



Help with costs when you have cancer: English

This information is about getting help with costs when you have cancer.

If you have any questions about this information, ask your doctor or nurse at the hospital where you are having treatment.

You can also call Macmillan Cancer Support on freephone **0808 808 00 00**, 7 days a week, 8am to 8pm. We have interpreters, so you can speak to us in your own language. When you call us, please tell us in English which language you need.

There is more cancer information in this language and other languages at macmillan.org.uk/translations

This information is about:

- Help with transport costs
- Help with prescriptions and other health costs
- Support for parents
- Grants and loans
- How Macmillan can help you
- Getting the right care and support for you
- More information in your language
- References and thanks

Help with transport costs

If you are on a low income, you may be able to get help with the cost of travelling to hospital for your treatment. You could get a refund on your bus, train or taxi fares. Or you could get money to help with some of your petrol costs. People with cancer get free or discounted parking at many UK hospitals. Speak to the staff at the hospital for more information.

There are special rates for bus, coach and train tickets for some older people and people with disabilities. For more information visit gov.uk or nidirect.gov.uk

If you have problems moving around, you may be able to get a Blue Badge. This allows you to park in parking spaces that are closer to where you need to go, such as hospitals or supermarkets. To find out more, visit gov.uk or nidirect.gov.uk

Help with prescriptions and other health costs

- **Prescriptions** - In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, prescriptions are free for everyone. In England, prescriptions are free for anything related to cancer or its effects. You need a medical exemption certificate. To apply for this, your GP must complete a FP92A form for you.
- **Wigs and fabric supports** - In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, wigs and fabric supports are free on the NHS. In England, they are free for some people, including children under the age of 16 and people on a low income. Speak to your cancer nurse or doctor for more information.

The **NHS Low Income Scheme** helps people on a low income to pay for health costs. This includes help with dental treatment, sight tests and travel to receive treatment. It is run by:

- the NHS in **England, Scotland and Wales** – NHS/lowincomescheme
- the Health Service in **Northern Ireland** – HealthService/helpwithcosts

Support for parents

You might be able to get some help from the government towards childcare costs. This might include some free childcare, or some money to help pay for childcare. You can find out about the different types of support available at childcarechoices.gov.uk

You might also be able to get help with childcare costs from a charity or your local council.

If you have a child at school, they might be able to get free school meals. If you have a low income, you might also be able to get help with paying for school clothing, and travel to and from school. Ask your local council for more information.

Grants and loans

Some charities and organisations such as local councils may offer financial help to people on a low income. This might include one-off grants or vouchers. For more information, contact the Macmillan Support Line free on **0808 808 00 00**.

Getting the right care and support for you

If you have cancer and do not speak English, you may be worried that this will affect your cancer treatment and care. But your healthcare team should offer you care, support and information that meets your needs.

We know that sometimes people may face extra challenges in getting the right support. For example, if you work or have a family you might also have worries about money and transport costs. All of this can be stressful and hard to cope with.

How Macmillan can help you

At Macmillan, we know how a cancer diagnosis can affect everything, and we are here to support you.

Macmillan Support Line

We have interpreters, so you can speak to us in your language. Just tell us, in English, the language you want to use.

Our expert advisers on the Macmillan Support Line can talk to you about your money worries and recommend other useful organisations that can help. We can help with medical questions or be there to listen if you need someone to talk to. The free, confidential phone line is open 7 days a week, 8am to 8pm. Call us on **0808 808 00 00**.

Macmillan website

Our website has lots of information in English about cancer. There is also more information in other languages at macmillan.org.uk/translations

We may also be able to arrange translations just for you. Email us at informationproductionteam@macmillan.org.uk to tell us what you need.

Information centres

Our information and support centres are based in hospitals, libraries and mobile centres. Visit one to get the information you need and speak with someone face to face. Find your nearest centre at macmillan.org.uk/informationcentres or call us on **0808 808 00 00**.

Local support groups

At a support group, you can talk to other people affected by cancer. Find out about support groups in your area at macmillan.org.uk/supportgroups or call us on **0808 808 00 00**.

Macmillan Online Community

You can also talk to other people affected by cancer online at community.macmillan.org.uk

You can access it at any time of day or night. You can share your experiences, ask questions, or just read through people's posts.

More information in your language

We have information in your language about these topics:

Signs and symptoms of cancer

- Signs and symptoms cards

If you are diagnosed with cancer

- Cancer care in the UK
- Healthcare for refugees and people seeking asylum
- If you are diagnosed with cancer

Types of cancer

- Bowel cancer
- Breast cancer
- Cervical cancer
- Lung cancer
- Prostate cancer

Treatment for cancer

- Chemotherapy
- Radiotherapy
- Sepsis and cancer
- Side effects of cancer treatment
- Surgery

Living with cancer

- Claiming benefits when you have cancer
- Eating problems and cancer
- Healthy eating
- Help with costs when you have cancer
- LGBTQ+ people and cancer
- Tiredness (fatigue) and cancer

End of life

- End of life

To see this information, go to macmillan.org.uk/translations

For more support to understand information, go to macmillan.org.uk/understandinginformation

References and thanks

This information has been written and edited by Macmillan Cancer Support's Cancer Information Development team. It has been translated into this language by a translation company.

The information included is based on our benefits content available in English on our website.

This information has been reviewed by relevant experts and approved by members of Macmillan's Centre of Clinical Expertise or other senior clinicians or experts.

Thanks also to the people affected by cancer who reviewed this information.

All our information is based on the best evidence available. For more information about the sources we use, please contact us at informationproductionteam@macmillan.org.uk

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