



Care and support
through terminal illness



EasyRead version

Caring for someone with an illness they will probably die from

Money and work

Booklet 3



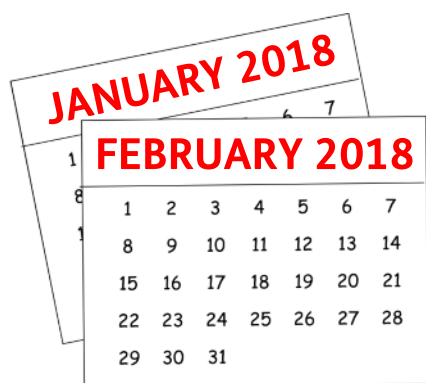
About this booklet



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



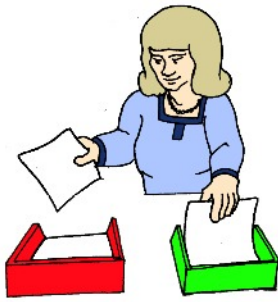
This is often called a **terminal illness**.



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



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.



This booklet talks about:

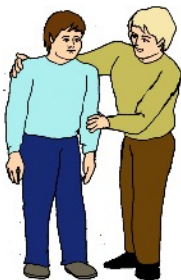
- working when you are a carer

3



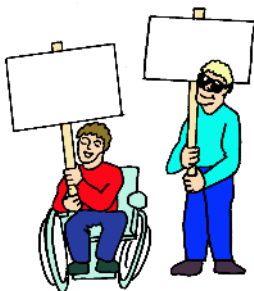
- **benefits** – money from the government that will help you or the person you care for pay for support and the things you need

4



- help with social care

6



- your rights as a carer at work

10



- how we can help

12



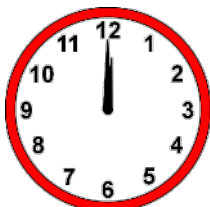
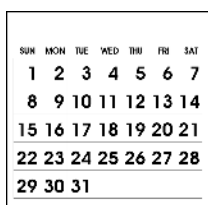
- how you can help us

16

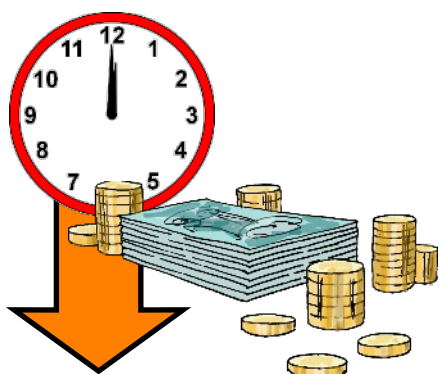
Working when you are a carer



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



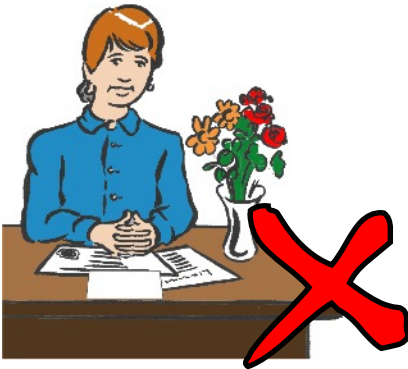
This booklet is about how the government, local council and other organisations can help. It also tells you about your rights as a carer.

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



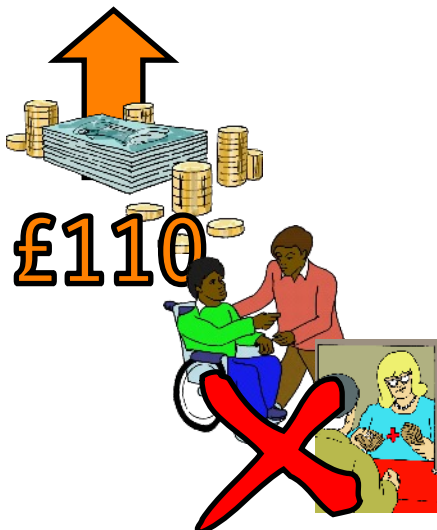
- they might give you money if you have to stop working so you can look after your ill friend or family member.



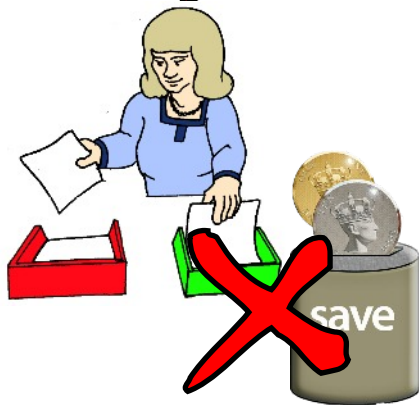
If the person you are caring for is very ill and might die soon, the government can get you help with looking after them more quickly.



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 £110 a 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.

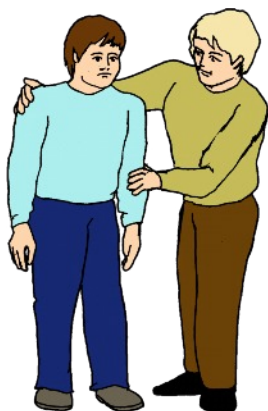


There are lots of different benefits. It can be really difficult to understand the rules about who can get them but there are people who can help you.



The Marie Curie Support line can help you find someone to explain different benefits to you. Call **0800 090 2309**.

Help with social care



If you are over 18 years old you might be able to get **social care**.



This means help with things like:

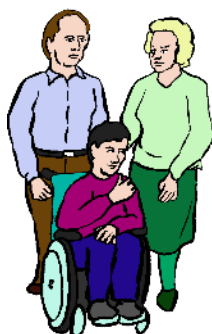
- getting up and getting dressed



- cooking and eating



- seeing family or friends



- caring for someone.



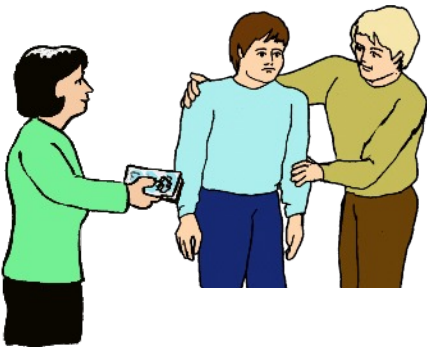
You can ask your local council to send a social worker to visit you.



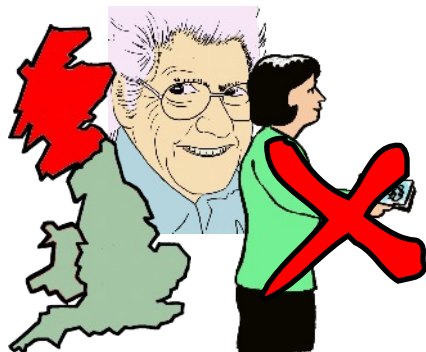
They will do an **assessment**.



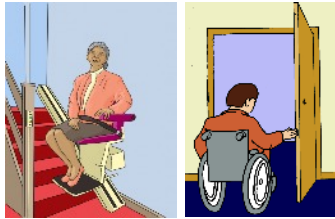
This means looking at the things you need help with and deciding if you can get support.



You might have to pay towards some services.



In Scotland, social care is free for people over 65 years old.



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



NHS continuing healthcare

If the person you care for is not in hospital, but needs a lot of healthcare support, the NHS might pay for this:



- at home



- in a care home



- in a **hospice**.



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



The person you care for will need an assessment to see if they meet the rules for this. You can find out more from:



- the doctor (GP), nurse or district nurse



- social worker



- hospice staff.

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.



Call the Marie Curie Support Line on **0800 090 2309.**

How we can help



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

We have 2 other booklets about caring for someone with an illness they will probably die from.

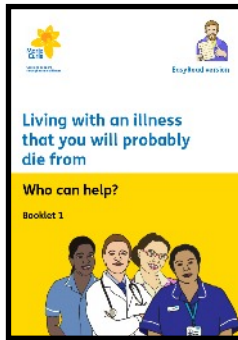


1. Who can help?

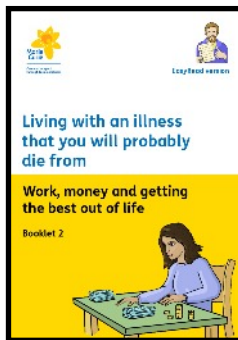


2. Looking after yourself

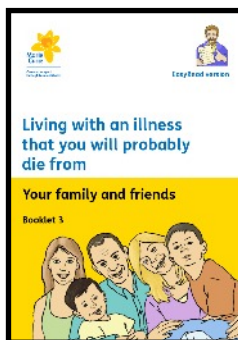
We have 5 booklets about living with an illness you will probably die from.



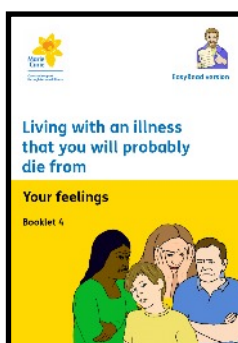
1. Who can help?



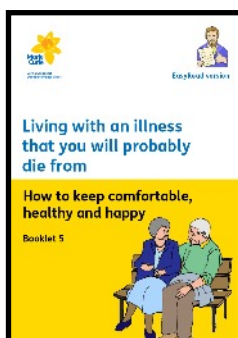
2. Work, money and getting the best out of life



3. Your family and friends



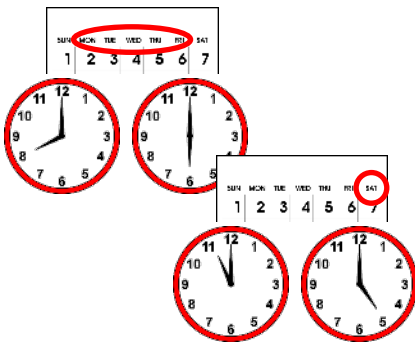
4. Your feelings



5. 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 to 5pm on Saturdays.

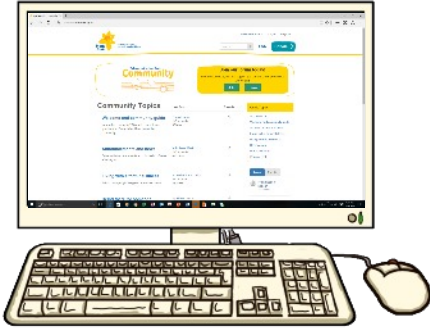


There is also information on our website: **www.mariecurie.org.uk/help**



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

If the person wants to stay in their own home when they are dying our nurses can care for them:

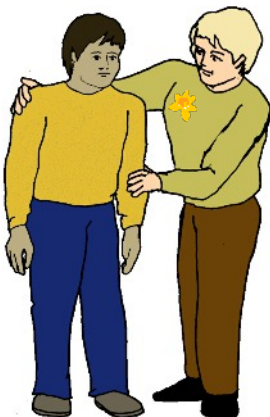
www.mariecurie.org.uk/nurses



Marie Curie Hospices

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

www.mariecurie.org.uk/hospices



Marie Curie Helper

Our trained volunteers can visit the person for a chat or take them to appointments at their doctors' surgery or hospital:

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.

Credits



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.

It uses easy words and pictures to make the information easy to understand.



It meets the European EasyRead Standard.



LeadingLives
Your life / Our support

It has been user-checked by the **Making It Easier Group** of people with learning disabilities.



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www.inspired.pics

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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