Environmental Controls

Exceptional healthcare, personally delivered
Welcome to the Environmental Control Service

A service for people who require assistance to carry out everyday tasks.

What is environmental control equipment?

- An environmental control system (ECS) enables anyone to operate a wide range of domestic appliances and other third party equipment by remote control.

- An ECS enables people with a disability to maintain independence.

- ECS can reduce reliance on the continuous help of a carer and/or other family member.

How does it work?

It is an electrical/electronic system which is controlled by the user, through a switch or switches adapted to meet your needs. It can be mounted in a convenient position, for example on your bed and/or chair.

You can select what you want to control from a series of options on a scanning display panel or screen.
We can select a device from a range of manufacturers to suit your requirements. Systems can also be configured for the visually and audibly impaired.

**What can it control?**

Almost anything that is electrically operated within the home such as:

- Intercom.
- Door release.
- Alarms.
- Telephone.
- Electrical bed/chair.
- TV and video.
- Radio and HiFi Systems.
- Lights.
- Curtains.
- Computers.
- Other electrical appliances, for example lamps, heaters, fans etc.
- Door openers.
Who can have one?

The system is for people who have severe physical disabilities (for example, multiple sclerosis, motor neurone disease, cerebral palsy, paralysis and muscular dystrophy) and require assistance to carry out everyday tasks.

These systems are supplied through the NHS at no cost to the individual.

The referral process

An application form will need to be completed on your behalf by either your GP or a health care professional involved in your care. The referral forms can also be completed by a family member as a letter from your GP is requested upon receipt of referral.

The assessment

Following the receipt of the referral forms an assessment will be arranged at your home, to assess whether you are eligible to have an environmental control system and if so, which type would best suit your needs.
The assessor will then work with you to decide what will help you best.

A small demonstration of the equipment will take place.

It helps if you can decide before the visit what it is you would like to control.

**Installation of equipment**

- The installation date will be arranged for as soon as possible after the assessment.

- The day of the installation work will commence at approximately 10am and could last a full day.

- You will need to be present on the day of installation, as equipment training also takes place on this date.

**Servicing and repairs**

- All servicing and repairs will be carried out by NHS Environmental Control Engineers.

- All equipment will be serviced by our engineers annually.

- Systems can be reprogrammed to suit your changing needs as and when required.
If you or the individual you are caring for need support reading this leaflet please ask a member of staff for advice.

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