

# Mesothelioma Patient Charter

**Mesothelioma is a malignant lung disease caused mainly by exposure to asbestos.  
Someone dies every 5 hours from mesothelioma in the UK.**

## The UK Mesothelioma Alliance believes that: Mesothelioma patients and their families have a right to:

1. A speedy and accurate diagnosis supported by a Multi-Disciplinary Team
2. Good quality information from a variety of sources available in different media and languages
3. Support of a qualified nurse and other Multi-Disciplinary Team members with knowledge and experience of mesothelioma throughout their illness
4. Be considered for the best possible treatments available with the support and input of a mesothelioma specific Multi-Disciplinary Team
5. Have up-to-date advice on benefits, help in applying for them and receive prompt payment of benefits
6. Have legal advice and guidance from a solicitor experienced in mesothelioma claims
7. Guidance on end of life decisions and care at home
8. Provision of a consistent nationwide service from coroners using a clear and open process with a maximum case length of three months

## And call upon the Government to:

9. Ensure that healthcare providers use NHS Quality Metrics to optimise their services for mesothelioma patients and follow relevant clinical guidelines
10. Ensure funding is available for mesothelioma research with a view to improving diagnosis, treatment and outcomes for patients
11. Ensure the Health and Safety Executive asbestos regulations reflect the latest evidence and are enforced throughout the nation
12. Have mesothelioma and asbestos safety made a national priority

## And call upon all employers to:

13. Prevent future exposure to asbestos by providing a safe working environment with up to date inspection/monitoring and all necessary equipment to protect employees.
14. Work with unions and individuals to ensure enforcement of current regulations to safeguard all employees.
15. Identify all asbestos in their properties and organise its safe removal where practical or necessary when work is being carried out.

## Signed by UKMA Members:



Asbestos Awareness and Support Cymru

