

DRS. SPENCER, NISSENBAUM, COOK & FERMER
1a Welbeck Road, Bolsover, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S44 6DF

Identification of Carers

Definition: A carer is someone who voluntarily looks after a friend, relative or physically/mentally disabled child who needs support to live at home.

Some carers may already be known to the practice, but may still need to be identified. Many people do not associate themselves with the term Carer, they simply see themselves as relatives or friends doing their duty.

Once identified, if the carer is registered with the practice, this fact can be READ coded, thus creating an easily accessible register of carers.

Not all carers request or require services provided by outside agencies, but wherever possible, they should be informed of their entitlement to a Carers Assessment.

A carers assessment is carried out by the local Social Services Department and is a process by which the needs of both carer and person cared for can be identified. Once identified, the necessary arrangements can be made for these to be met as seems most appropriate.

Social Services telephone number : 01246 348400 (Central Switchboard)

All carers should be given a copy of our "Carers Information Sheet" which includes contact details for Social Services and other useful contacts.

The following list of physically and mentally disabling conditions, although not exhaustive, will enable identification of patients who are likely to have a carer;

- Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia
- Parkinson's Disease
- CVA
- Terminal Cancer
- Multiple Sclerosis, and other progressive neurological conditions
- Mental Illness eg schizophrenia, severe depression
- Mental handicap not already included
- End-stage chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (bronchitis and emphysema)
- Renal dialysis
- Visual impairment

When reviewing patients with any of these conditions, staff (medical and non-medical), should consider the need of the carer and inform them about the Carer's Assessment.

Signed

..... **Staff Member**

.....**G. P.**

..... **Practice Manager**

HOW TO GET HELP IN LOOKING AFTER SOMEONE

A CARERS GUIDE

As a carer, you are entitled to a Carers Assessment to discuss the help that both you and the person you care for might need. This assessment will be done by Social Services but can be arranged by the Derbyshire Carers Association.

Derbyshire Carers Association
White House
The Willows
Slack Lane
Ripley

Telephone: **01246 222373**

Social Services Emergency Out of Hours Telephone Number: 01246 348400

Services that might be helpful include:

1. Help with household tasks
2. Help with caring tasks during the day and night
3. Respite care
4. Activities for the “cared- for” person
5. Benefits advice

Other Useful Services

1. District-Nurse – contact surgery
2. Macmillan Nurse – discuss with GP or Practice Nurse
3. Chiropodist
4. Community Dentist
5. Health Visitor