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DLA
&
PIP

DISABILITY LIVING ALLOWANCE (DLA) and PERSONAL INDEPENDENCE PAYMENTS (PIP)

Liver NORTH
LIVER PATIENT SUPPORT

information leaflet 25
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Disability Living Allowance (DLA) has now been replaced by Personal Independence Payments (PIP).

Completing these application forms can be rather daunting and very time consuming. Take your time when completing the forms and if necessary, get someone to help you. Ideally you should focus on one or two pages at a time and take a break before you attempt to complete another page. Make a photocopy of your completed form. This may be useful if you need to appeal a decision.

Personal Independence Payments are NOT means tested. So it does not matter if you live alone or with someone else. It does not matter what other income you have or what savings you have. Your eligibility to receive PIP is judged solely on whether or not you satisfy the entitlement criteria.

You must have satisfied the eligibility criteria for at least 3 months and expect to continue to satisfy the criteria for a further 9 months at least, unless you are terminally ill. Special rules apply if you are terminally ill, which means that it is not necessary to satisfy the 3 months period. Applications for PIP can be made until you reach state pension age. If you are over state pension age, an application should be made for Attendance Allowance rather than PIP. However if at the time you reach state pension age, you are already in receipt of PIP, payments may continue after you reach state pension age providing you still meet the eligibility criteria.

There are two parts of PIP: the Care component and the Mobility component. You may be eligible for one or both components. Each component has various levels. The Care component has 3 levels: low, medium and high. The Mobility component has two levels: low and high.

Eligibility for the Care Component: you may need help from another person to do any one or more of the following:

- washing yourself and/or your hair, showering,

- dressing and/or undressing, eating, using the bathroom;
- communicating your needs;
- supervise you to make sure that you are safe;
- ensure that you take the correct medication on time;
- prepare a cooked meal for yourself if you have all the ingredients ready.

Eligibility for the Mobility Component: you may need help from another person because of any one or more of the following:

- you cannot walk unaided or you can only walk a very short distance before you experience severe pain or discomfort;
- you need someone with you when going outdoors due to being blind or severely deaf;
- you need supervision when going outdoors.
- Help from another person may include things like:
- prompting you to do certain things at specific times i.e take medication, eat and/or drink;
- supervise you whilst showering or walking outdoors;
- assist you when cooking or getting dressed/undressed;
- cooking you a main meal.

The questions regarding what assistance you need focus on the following categories:

- preparing a simple main meal for yourself if you have all the ingredients ready;
- eating and drinking;
- managing your health condition and any therapy or medication;
- washing, showering and/or taking a bath;
- managing personal toilet/lavatory needs;
- getting dressed and undressed;
- communicating verbally – on telephone or in person;
- engaging with other people in person;
- reading and understanding written information;
- making decisions;
- planning journeys and following a route;
- walking outdoors.

Personal Independence Payments are paid to enable you to pay someone else to help you to do the personal daily living tasks that you are unable to do or cannot do without help. It is not sufficient to state that you have a serious medical illness. The individuals considering your application are not medically qualified.

In order to properly answer each question on the application form, you must explain:

- what tasks you can and can't do;
- what help you need from another person to complete those tasks;
- how long you need help to do a certain task each time.

The application form requires you to state how long it takes you to complete each task or how long you need the help from another person. Do NOT guess the time it takes! Use a clock or timer to determine exactly how long it takes. Fatigue affects the time it takes to complete daily tasks. Fatigue reduces motivation. So it may be that, whilst you can do certain tasks, you need prompting and/or it takes you a long time.

In the event your application is successful, your payments will be paid every 4 weeks. Usually your eligibility will be reviewed from time to time. If your circumstances change at any time, for better or worse, you must inform the Department of Work & Pensions.

FURTHER GUIDANCE:

Citizens Advice. https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/
Turn to us. https://www.turn2us.org.uk/
Step change (debt management.) https://www.stepchange.org/
For all benefits and carers information. https://www.gov.uk/
Contact your local council for welfare rights services.

Acknowledgement:
We are grateful to LIVErNORTH governor Linda A Turnbull LL.B (Hons), LL.M (Dunelm), for compiling this information.

Some of the information contained in this leaflet may also appear elsewhere.

Information Leaflets Available:

1. Liver Patient Support
2. Accommodation for patients & families
3. Autoimmune Hepatitis
4. Alcohol and Liver Disease
5. Looking After Your Liver
6. Primary Biliary Cholangitis (PBC)
7. Coping With Stress
8. Primary Liver Cancer
9. You and Your Consultant
10. Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis (PSC)
11. Lifestyle and your Liver (MASLD/NAFLD)
12. Liver Disease
13. Skin Care for Liver Patients
14. Diet and Liver Disease

14a. Nutrition in Liver Disease

15. Hepatitis C
16. Travel Insurance for Liver Patients
17. Hepatitis E
18. Fatigue in Liver Patients/A Patient's Journey
19. Scanning - a short guide
20. Liver Cirrhosis Self Management Toolkit *
21. Exercise & Osteoporosis in Liver Patients
22. Hepatic Encephalopathy

23 Our Livers, Our Lives

25 Allowances (DLA & PIP)

26 Compensated Liver Cirrhosis

27 Hepatitis B

30 Wellness Walks - several available

* only from your doctor or healthcare professional

How to access LIVErNORTH information leaflets:

1. Download from our website:
(http://www.livernorth.org.uk/pages/factsheet.htm)
2. Collect from our display boards:
(Various Hospitals & Clinics)
3. Email us: info@livernorth.org.uk
4. Phone/FAX: 0191 3702961
5. Postal Address: freepost LIVErNORTH
6. Facebook message us:
https://www.facebook.com/livernorth/
7. Scan the QR code on the front cover

Yes I donate
ORGAN DONATION

Take time to talk about organ donation

Many people don't realise that their family's support is needed for organ donation to go ahead.

Information Service provided by:
LIVErNORTH
Tel & Helpline: 0191 3702961
Info@livernorth.org.uk
www.livernorth.org.uk
Registered Charity Number 1087226

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