



MESOTHELIOMA UK

Supporting People With This Asbestos Cancer

Personal Independence Payment (Daily Living) Factsheet

August 2019

Have you had a diagnosis of mesothelioma and are you under state pension age? You should be able to claim Personal Independence Payment (Daily Living) under Department for Work & Pensions "special rules"

How to claim

Your hospital consultant, specialist nurse or GP will complete a DS1500 form.

To make your claim for Personal Independence Payment (daily living) you then need to telephone the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) on **0800 917 2222** and state that you wish to make a claim under the special rules and that you have Form DS1500. You will be asked some basic questions about your eligibility so have the following information ready when you telephone:

- national insurance number,
- date of birth,
- address and post code
- daytime contact number,
- dates of any hospital stays,
- GP and hospital consultant details,
- Bank/Building Society Account details.

You will also be asked some extra questions about your condition and how it affects your ability to get around. You may be entitled to the mobility component of Personal Independence Payment at either the enhanced or standard rate. Please see the separate fact sheet on Personal Independence Payment (Mobility). You will need to send the DS1500 to the DWP – they will give you the address. It is also possible for someone else, such as a family member or a support organisation to contact the DWP and make the claim on your behalf.

If you have any queries on the above you can contact the Personal Independence Payment Helpline on **0800 121 4433**.

The claim will be registered on the day of the telephone application and when the benefit is awarded, which is usually weeks later, it will be backdated to the date of the telephone application.

Benefit rates

Anyone with a diagnosis of mesothelioma submitting a claim for Personal Independence Payment (daily living) under special rules will be awarded the enhanced rate. Benefit rates are reviewed each year, normally in April. Information regarding current figures can be found at **www.gov.uk** or contact the Mesothelioma UK National Welfare Benefits Adviser (see below).

Will my savings, income or earnings affect payment of the benefit?

- This benefit is paid on top of any amount of savings, income or earnings.
- It is not taxable so it is not required to be declared to the Inland Revenue.

Will Personal Independence Payment (daily living) affect my other benefits?

- Payment of this benefit will not affect any of your means tested benefits.
- You may even get more of these benefits. For housing benefit and council tax you should contact your local council Benefits and Revenue section. For all other benefits, including Universal Credit, you should contact the DWP on **0800 169 0310**.

Scotland

If you live in Scotland, the provision of disability benefits is going to change. For details please contact the Mesothelioma UK National Welfare Benefits Adviser (see below) or search **www.gov.scot**

Further help

For help to check benefit entitlement, assistance with form filling or to discuss any problems with benefit/compensation applications please contact the Mesothelioma UK National Welfare Benefits Adviser on **0800 169 2409** or email **info@mesothelioma.uk.com** Alternatively, you can contact an Asbestos Support Group or your local Citizens Advice office.