

YOUNG LIVES VS CANCER ELIGIBILITY

FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

YOUNG LIVES VS CANCER: WHO WE ARE

Cancer is shocking, overwhelming, isolating... and completely unfair. Especially when you're young. It takes over your life. Treatment is gruelling and your ambitions and dreams – education, relationships, career, travel – suddenly seem very far away.

We get that. That's why Young Lives vs Cancer fights tirelessly to stop cancer destroying young lives. We provide grants and free accommodation at our Homes from Home to help with spiralling costs. Our care teams are on hand to help families with everything from getting benefits to treatment closer to home (when clinically appropriate). And we lobby the government to make sure they get the support they're entitled to. We're here to make sure young cancer patients can focus on getting their lives back on track.

YOUNG LIVES VS CANCER: WHO WE SUPPORT

1. Children and young people are eligible for services if they have had a confirmed cancer or bone marrow failure disorder and were under 25 years of age at diagnosis.
2. The child or young person must be eligible for free NHS cancer treatment within the UK, including members of (or child of) HMS Armed Forces and diplomatic core/embassies.
3. NHS MDTs can request support for patients with benign and low grade diagnoses which have cancer-like behaviour where there is a high burden of treatment¹

The type of support we deliver is based on individual assessed need.

¹ **Treatment burden** is a term used by clinicians to describe the short and long term impact of treatment e.g. surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, immunotherapies and sometimes the disease itself (tumour burden). Examples include: health impact, psycho-social, socio-economic, education or lost work days, hospital visits, and carer burden.

High treatment burden is usually something that impacts on multiple areas or for a long duration.

Low treatment burden may be short term incapacity for something like surgical removal of a benign tumour with no, or minimal, longer term effects.

The eligibility criteria is the same irrespective of whether a child or young person is under the care of paediatric, teenage & young adult, or adult service.

UNCERTAINTY AND RARE CASES

The Young Lives vs Cancer team will work with the NHS cancer team to help resolve uncertainty or manage rare cases.

Every type of cancer and bone marrow failure disorder is eligible. Please discuss benign or uncertain cases with your local Young Lives vs Cancer team if the disease is very cancer-like and has a high burden of treatment.

FURTHER GUIDANCE AND ADVICE

You can obtain a full copy of the Eligibility Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions from the Young Lives vs Cancer Social Care Team Leader or Service Manager at your main principal treatment centre.

If you have any questions, please contact your local Young Lives vs Cancer team:

Team Manager:

Tel:

Email:

General enquiries 0300 330 0803

younglivesvscancer.org.uk

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