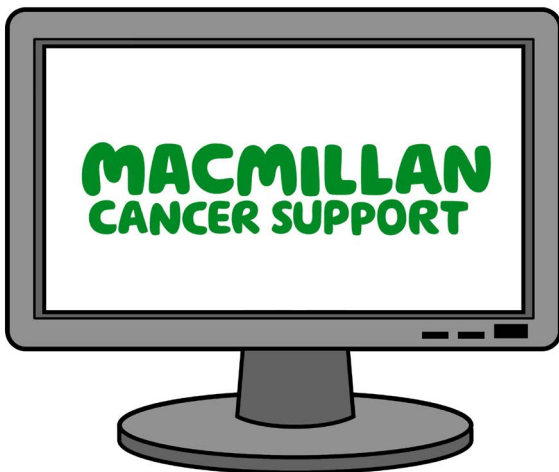


How Macmillan can help you

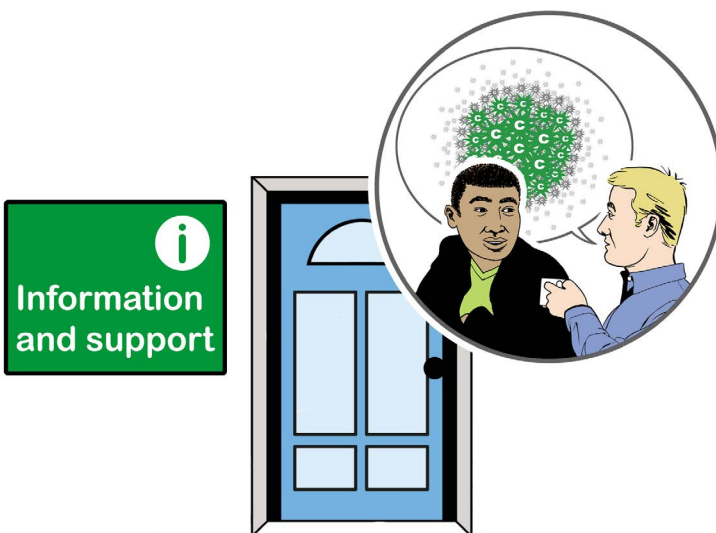


You can get support from:

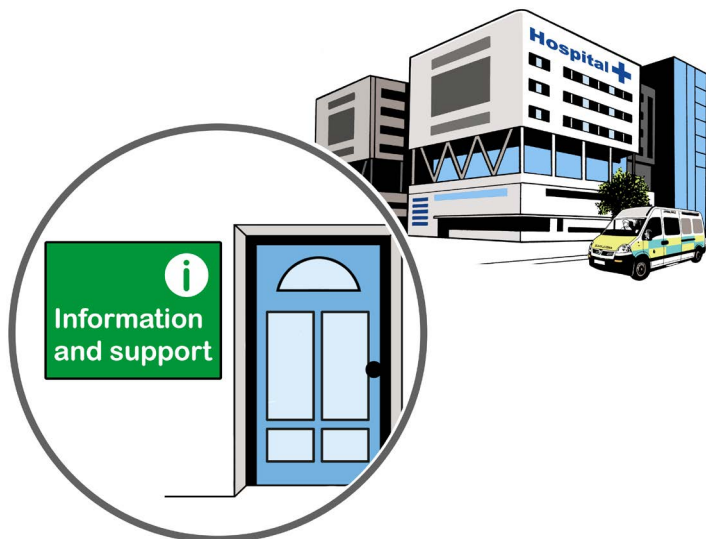
- The Macmillan Support Line. Call **0808 808 00 00** 7 days a week, 8am to 8pm.



- The Macmillan website. Visit [macmillan.org.uk](https://www.macmillan.org.uk) for lots of information about cancer and living with cancer.



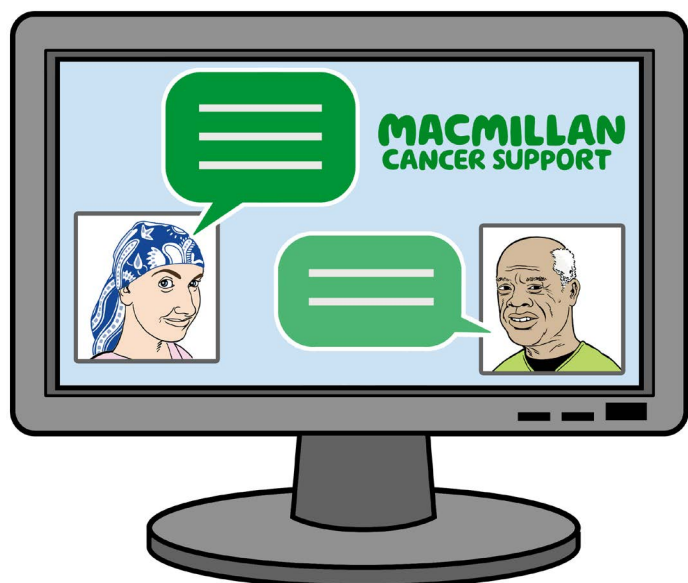
- Information centres. At an information centre, you can talk to a cancer support specialist and get written information.



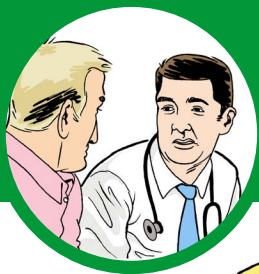
Find your nearest centre at macmillan.org.uk/informationcentres or call us. Your hospital might have a centre.



- Local support groups. Find a group near you at macmillan.org.uk/supportgroups or call us.



- The Macmillan Online Community. You can talk to other people in similar situations at macmillan.org.uk/community



More easy read booklets



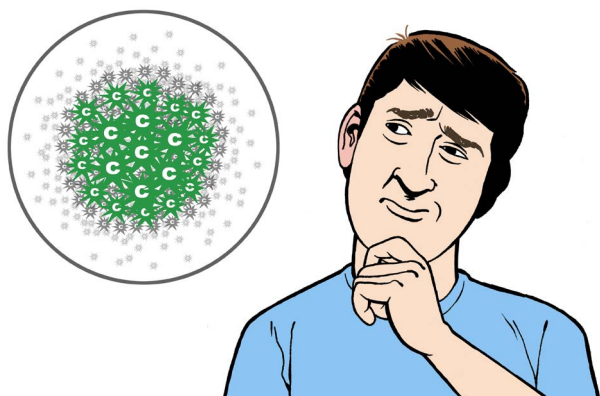
Order more easy read booklets from macmillan.org.uk/easyread

There are booklets on lots of topics:



About Macmillan

- How Macmillan Cancer Support can help you



About cancer

- Lung cancer
- What is cancer?

Signs and symptoms

- Breast care for women
- Cervical screening
- How to check your balls [testicles]
- Screening for cancer
- Signs of cancer
- Symptoms of cervical cancer
- Symptoms of prostate cancer





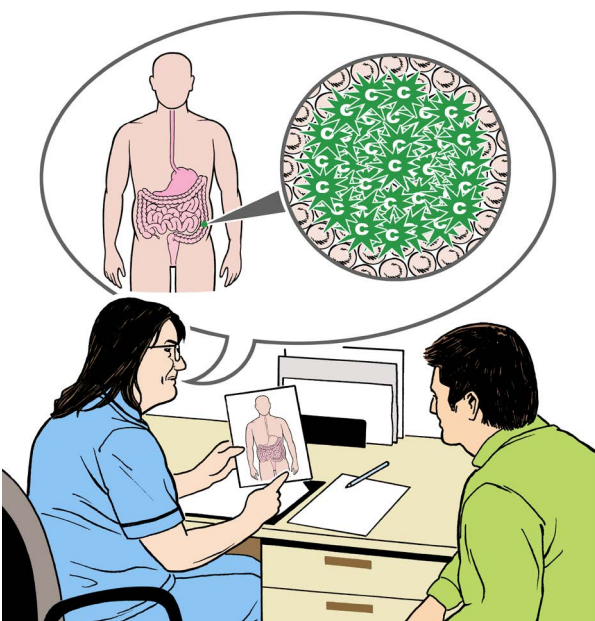
Living a healthy life

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



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

Living with cancer

- 7 steps to equal healthcare
- After treatment for cancer
- Claiming benefits when you have cancer
- Complementary therapies
- Help with costs when you have cancer
- Talking about cancer and your feelings
- Things that are important to me
- Work and cancer
- Your feelings and cancer
- Your sex life and cancer
- Your social life and cancer





End of life

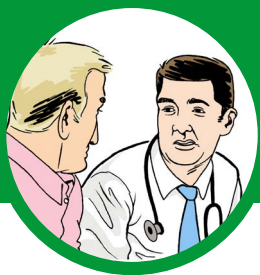
- Changes that can happen at the end of life
- Choosing where to die
- Getting ready to die
- If you are dying from cancer
- Making decisions about the future if you are dying
- Spirituality and religion at the end of life
- The end of life
- Thinking about your funeral
- Who can help if you are dying



After someone dies

- Going to a funeral when someone dies
- Grief and loss when someone dies
- How you may feel when someone dies
- What can help you feel better when someone dies

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

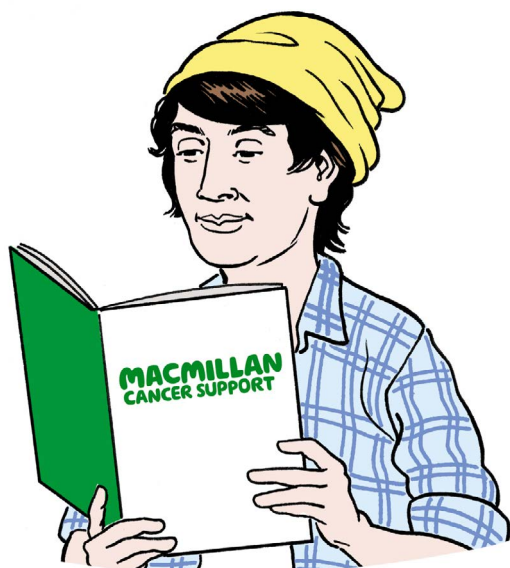


More information and resources



Macmillan website

There is lots of information about cancer at macmillan.org.uk



Booklets about cancer

You can order booklets about cancer from be.macmillan.org.uk



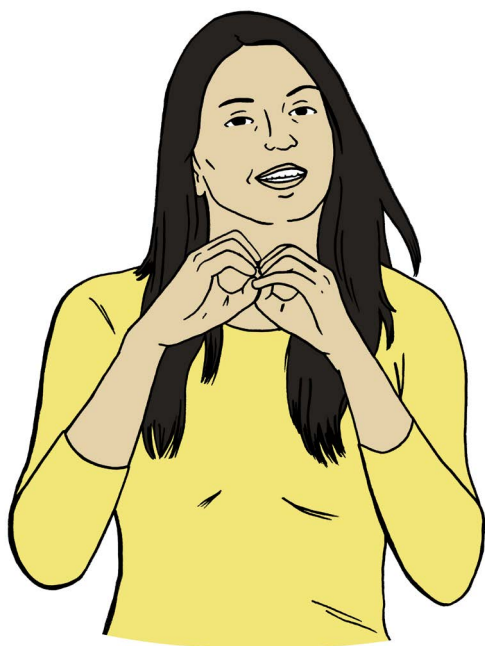
Videos

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



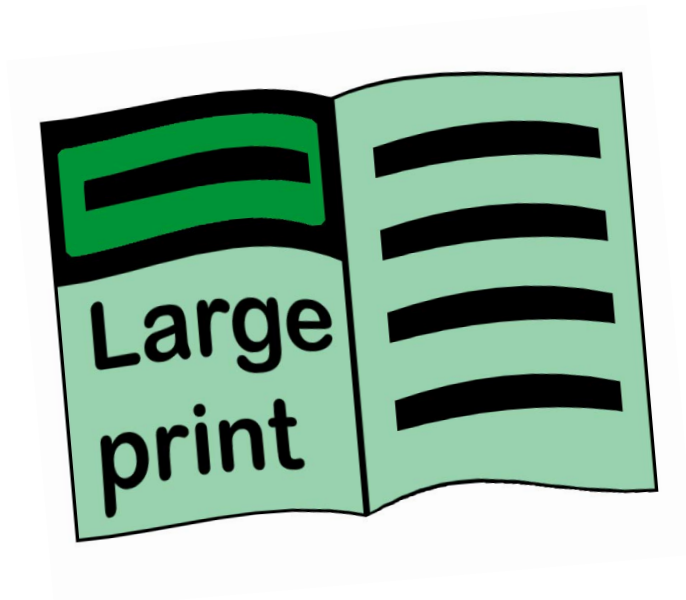
British Sign Language (BSL)

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



eBooks

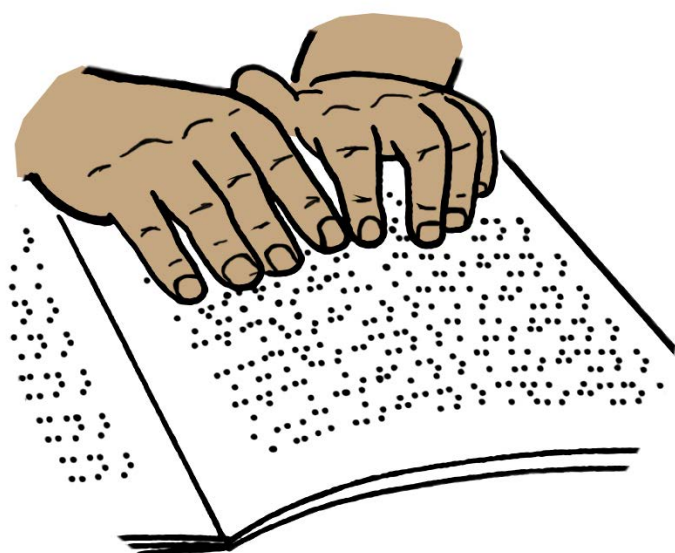
You can get eBooks about cancer from be.macmillan.org.uk



Large print

Tell us if you need information in large print.

Email: cancerinformationteam@macmillan.org.uk



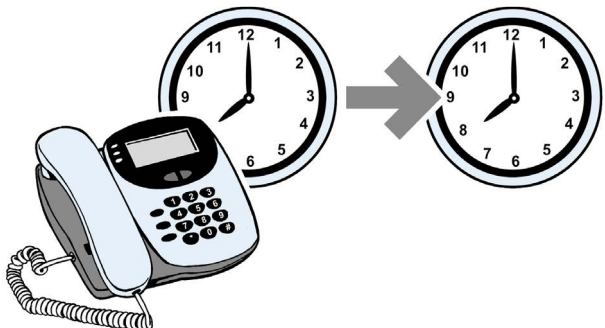
Braille

Tell us if you need information in Braille.

Email: cancerinformationteam@macmillan.org.uk

This booklet is about cancer.

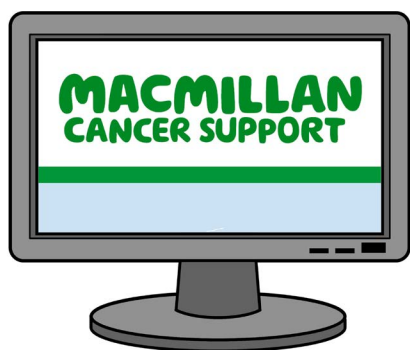
It is for anyone who has a learning disability or who finds easier words and pictures helpful. If you have more questions about cancer or would like to talk to us, call the Macmillan Support Line.



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



- If you use a textphone, you can call the Macmillan Support Line using the Next Generation Text (NGT) service by dialling
18001 0808 808 00 00



- Or go to the website
[macmillan.org.uk](https://www.macmillan.org.uk)

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

MAC16329_ER_E04 Produced March 2020.

Next planned review March 2023.

© Macmillan Cancer Support. All illustrations © CHANGE.

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales [261017], Scotland [SC39907] and the Isle of Man [604].



In partnership with

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**