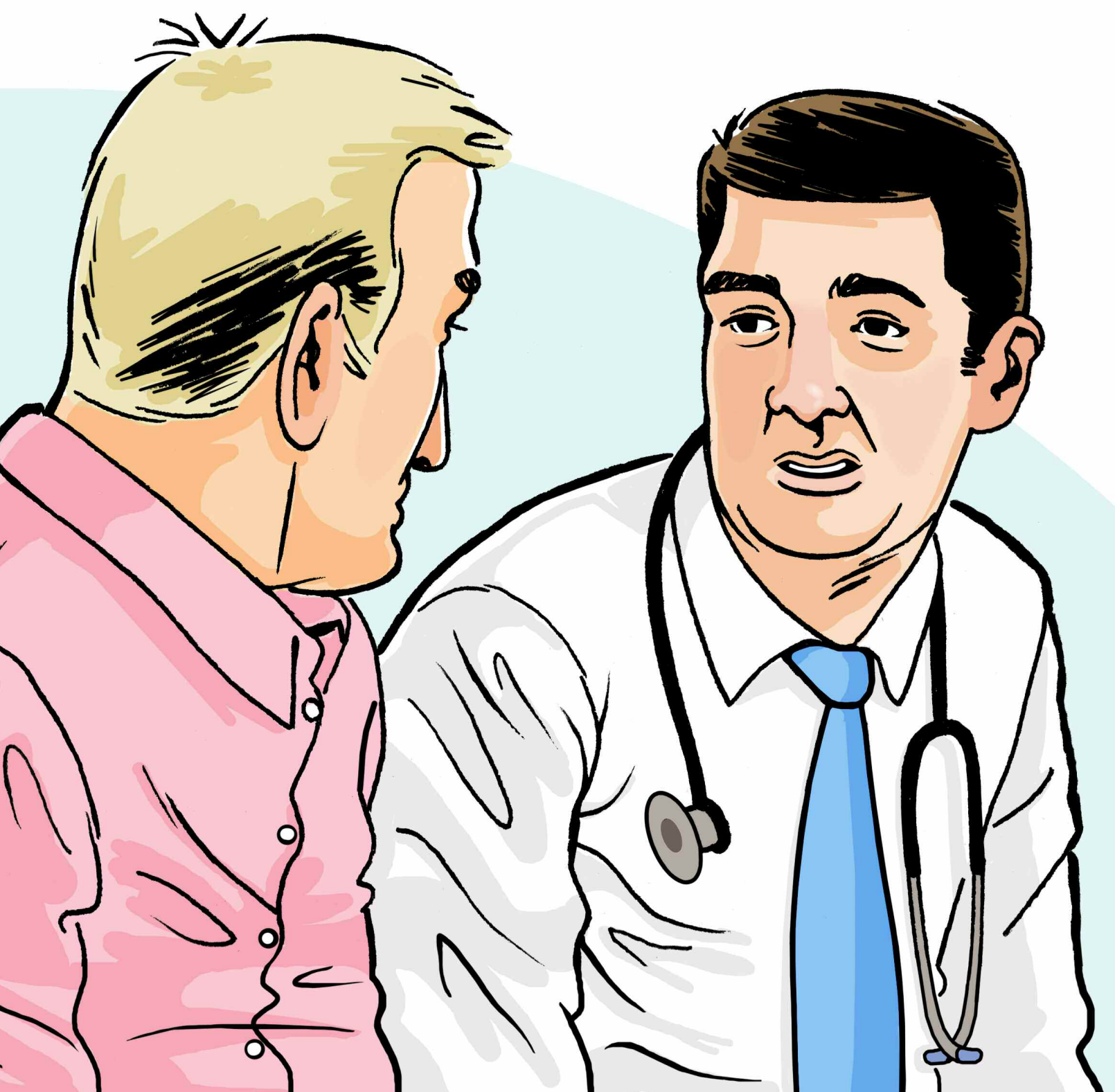


# Seeing the doctor

Diagnosis and Treatment



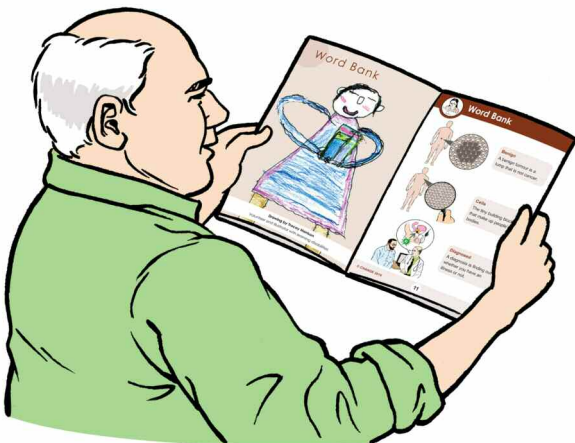
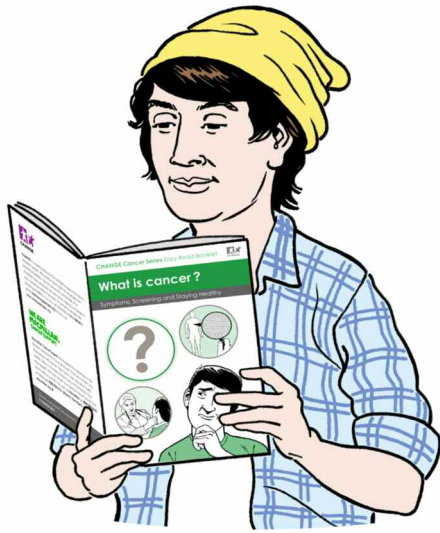
# Introduction

This booklet uses easy words and pictures to help you get information about cancer.

You might want someone to help you look at the booklet so you can talk about it.

There is a Word Bank at the back of the booklet to help with hard words. Any words in **bold** you can find in the Word Bank.

This booklet can help you learn about cancer. But this is not the same as talking to your doctor. If you are worried about your health, you should talk to a doctor or nurse.





# Seeing the doctor



The first person you need to see if you have any health worries is your doctor.



It might be helpful if you ask someone to come with you to see the doctor.



Before you go to see the doctor, write down the things you want to say so that you don't forget when you get there.





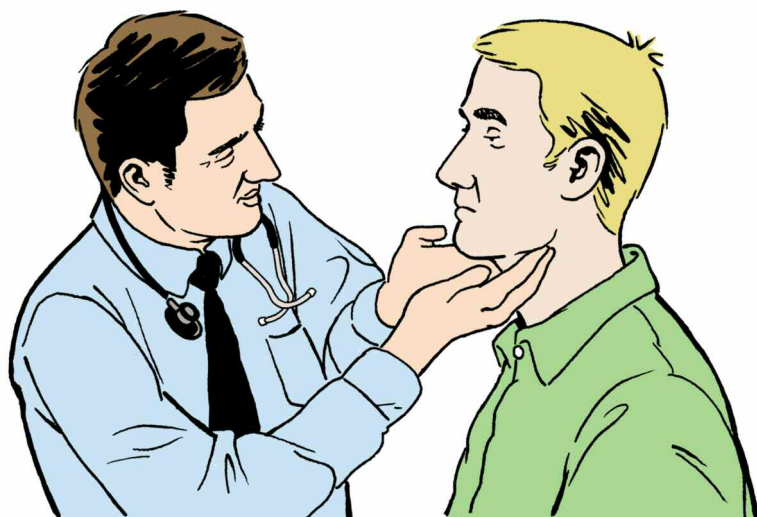
# Seeing the doctor



The doctor will ask you what your problem is and what **symptoms** you have.



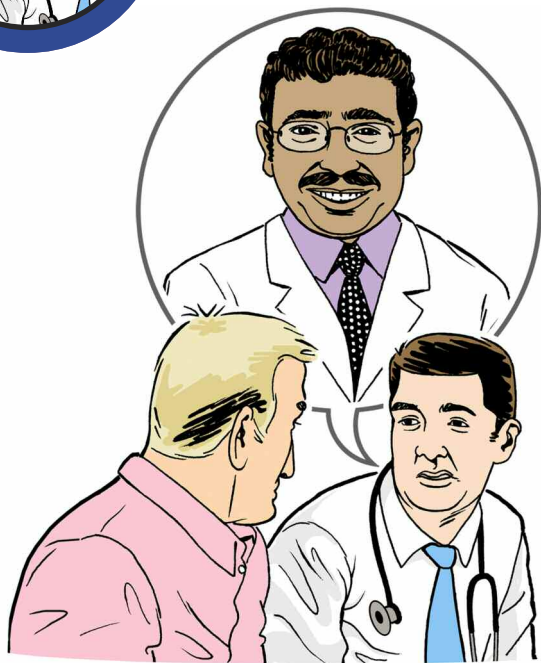
The doctor will try to find out what is causing your symptoms. This is called making a **diagnosis**.



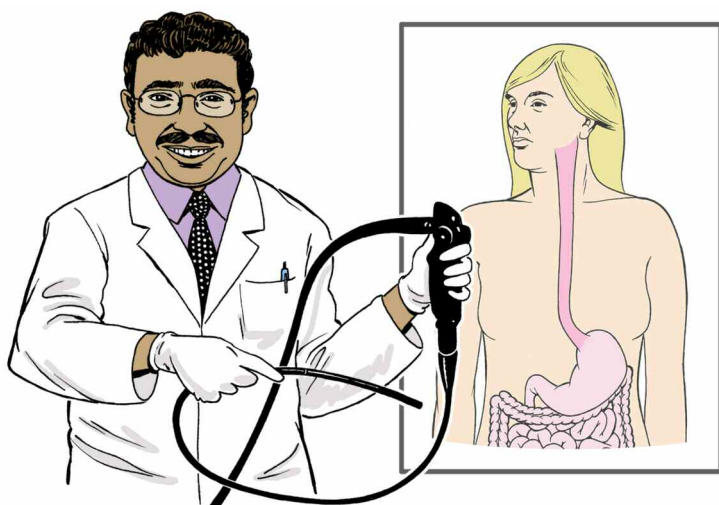
The doctor may also want to check your body for changes. This could include lumps or places where you have pain.



# Seeing the doctor



The doctor may decide you need to see another doctor called a **specialist**.



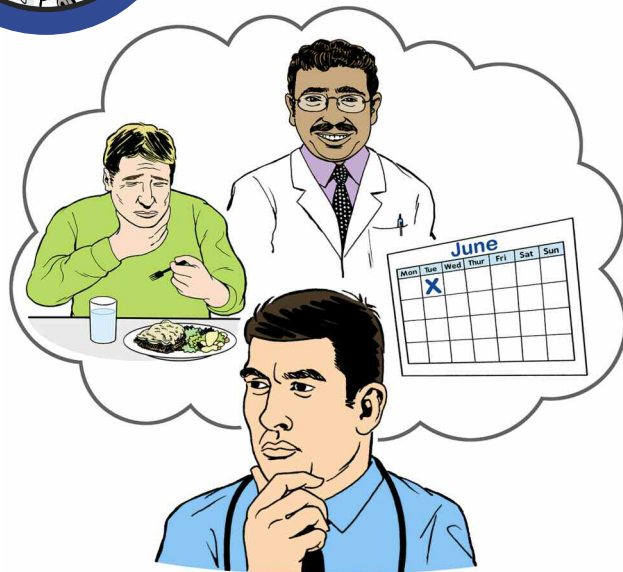
A specialist is a doctor who is good at finding out what is wrong with different parts of the body.



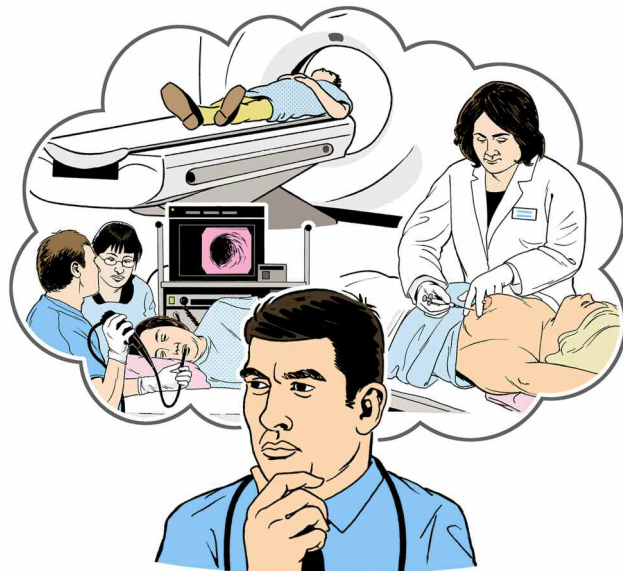
Specialists usually work in hospitals.



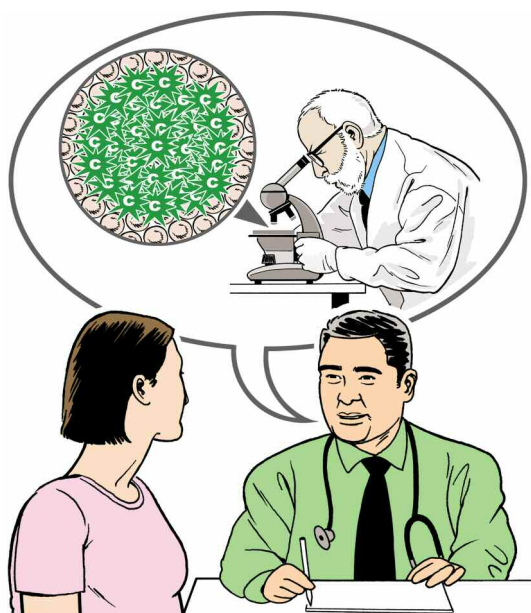
# Seeing the doctor



The doctor will think about your symptoms and decide how quickly you need to see a specialist.



The doctor will also decide if you need to have tests and what sort of tests you should have.



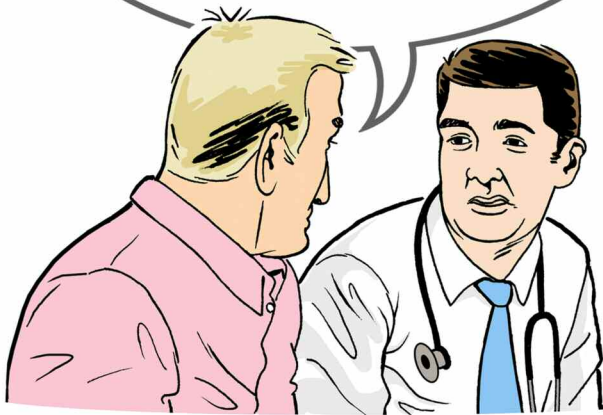
Tests can help the doctor find out what is wrong and whether you have cancer or not.



# Seeing the doctor



Ask where you will have to go for the tests. The doctor can tell you what to expect.





# Word Bank



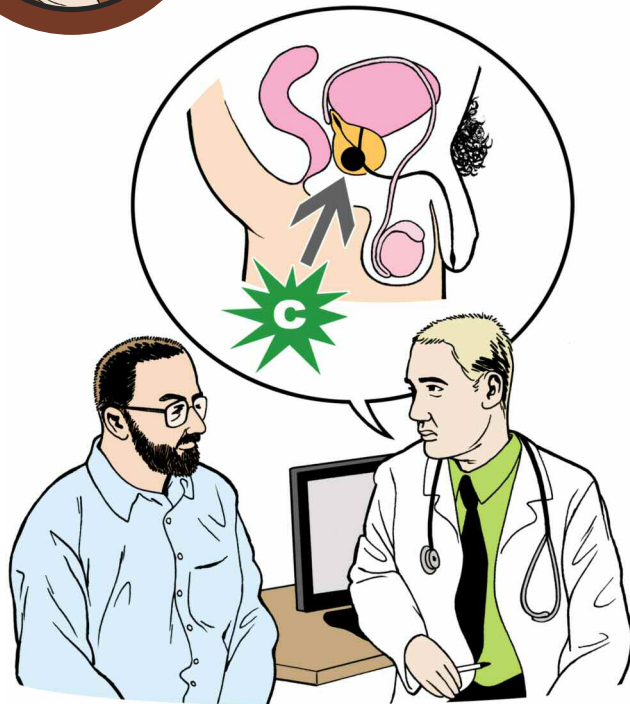
**Drawing by Tracey Harrison**

Volunteer and Illustrator with learning disabilities



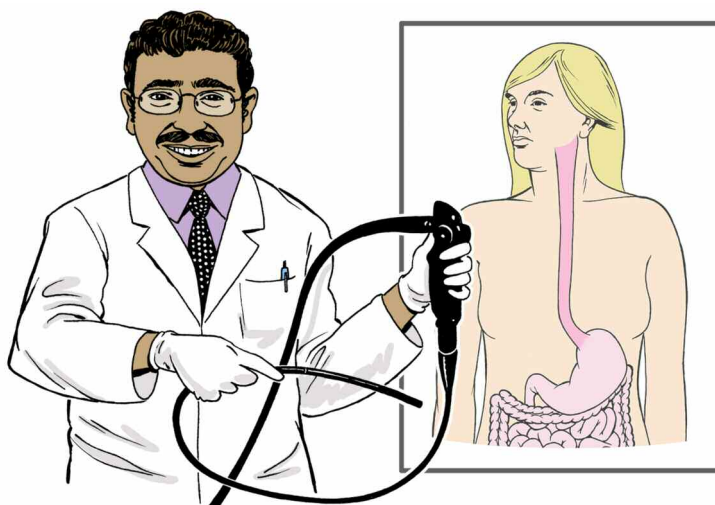


# Word Bank



## Diagnosis

A diagnosis is finding out whether you have an illness or not.



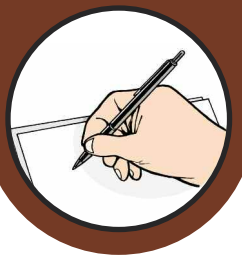
## Specialist

A specialist is a doctor who is good at finding out what is wrong with different parts of the body.



## Symptoms

Signs that tell you that something is wrong. Like feeling tired all the time.



# Notes

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.



# Useful contacts



**Drawing by Tracey Harrison**

Volunteer and Illustrator with learning disabilities





# Useful contacts

## Helpful organisations

### **Cancer Research UK**

A charity that is researching treatments for cancer. Its website has lots of information about cancer.

**Phone: 0808 800 4040**

**Web: [www.cancerresearchuk.org](http://www.cancerresearchuk.org)**



### **Macmillan Cancer Support**

A charity that helps people who have cancer. They give practical, medical and financial support. They try to make cancer care in the UK better.

**Phone: 0808 808 00 00**

**Web: [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk)**

### **NHS Contacts**

These contacts give you information about your health and health services:

England and Scotland **Phone: 111**

Wales **Phone: 0845 46 47**

Northern Ireland **Web: [www.hscni.net](http://www.hscni.net)**

### **Paul's Cancer Support Centre**

Gives help, information and complementary therapies to people with cancer.

**Phone: 0207 924 3924**

**Web: [www.paulscancersupportcentre.org.uk](http://www.paulscancersupportcentre.org.uk)**



# Useful contacts

## **RESPOND**

Gives therapy to people with learning disabilities after trauma or abuse. They also offer training and support to carers.

**Phone: 0808 808 07 00**

**Web: [www.respond.org.uk](http://www.respond.org.uk)**

## Written and audio material

### **Books Beyond Words**

A series of picture books for people with learning disabilities. The books talk about cancer, health and bereavement.

**Web: [www.booksbeyondwords.co.uk](http://www.booksbeyondwords.co.uk)**

**Phone: 020 8877 9799**

**Email: [admin@booksbeyondwords.co.uk](mailto:admin@booksbeyondwords.co.uk)**

### **FAIR Multimedia**

Publishes a range of health leaflets, audio discs and CDs for people with learning disabilities. This includes a series on cancer.

**Email: [fair@fairadvice.org.uk](mailto:fair@fairadvice.org.uk)**

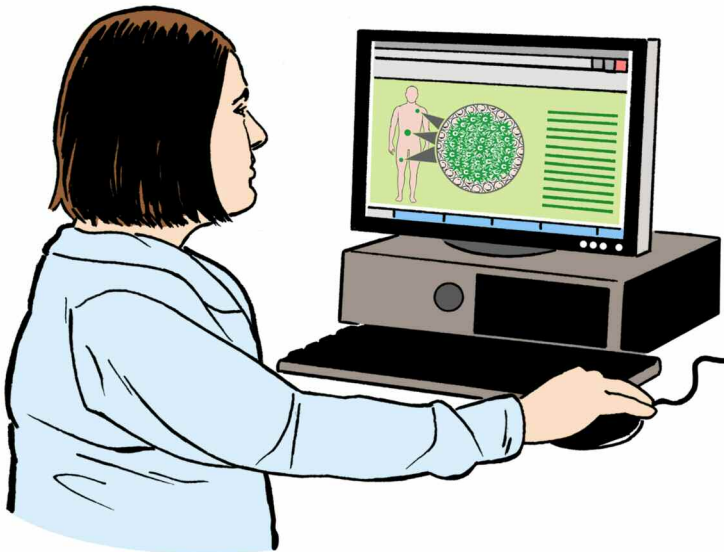
**Phone: 0131 662 1962**

**Web: [www.fairadvice.org.uk/health-publications.php](http://www.fairadvice.org.uk/health-publications.php)**



# Useful contacts

## Online help



### [www.easyhealth.org.uk](http://www.easyhealth.org.uk)

Has lots of online health information that is easy to understand.

### [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk)

Has lots of information about cancer and where to get help. You can also talk to other people with cancer in the online community.

## Videos and DVDs

### **Leeds Animation Workshop**

Has animated films on social issues for people with learning disabilities. There is one called 'Getting Better' about going to the doctor and the health clinic.

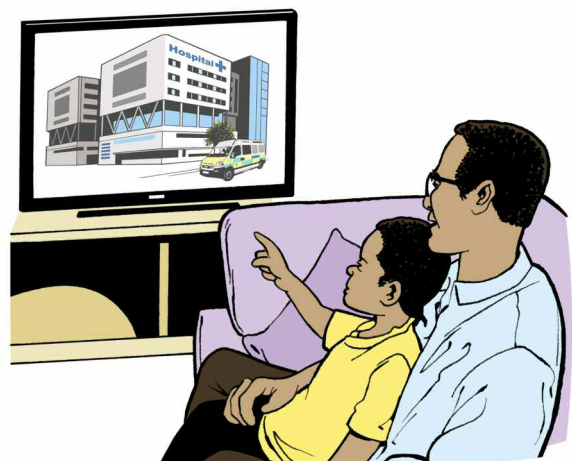
**Phone: 0113 248 4997**

**Web: [www.leedsanimation.org.uk/index.html](http://www.leedsanimation.org.uk/index.html)**

### **Speak Up Self Advocacy**

Has DVDs and booklets for people with learning disabilities about health and illness.

**Web: [www.speakup.org.uk](http://www.speakup.org.uk)**







**CHANGE** is a leading national Human Rights organisation led by disabled people. We work for equal rights for all people with learning disabilities. The cancer books and booklets that CHANGE have produced are part of an ongoing campaign to raise awareness about the issues of cancer for people with learning disabilities. You can call CHANGE on **0113 242 6619**, email **info@changepeople.org** or find us at **www.changepeople.org**

## **WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT**

**Macmillan Cancer Support** has reviewed the information in this booklet and paid for it to be produced. They are a charity who help people with cancer. They have nurses and other health workers. They try to make cancer care in the UK better. They have experts who can answer your questions about cancer and how it affects your life. You can call **Macmillan** on **0808 808 00 00** or textphone **0808 808 0121 (Mon–Fri, 9am–8pm)**. Or go to **macmillan.org.uk**

This easy read booklet was produced by CHANGE

© **CHANGE 2016**