



MESOTHELIOMA UK

Supporting People With This Asbestos Cancer

Admission to Hospital Factsheet

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What happens to my benefits if I am admitted to hospital?

A short stay in hospital will not affect payment of most of your benefits. However, after 28 continuous days in hospital the following benefits will stop being paid:

- Disability Living Allowance (care)
- Disability Living Allowance (mobility)
- Personal Independence Allowance (daily living)
- Personal Independence Allowance (mobility)
- Attendance Allowance
- Carer's Allowance

Therefore you must let the Department for Work and Pensions know if you are admitted to hospital and your stay will be more than 28 days. If you get Carer's Allowance you must tell the DWP if the person you are caring for is admitted to hospital.

If you receive housing benefit and a spell in hospital results in Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payments or Carer's Allowance being stopped you also need to tell the local authority.

What happens to a Motability agreement if I am admitted to hospital?

If you have a Motability agreement in force when you go into hospital, once payment of the mobility component has ceased, Motability should not seek to recover your vehicle for up to 28 days. They can defer the return of your vehicle for longer than this at their discretion.

What happens if I have several short stays in hospital?

If you are discharged from hospital and then re-admitted within 28 days, the 2 stays in hospital will be linked as one period eg. if you were admitted to hospital for 21 days then discharged but re-admitted for another 21 days 2 weeks later, the 2 stays would be linked as one period of 42 days. The above benefits would stop after 7 days into the second admission.

If 2 separate stays in hospital of less than 28 days are separated by a period at home of more than 28 days, then the 2 stays will not be linked and payment of the above benefits will continue to be paid.

What happens to Universal Credit?

If you are in receipt of Universal Credit and you go into hospital, your UC can continue to be paid indefinitely without being reduced. However, if your partner is in hospital and their stay is expected to last, or has lasted, for more than 6 months, your claim will end and you will need to claim as a single person.

What happens after 52 weeks in hospital?

You can continue to receive income-related ESA, income support and pension credit for the entire duration of your stay in hospital. However, for income support any disability premium, enhanced disability premium or higher pension premium will stop after you have been in hospital for 52 weeks unless you have a partner who remains at home and satisfies the condition for the premium themselves.

Further help

Entitlement to benefit whilst in hospital can be quite complicated so it is important to seek advice. You can 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.