



**Bedfordshire
Community
Health Services**



Information and advice - Assessment for Continuing Health Care Funding



Bedfordshire adult and children's community health services are provided in partnership by East London NHS Foundation Trust (ELFT) and Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS) NHS Trust

If you need 24 hour care after leaving the Rehabilitation Unit, and your health care needs may be beyond standard routine nursing care. You may be assessed for NHS Continuing Health Care (CHC) funding.

When considering funding options, the Multidisciplinary team is required to look at your care needs to decide if you have a "Social Care need" or a "Primary Care need".

Eligibility for Continuing Health Care funding is not determined by your diagnosis or medical history, but through consideration of your day to day needs.

A Social Care Need - (as detailed in the Care act 2014) relates to the routine care and health needs , such as your hygiene, safe mobilising, repositioning, nutritional intake, toileting and medication administration. These care needs may be met through social care funding which there is a financial assessment.

A Primary Health Care—is when you have health and social care needs over and above that which could lawfully be provided by Social Services - this is if your care is intense, complex or unpredictable in nature. Continuing Health Care (CHC) funding is NHS funding and there is not a financial assessment.

The Multidisciplinary team will discuss if your care needs are routine and could be met under under Social Care or if you might meet the criteria for having a primary health care need.

The Multidisciplinary team then complete a Continuing Health Care checklist to see if you would "screen in" for a full assessment (DST Decision Support Tool).

If you "screen in " the checklist will be sent to the CHC team. The CHC team will contact you with a date to have a full assessment (DST) - this is usually within 28 days of the checklist being submitted.

When will the Rehabilitation Funding end?

Your rehabilitation funding will continue until the date of "ratification", either at the Rehabilitation Unit or at the Care home you move to.

What happens at the DST meeting?

At the full CHC assessment a CHC Assessor will ask you, your family, the therapists and care staff lots of questions about your care to determine if you have a Primary Care Need. Often at the end of the meeting the CHC assessor will provisionally advise if you will meet criteria for CHC Funding.

After the meeting you will receive a letter officially confirming if you are eligible for NHS CHC funding. This letter will have a date the DST was ratified. This is the date the Rehabilitation funding will end.

If you are eligible for NHS CHC funding then this funding will start from the "ratification" date. A CHC nurse will then help to manage your future care and funding. NHS CHC funding is re-assessed regularly, if your care needs lessen you may be reassessed and CHC funding could stop.

If you were assessed not to meet NHS CHC criteria - your future care will be funded by Social Services or self funded depending upon your financial situation.

- If you are Social Services Funded , your social worker will arrange for Social services funding to start from the date of ratification.
- If you are self funding you will be eligible to start funding from the date of ratification. If a bed at your chosen care home is not available for a while , you have the choice to move to an interim care home or you may be able continue to fund your bed at the rehabilitation unit. Please be aware that the rehabilitation units are specialist facilities and their fees are far higher than a standard care home. It is up to you to negotiate with the unit.

You are entitled to appeal against the NHS CHC decision. You are also entitled to be reassessed in the future if your care needs increase.

For further information about this service contact:

For more information about CHC funding there is a film you can view on YouTube- "NHS England Continuing Health Care (CHC) film". Additional information can also be found online. Your ABI Clinical Coordinator or Social Worker can provide CHC advice leaflets and discuss CHC further.

Useful contacts:

- Susan Cassels, Clinical Coordinator, Acquired Brain Injury Service
Tel: 01234 310404
- For free and independent advice:
www.beaconchc.co.uk
- Healthwatch Bedford Borough:
Tel: 01234 718018 www.healthwatchbedfordborough.co.uk
- Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire
Tel: 0300 303 8554 www.healthwatch-centralbedfordshire.org.uk

If you require this information in a different format such as in large print or on audio tape, or in a different language please contact the service on the details above.

To find out how we use what we know about you (Privacy Notice) or how to access our buildings (AccessAble), please visit www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk and follow the links or please contact us.



If you have any compliments about this service or suggestions for improvements, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service on 0300 131 1000 (charges may apply depending on your network) or email: ccs-tr.pals@nhs.net.

For free, confidential health advice and information 24 hours a day, 365 days a year please contact NHS 111.