**UPDATE ON THE NEW TERMINAL ILLNESS DEFINITION FOR DISABILITY ASSISTANCE IN SCOTLAND**

**This affects healthcare professionals who complete *DS1500 forms* and the new Scottish *BASRiS forms*.**

**Child Disability Payment**, which replaces Disability Living Allowance for Children, is **launching nationally across Scotland on 22 Nov 2021**. This means Scotland’s new terminal illness definition, based on clinical judgement, will apply to children who become terminally ill. This moves away from the current DWP time limited ‘6 month’ definition.

From 22 November 2021 BASRiS forms (instead of DS1500 forms) should be completed to support applications for disability assistance for children living anywhere in Scotland.

**Do I complete a DS1500 or a BASRiS form?**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Applicant** | | **Which form to use** |
| **26 July to 22 Nov 2021** | For **children** living in pilot areas; Dundee City, Perth and Kinross and Western Isles | Complete a **BASRiS** form and return it to Social Security Scotland |
| For **children** living outside pilot areas and for **all adults** (Scotland) | Complete a **DS1500** form and return it to DWP |
| **From 22 November 2021** | For **all children** living in Scotland aged 0-16 years | Complete a **BASRiS** form and return it to Social Security Scotland |
| For **all adults** | Complete a **DS1500** and return it to DWP |
| * From Summer 2022 you’ll be able to use BASRiS forms for adults, aged 16 to pension age, living in Scotland. * The date for when you’ll be able to use a BASRiS form for adults over pension age is yet to be announced.   For updates go to: [www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/terminal-illness](http://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/terminal-illness) | | |

**New terminal illness definition**

You can find full details of the new terminal illness definition in the [CMO and CNO letter](https://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/cmo/CMO(2021)15.pdf) issued in June 2021. It also explains how this change will be rolled out for each of Scotland’s new forms of disability assistance.

It is important to highlight that this change in the terminal illness definition applies to disability assistance in Scotland only. **Please Note:** There are other legislative definitions of terminal illness (e.g. Carers (Scotland) Act 2016) which remain unchanged.

**Chief Medical Officer’s guidance**

As a clinician, you must use the [Chief Medical Officer’s guidance](https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/guidance-resources/guidance/chief-medical-officers-guidance-for-clinicians-completing-a-basris-form-for-terminal-illness) when completing a BASRiS form, to comply with the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018.

**How to get BASRiS forms**

We will be distributing BASRiS forms to GP practices and NHS Boards throughout Scotland before the national launch of Child Disability Payment. Those in the pilot areas have already received their forms. If you have not received BASRiS forms for your organisation, you can order them by emailing: [Glasgow.mailroom@socialsecurity.gov.scot](mailto:Glasgow.mailroom@socialsecurity.gov.scot)

**Additional Support**

Several additional sources of support have been developed to ensure that clinicians are well-prepared to implement the required changes. These have been developed in conjunction with stakeholders, including clinicians, the British Medical Association, the Royal College of General Practitioners in Scotland and the Royal College of Nursing, to ensure relevance to professional regulatory requirements.

These include :

* ‘[frequently asked questions](https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/guidance-resources/guidance/special-rules-for-terminal-illness-frequently-asked-questions)’
* [factsheet for clinicians](https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/guidance-resources/guidance/special-rules-for-terminal-illness-factsheet-for-clinicians) outlining the changes
* [leaflet](https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/guidance-resources/guidance/special-rules-for-terminal-illness-leaflet-for-patients) for patients and those who support them
* [Clinical Helpline](https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/guidance-resources/guidance/special-rules-for-terminal-illness-contacting-the-clinicians-helpline) managed by Social Security Scotland

All supportive information will be available in a single place on our website: [www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/terminal-illness](http://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/terminal-illness)

**Stakeholder Events**

Social Security Scotland are hosting two stakeholder events which will be of particular interest to clinicians and others who support terminally ill children. Information on these can be accessed here: [Social Security Scotland - Child Disability Payment – Special Rules for Terminally Ill Children and Young People information event](https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/news-events/events/child-disability-payment-special-rules-for-terminally-ill-children-and-young-people-information-event)