

How do I apply for NHS Continuing Healthcare or FNC?

If you live in your own home and feel that you may be eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare, you need to ask for a CHC checklist. This can be completed by district nurses, community nurses, GPs and social care staff if you are known to them. You also need to be registered with a GP in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG area.

If you are going into a care home with nursing, the care home will complete a checklist when you arrive there, to determine whether you may be eligible for either CHC or FNC.

If you are already in a care home with nursing, the care home manager, social worker or GP can complete a checklist and submit it to the CCG, evidencing change in care needs. If the checklist recommends a full assessment is needed, you will be assessed by the Complex Cases Team to determine whether you are eligible for NHS funded care.

What is a Personal Health Budget?

A Personal Health Budget (PHB) is an amount of money that can be given directly to someone receiving NHS Continuing Healthcare. It funds care that is tailored to their individual needs as identified in the full CHC assessment. A detailed care and support plan, covering healthcare and wellbeing is used to agree how the budget is allocated. The allocation is decided between you and your continuing healthcare team, based upon your assessed needs.

Contacting the CCG

For further Information and advice you can contact the NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Complex Cases Team:

Email: capccg.complexcases-chc@nhs.net

Telephone: **01223 725429**

Visit our website: bit.ly/NHSCPCHC

Contacting Social Services

Cambridgeshire area:

Telephone: 0345 045 5202

Email: careinfo@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Peterborough area:

Telephone: 01733 747474 (option 4)

The process involved in NHS continuing healthcare assessments can be complex. An organisation called Beacon gives free independent advice on NHS Continuing Healthcare.

Beacon Website: www.beaconhc.co.uk

Free helpline: **0345 548 0300**

If you need this leaflet in larger print please call the CCG on **01223 725429**

NHS

**Cambridgeshire and
Peterborough**
Clinical Commissioning Group

A brief guide to NHS Continuing Healthcare and NHS-funded nursing care



What is NHS Continuing Healthcare?

NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC) is a package of ongoing care that some people are entitled to receive because of disability, accident or illness. It is available to people aged 18 and over who have particularly intense, complex or unpredictable care needs. CHC is arranged and funded solely by the NHS and is not means tested.

Key fact:

Only 30% of referrals made go onto receive NHS Continuing Healthcare funding.

How is eligibility for NHS Continuing Healthcare assessed?

To find out if you are eligible, you must be assessed by a team of health and social care professionals who know about your care needs. They will complete a checklist - this helps health and social care staff decide whether you need a full assessment for NHS Continuing Healthcare. For you to qualify, the team must decide that you have a primary health care need.

The checklist does not indicate whether you are eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare. It only shows whether you require a full assessment of eligibility for NHS Continuing Healthcare.

If the completed checklist indicates there is a need to carry out a full assessment of eligibility for NHS Continuing Healthcare, the person completing the checklist will contact your

Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). The CCG will arrange for a multi-disciplinary team (MDT) to carry out an assessment of your current needs within 28 days.

An MDT is made up of two or more health and social care professionals and others who are involved in your care. With your permission the assessment will ask these health and social care professionals about your needs. You or your representative (who could be a relative) will be invited to attend this assessment.

The MDT will use the information from your assessment to complete a Decision Support Tool (DST). The DST looks at twelve different areas of need including mobility, nutrition and behaviour.

The DST applies the primary health need test looking at nature, intensity, complexity and unpredictability to determine if a recommendation is made to the CCG that you are eligible for CHC funding. The CCG will then make the final decision.

If you are eligible for CHC funding, NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) will be responsible for finding and paying for a package of care, either in a nursing home or at home. The care package will be discussed and then agreed with you and/or your representative.

If you have been awarded NHS Continuing Healthcare funding, we aim to review your needs and support package within three months and at least annually thereafter. The review considers whether your existing care and support package still meets your assessed needs. If your needs have changed, the review will consider whether you are still eligible for funding.

What is a Fast Track Tool

Some patients need a fast decision on eligibility, due to a rapidly deteriorating condition that may be entering a terminal phase. In these cases, a Fast Track Tool is used instead of the Decision Support Tool. This is completed by an appropriate clinician for example a doctor or nurse with knowledge of your diagnosis, treatment or care. It is then sent to the CCG to confirm eligibility for NHS Continuing Healthcare fast track funding. If eligible, the CCG will arrange for care to be provided.



What is NHS-funded nursing care?

If you do not qualify for NHS Continuing Healthcare and are resident in a care home with nursing, you may be eligible for NHS-funded nursing care (FNC). This type of funding is available for people that have registered nursing needs and are receiving their care in a care home with nursing. Please note however, being a resident in a care home with nursing does not automatically indicate eligibility for FNC.