

Free Nursing Care

(Registered Nurse Care Contribution (RNCC))

In July 2000 The NHS accepted that registered nursing care should be free of charge to the recipient in all settings.

Following this, the Health and Social Care Act, Section 49, removed Local Authorities' responsibilities for providing nursing care by a registered nurse as defined below.

Simply put an assessment will be carried out by a NHS nurse who will decide which level of contribution best fits each patient. The Registered Nursing Care Contribution relevant to you will be paid directly to your care home.

The three bands of nursing care each correspond to a level of funding

Low £40.00 Medium £83.00 High £133.00 per week

High Band - People with high needs for registered nursing care will have complex needs that require frequent mechanical, technical and/or therapeutic interventions. They will need frequent intervention and re-assessment by a registered nurse throughout a 24-hour period Their physical/mental health will be unstable/unpredictable.

Medium Band - These people may have multiple care needs. They will require intervention by a registered nurse on a daily basis and may need access to a nurse at any time. However, their condition is stable and predictable and likely to remain so if the treatment and care regimes continue.

Low Band - This band will apply to people whose care needs can be met with minimal registered nurse input. Assessment would indicate that their needs could normally be met in another setting, such as at home or in residential care with support from a district nurse, but they have chosen to place themselves in a nursing home.

Will the NHS pay the Full Cost of Care in any situation?

Each Health Authority has to produce its eligibility criteria for continuing NHS care. If you have a continuing need for NHS care, your care home fees could be fully funded by the NHS.

Any complaints regarding the nursing care paid for or provided by the NHS can be made using the NHS complaints procedure via the care home, the Primary Care Trust or Health Authority.