

## Leave a legacy and make a lasting difference



We understand that your first priority when making a will is to provide for your loved ones, but many people find that even after they've done this they can leave something to a cause close to their heart.

Charitable legacies are crucial to the fundraising work that we do, and enable us to fund existing projects as well as setting up new ones. By choosing to leave UCL Hospitals Charitable Foundation a gift in your will, you are making the decision to make a lasting difference to the lives of others.

We are very grateful for every legacy that is left to us, each one helps us to continue to make a powerful impact for years to come.

# A guide to making and updating your Will

Writing a Will is one of the most important documents you'll ever write.

## Why is having a Will so important?

If you die without a valid Will, your estate is said to be 'intestate'. This can happen if;

- You don't have a Will
- You've cancelled your Will
- Your Will is invalid, for example if it is not correctly signed or witnessed

Having a professionally written, up-to-date Will is the only way to ensure that in the event of your death, the people and causes that you love are looked after.

## What it means for you and others

A Will is a legally binding document that ensures that your wishes are carried out in the event of your death. It provides peace of mind for you and your loved ones.

Recent changes to legislation mean that if your gift is more than 10% of your estate, your inheritance tax rate will be reduced by 10%.

It is advisable to consult a solicitor to assist you with the writing of your Will.

## Why is it a good idea to review my Will if I already have one?

It is a good idea to review your Will to make sure that it still reflects your wishes. As life changes, so do our priorities, and if your personal circumstances have changed this may mean there are changes you need to make to your Will, for example;

- Marriage, divorce or separation
- A new arrival or death in your family

## Help us to continue making a difference

UCLH aims to deliver top quality patient care, excellent education and world-class research. Last year we cared for over 1,000,000 patients. 125,000 of those visited our Emergency Department, and we safely delivered over 6,000 babies into the world.

UCL Hospitals Charitable Foundation supports projects across the hospital that are not funded by the NHS, enabling UCLH NHS Foundation Trust to continue investing in cutting edge research and first-class patient care. By leaving a legacy you are enabling us to continue with our work. Thank you.

## Who should write my Will?

There are several options available to you when considering who should write your Will. Below are a few of these options;

1. Using a solicitor

The cost of using a solicitor varies depending on the complexity of your Will, and where you live. Any solicitor should outline their costs clear at the start of the consultation process. The Law Society can help you to find a solicitor in your area. You can contact them on 0207 2421222 or visit [www.lawsociety.org.uk](http://www.lawsociety.org.uk).

2. Using a will-writer

If you are considering using a will-writer then check that they belong to a professional body such as the Institute of Professional Will Writers. For more information or to find a member will-writer in your area visit [www.ipw.org.uk](http://www.ipw.org.uk) or call 0345 257 2570

3. Using a DIY Will Kit

We would urge caution if you are considering this option, as though it may seem like a cost-effective option, it is very easy to make technical mistakes which could invalidate your Will, or lead to disputes in the future. If using this option please make sure that you have a solicitor check through your Will once it is written.

## What is an executor?

Executors are the people officially appointed by you to make sure that the wishes expressed in your Will are carried out. It is a good idea to name at least two people to do this job in case one of them is unable to act for you. Always check with the individual before naming someone as your executor.

## How do I work out my assets?

You may not feel that you have anything to leave, but often it is a simple case of listing all of your belongings, which in totality form your estate. To gain a realistic idea of your assets, remember to take away debts you have, as these will be deducted from your estate before the gifts in your Will are distributed. Take a look at our Will planner to help you work out the value of your estate.

## A few things to consider when writing your Will



**Plan who to include in your Will** — take your time to think about who you would like to include: your family, friends, charities and causes.

**Where can you store your Will?** — your solicitor or will-writer may offer to keep your original Will safe as part of their service. Make sure you keep a copy in a safe place too, along with all the information that your executors will need about your property, your accounts and any investments and insurance policies you may have.

**How does Inheritance Tax affect your Will?** — your beneficiaries will only have to pay Inheritance Tax if your estate is over a certain value. If they do have to pay it, 40% will be deducted from the portion of your estate that's over the threshold. The threshold can change so make sure that you keep up to date with the current rules and regulations. You can also make gifts in the terms of your Will, which may help to minimise your estate's Inheritance Tax liability. These include gifts between spouses and gifts to charities.

### How would we use your gift?

Your support will enable us to continue funding medical research and investing in new projects across UCLH NHS Foundation Trust. To look at the projects that we are currently seeking support for please visit [www.uclhcharitablefoundation.org.uk](http://www.uclhcharitablefoundation.org.uk).

Every penny that we receive in the form of donations helps us to continue our work and improve the future for patients.

## What kind of gifts can I give?

- ❖ A share of your estate – after you have provided for your friends and family, you can leave a share, or the remainder, of your estate to us. This is called a ‘residuary’ gift and is less likely to be affected by inflation, so is the most valuable way to give to us through your Will
- ❖ Cash gift – this is when you leave an exact sum of money to us, it’s known as a ‘pecuniary gift.’
- ❖ A conditional gift – this is a gift that is made to us only if another event happens first. For example, your Will may state that a gift only applies if all of the other beneficiaries named in your Will die before you do.

## Leaving a legacy to UCL Hospitals Charitable Foundation

By leaving a legacy to UCL Hospitals Charitable Foundation, you will be enabling us to continue investing in new research and medical equipment. You can show your solicitor the following possible wording for inclusion in your Will:

‘I hereby bequeath to UCL Hospitals Charitable Foundation (Registered Charity No.1077638) of 2A Maple House, 149 Tottenham Court Road, London, W1T 7NF the following:

[Insert the preferred phrase]

The sum of £.....

[or]

The residue of my estate.

[or]

A...percentage amount\* of my residuary estate

\*Please insert number

I declare that the receipt of UCL Hospitals Charitable Foundation’s Charity Office and Finance Manager shall be sufficient discharge for my executors.

It is also very important that you include the following wording:

If at my death any charity named as the beneficiary in this Will or any Codicil hereto has changed its name or amalgamated with or transferred its assets to another body then my executors shall give effect to any gift made to such charity as if it had been made (in the first case) to the body in its changed name or (in the second case) to the body which results from such amalgamation or to which such transfer has been made.

## WILL PLANNER

**A checklist to help you to prepare all the information needed to make your Will.**

Full name.....

Address.....

.....  
.....  
.....

Partner's name and address (if applicable)

.....  
.....  
.....

Childrens' full names and address/es if applicable)

.....  
.....  
.....

Legal Guardian's full names and address/es (if applicable)

.....  
.....  
.....

Executors' full names and addresses:

.....  
.....  
.....

Funeral Instructions:

.....  
.....

Care of your pets:

.....  
.....  
.....

## Will Planner continued...

### ASSETS

Home and any other property: £.....

Car: £.....

Furniture: £.....

Household effects: £.....

Items of particular value: £.....

### Financial

Savings in banks: £.....

Shares/investments: £.....

Insurance Policies: £.....

Other: £.....

Less mortgage/loans/debts: £.....

Total Assets £.....

Other.....

.....

.....

If you would like your gift to go towards a specific project, or if you have any further questions on how to leave a legacy to UCL Hospitals Charitable Foundation, please contact us on 020 3447 9558.

## **We are here to help**

**If you have any questions about writing or updating your Will, or about leaving a gift in your Will to UCL Hospitals Charitable Foundation, please do not hesitate to contact us.**

**By email to [shirley.featherstone@nhs.net](mailto:shirley.featherstone@nhs.net)**

**Or by phone on 020 34479558**

**Or write to us at:**

**UCL Hospitals Charitable Foundation  
2A Maple House  
149 Tottenham Court Road  
London  
W1T 7NF**

**For more information about our work please visit our website  
[www.uclhcharitablefoundation.org.uk](http://www.uclhcharitablefoundation.org.uk).**

**Thank you for considering leaving a legacy to UCL Hospitals Charitable Foundation, we appreciate any support that you are able to provide.**