



Care and support
through terminal illness



EasyRead
version

Caring for someone with an illness they will probably die from

Money and work



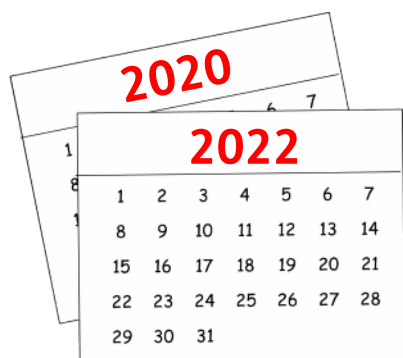
About this booklet



Sometimes people have an illness that cannot be cured and which they will probably die from.



This is often called a **terminal illness**.



Depending on the illness a person has, they might live for days, weeks, months or sometimes years.

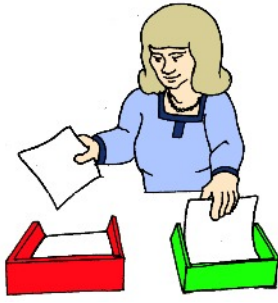


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Marie Curie is a charity. We have written this EasyRead booklet to help you think about money and work if you are caring for someone with an illness they will probably die from.



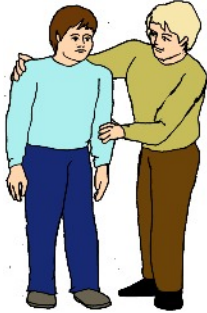
You may want to read this booklet with someone you feel comfortable with. You can talk about what this booklet says together.



This booklet talks about:

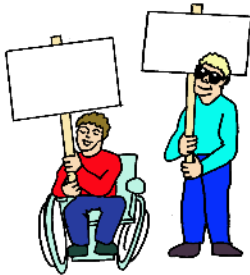
- working when you are a carer

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- your rights as a carer at work

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- how Marie Curie can help

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- how you can help us

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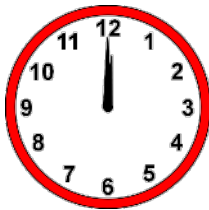
- how this booklet was made

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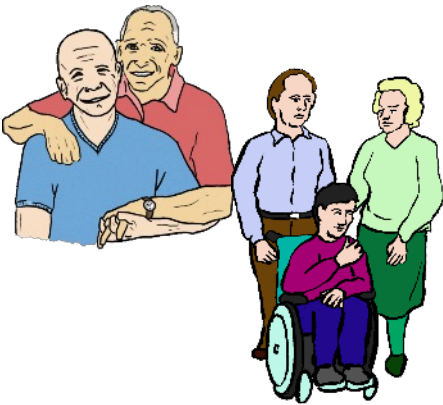
Working when you are a carer



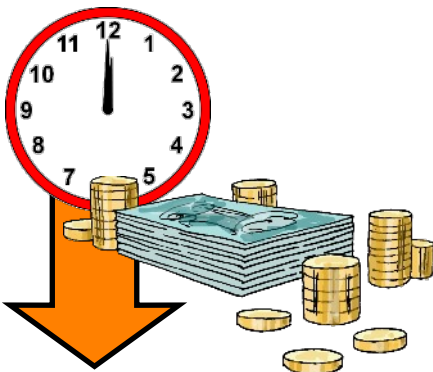
A **carer** is someone who looks after a friend or family member who cannot do everything they need for themselves.



You might care for someone all the time or for just a few hours a week.



You might not call yourself a carer. You might think of yourself as a son, daughter, wife, husband, partner or friend.

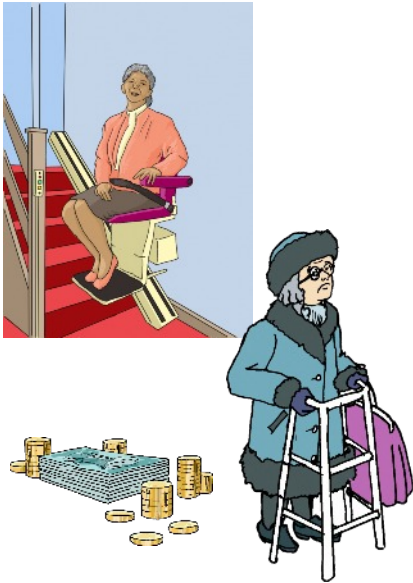


You might have less time to work or might earn less money when you are caring for someone.



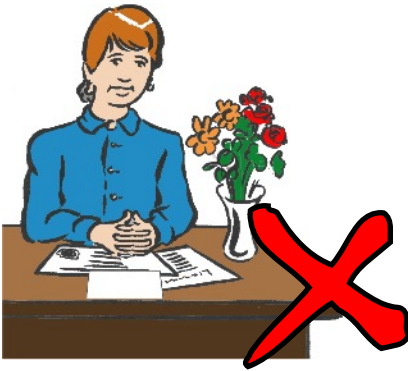
This booklet is about how the government, local council, health and social care trusts, and other organisations can help. It also tells you about your rights as a carer.

Benefits

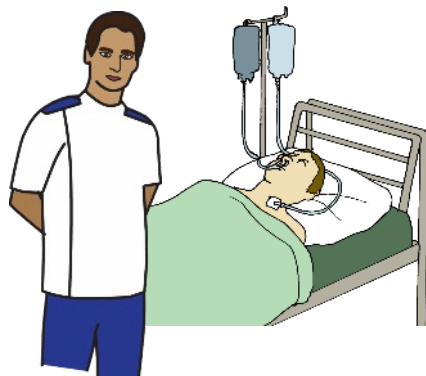


There are lots of ways the government can help you or the person you care for pay for things you need:

- They might pay for special equipment that helps to make life a little bit easier for the person you care for. This could be a walking frame for example.



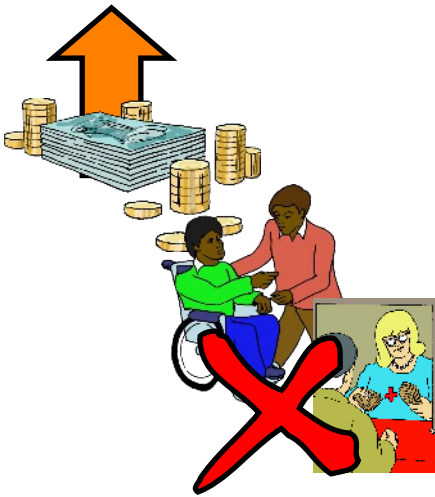
- They might give you money to help you look after your ill friend or family member. This might help if you cannot work.



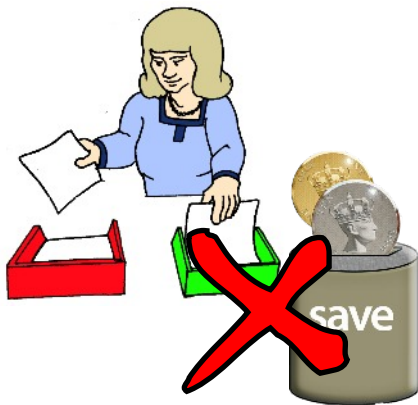
If the person you are caring for is very ill and might die soon, they might get benefits more quickly.



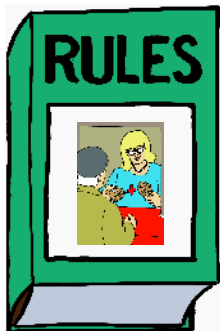
If you care for someone who is ill or disabled for more than 35 hours a week, you might be able to get a benefit called Carer's Allowance.



If you do a job that pays you more than a certain amount every week, you will not be able to get Carer's Allowance.



If you care for someone, you might not be able to work or earn enough to save for a state pension. You can sometimes get help towards this.

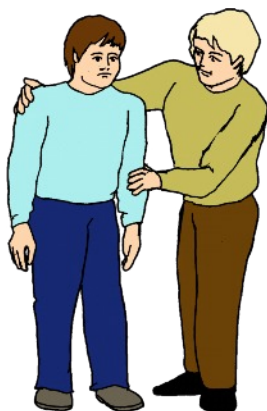


There are lots of different benefits. It can be really difficult to understand the rules about who can get them but there are people who can help you. If you or the person you care for has a social worker, they may be able to give you help.



The Marie Curie Support line can help you find someone to explain different benefits to you. You can call the Support Line on **0800 090 2309**.

Help with social care



You and the person who is ill might be able to get **social care**.



The type of social care you can get depends on what you need. It could include help with things like:

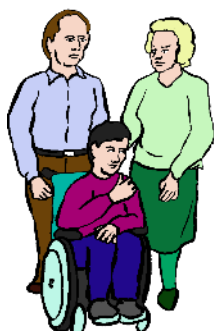
- doing the housework



- learning how to lift someone safely



- giving you time to see family or friends



- caring for someone.



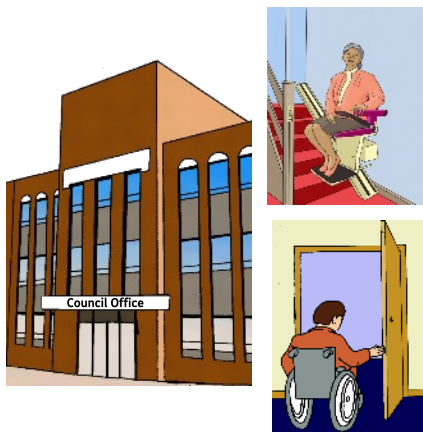
You can ask your local council to send a social worker or occupational therapist to visit you. If you live in Northern Ireland, your local health and social care trust can help you.



They will do an **assessment**.



This means looking at the things you and the person who is ill needs and deciding if you can get support.



The council or trust can also help with getting equipment or getting changes made to the home to make it easier for your friend or family member to be cared for.



Paying for social care

Your local council or health and social care trust may pay for some or all of your social care.



But you might have to pay for some of your social care.



Whether you have to pay might depend on what care you need, where you live and how much money you have.



In Scotland, some social care services, like help with eating and showering, are free for everyone.



If the person you care for needs support because of their health, they may be able to get this care for free. In England and Wales, this is called **NHS Continuing Healthcare**.



Your doctor (GP), nurse, social worker, local council or health and social care trust will be able to give you more information on paying for social care.

Your rights as a carer at work



If you are caring for a family member, partner or someone you live with, and you also have a paid job, the law says you have the right to:



- ask for **flexible working**. This means changing the hours you work, working from home sometimes or anything else that helps you fit your job around your caring. Your employer does not have to agree to this.



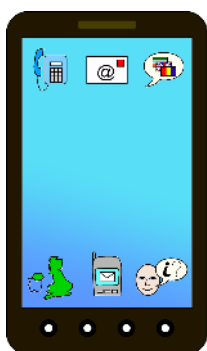
- take unpaid time off in an emergency.



- not be treated unfairly or badly because you are a carer. This is called **discrimination**.



If you think you have been discriminated against because you are a carer it is important to talk to someone about this.



You can call the Marie Curie Support Line on **0800 090 2309**.

How Marie Curie can help



There are lots of different ways we can answer questions or support you and the person you are caring for.

We have more booklets about caring for someone with an illness they will probably die from.



Who can help?



Looking after yourself

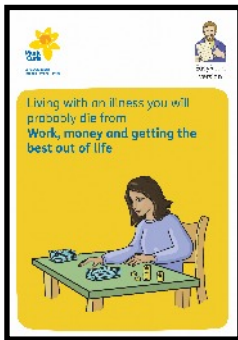


We also have a booklet on feelings you might have when someone dies.

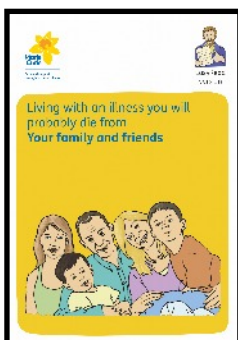
We also have booklets about living with an illness you will probably die from.



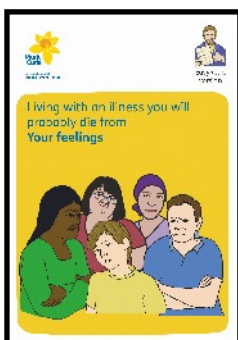
Who can help?



Work, money and getting the best out of life



Your family and friends



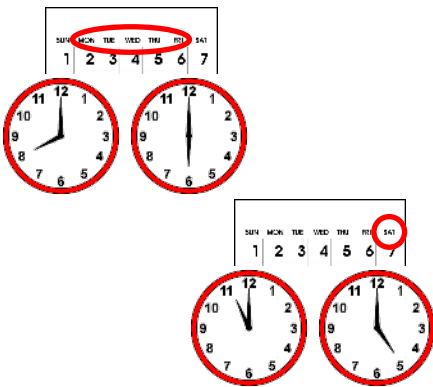
Your feelings



How to keep comfortable, healthy and happy



You, the person you are caring for or your family and friends can phone us to talk about what is happening and how you are feeling. You can call our Support Line on **0800 090 2309**.



It is open 8am – 6pm Monday to Friday and 11am – 5pm on Saturdays.

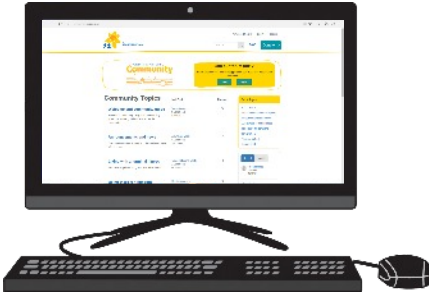


There is also information on our website: **www.mariecurie.org.uk/support**



The information on our website is not EasyRead but if you call us we can explain things to you.

Marie Curie Community



Share ideas or talk to other people who are caring for someone with an illness that cannot be cured:

www.community.marie.org.uk

24 hours a day



Marie Curie Nurses

Some people want to stay in their own home when they are dying. Sometimes, a Marie Curie Nurse can help give care at home:

www.mariecurie.org.uk/nurses



Marie Curie Hospices

A hospice is a place that cares for people who have an illness they will probably die from and can support you too:

www.mariecurie.org.uk/help



Marie Curie Helper

Our trained volunteers may be able to visit the person for a chat or take them to appointments:

www.mariecurie.org.uk/helper

How you can help us



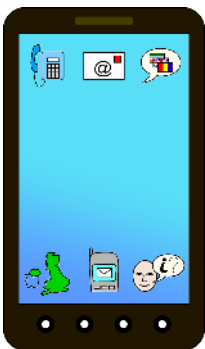
Please tell us what you think about this booklet.



It will help us to write better information for people who are caring for someone with an illness that they will probably die from.



You can email us at:
review@mariecurie.org.uk



or call our Support Line on
0800 090 2309.

How this booklet was made



Care and support
through terminal illness

This is an EasyRead booklet about caring for someone with an illness they will probably die from.

It was written by the charity Marie Curie.

This booklet uses words and pictures to make the information easy to understand.



It meets the European EasyRead Standard.



The **Your Voice Counts** - making EasyRead information.



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www.inspired.pics



How you use this booklet is up to you, not Marie Curie.



You should still get information from your doctor (GP), nurses, or other professionals.



It can help to speak to your doctor or other professionals before you decide about things like your health, care and finances.

Marie Curie – why we're here

We're here for people living with any terminal illness, and their families. We offer expert care, guidance and support to help them get the most from the time they have left.

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