

What is Continuing Healthcare?

What you need to know about Continuing Healthcare (CHC)

What is Continuing Healthcare?

The NHS can provide funding for care if you have long-term complex health needs. This is known as NHS Continuing Healthcare and often referred to as CHC funding.

Continuing Healthcare can be provided in any setting, including your own home or in a care home.

Eligibility

Continuing Healthcare depends on your assessed needs and you must be 18 years old or over.

You must be assessed by a doctor, social worker, nurse or other healthcare professional.

All of your care needs will be looked at. This will include:

- What help you need
- How complex your needs are
- How intense your needs can be
- How unpredictable they are, including any risks to your health if the right care isn't provided at the right time

Examples of ongoing health needs

- Your health deteriorates significantly and any current care seems inadequate
- Following a hospital discharge and rehab or intermediate care, your condition is unlikely to improve
- You are discharged from hospital and your long-term needs are clear
- You have a rapidly deteriorating condition

Regular reviews will be made on your health needs. If your needs change then your eligibility for Continuing Healthcare may change.

The procedures

Social care staff and healthcare professionals use a screening tool called a 'Checklist Tool' to help determine if a full assessment is needed. The checklist does not indicate if you are eligible for Continuing Healthcare.

After the checklist has been carried out and you require a full assessment, the social care and health professionals involved in your care will proceed with the assessment.

The information gathered from the assessment will be used to complete the 'Decision Support Tool'. This will help decide on the nature, complexity, intensity and unpredictability of your needs. When this is complete, a recommendation is made as to whether you are eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare.


Who to contact

The process involved in NHS Continuing Healthcare assessments can be complex.

You can speak to your GP, social worker or staff coordinating your care about NHS Continuing Healthcare for more information.

Alternatively, you can contact an organisation called Beacon. Beacon offers free independent advice on NHS Continuing Healthcare.

 **Go online:** www.beaconchc.co.uk

 **Call:** 0345 548 0300

Use this space to write down things you need to remember to tell us


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How to contact us

Adult Care Services


To get more information about adult social care services you can:

 **Go online:** buckinghamshire.gov.uk and click on 'Care for Adults'


 **Call:** Social worker: _____ Team: _____

Are you worried about somebody?


If you or someone you know is at risk of abuse or neglect:

 **Call:** 0800 137915 (24 hours a day)

If you would like to give us feedback

 **Go online:** Please complete the online form at buckinghamshire.gov.uk

If you prefer you can:

 **Call:** 01296 387844

 **Email:** complimentsandcomplaints@buckinghamshire.gov.uk