



A Will for a

Better Future

Useful information
about making your
Will or updating a
Will you already have

ASSOCIATION FOR
INTERNATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH

Why everyone needs a valid Will

Your Will is a unique opportunity to have a positive influence on the future of those you care about. Without a Will, the law and not you will determine how your estate is distributed.

A carefully considered and current Will means that the people and the charitable causes you care about will benefit.

If you already have a Will:

Remember to review it regularly to make sure that those left behind will know your current wishes. This booklet will help you decide if you need to make changes and explains how you can do so.

If you don't already have a Will:

You would be well advised to have one drawn up. It is best to have a Will drawn up professionally by a solicitor, which is not expensive.

If you do not already have a solicitor, friends may well be able to recommend a solicitor or you could choose one from listings in a local directory. This booklet explains some of the things you need to consider before visiting the solicitor of your choice.

In particular, it is a good idea to prepare for the meeting by making a list of your assets – and any financial obligations – and to consider whom you want to be your beneficiaries. You will also need to nominate executors of your estate – your solicitor will give you further guidance on this.

Changing and updating your Will

Most people find that their circumstances change as time goes by, and some of the provisions in their Will become irrelevant or inappropriate. New children or grandchildren, nephews or nieces may be born, older relatives may die, or other changes in the family might affect the way in which you wish your estate to be distributed. And of course, there may also be significant changes in your own property or wealth which could alter your intentions.

In addition, certain events, such as getting married, make your existing Will invalid*, so you must make a new one.

By looking at your Will every few years, you can make sure that it remains up to date and clearly expresses your current wishes.

If you wish to make changes to your Will, there are two ways of doing so. To make significant or wide ranging alterations, it is usually best to make a new Will to replace the old one.

However, lesser changes can be made using a Codicil – a separate legal document which is kept with your Will.

* *except in Scotland*



A guide to common types of legacy

There are several ways to leave legacies to people or organisations in your Will. The most straightforward are Specific or Pecuniary legacies, by which you leave either a particular item or a sum of money to your chosen beneficiary.



For example:
*“My diamond engagement ring to my niece, Sarah Smith”,
 or “£1,000 to Mr George Robinson”.*

After all the legacies you have detailed, and any debts or

expenses have been paid, everything that is left of your estate is called the Residue.

With a Residuary legacy you may leave someone the whole of the Residue of your estate or divide it amongst a number of people and organisations or charities.

Some people also make use of a Reversionary legacy to leave money or property to one person for their use during their lifetime, after which it ‘reverts’ to another beneficiary.

For example: *“My house to my sister to live in during her lifetime, then to be sold and the proceeds to the Association for International Cancer Research”.*

Inheritance tax & charitable legacies

Inheritance Tax comes as a shock to many families who believe that “death duties” are only paid by the very rich. In fact, the general rise in home ownership and property values over recent decades has meant that more and more ordinary people are liable to Inheritance Tax.

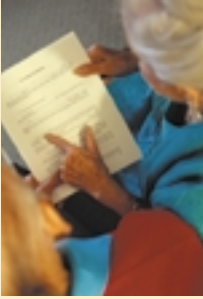
However, any legacy which you leave to charity in your Will is free from Inheritance Tax. That means you can do more for the causes you believe in, and lose less to the taxman!

If you wish to leave a legacy to AICR, your solicitor will need to know that this is the form of words usually used:

I give (describe your legacy in detail) to the Association for International Cancer Research, Madras House, St. Andrews, KY16 9EH, Charity No. SC022918, and declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other Proper Officer for the time being shall be sufficient discharge to my Executors.



*How your Will can continue
your support for the
causes you care about*



A legacy to charity in your Will is a lasting memorial to your generosity and concern for others. Many charities, including AICR, rely heavily on legacy donations to fund their continuing work.

Thanks to the kindness and concern of our supporters over the years, AICR is today funding a *wide range* of scientific studies.

We have made tremendous developments, and new drugs and treatments now offer real hope to cancer victims and their families.

By leaving a legacy to AICR, you can continue to play your part in this important work, just as you do through your donations today.

We will use your legacy to fund scientists in the future as they work together towards a



common goal – the prevention, treatment and cure of all forms of cancer. And your thoughtfulness will be appreciated for many years to come.

Glossary of legal terms

BENEFICIARIES – all the people who will inherit from your Will.

BEQUEST – another term for a legacy.

CODICIL – an additional legal document containing changes made to your main Will.

ESTATE – all the money and property you have to leave.

EXECUTORS – the people you choose to ensure that the instructions contained in your Will are carried out. You may ask friends or family members to be executors, and/or employ a firm of solicitors, accountants or a bank.

INTESTATE – a person who dies before making a valid Will.

LEGACY – a gift of any kind made in your Will.

PECUNIARY LEGACY – a gift of a sum of money.

RESIDUE – everything left of your estate after all debts, expenses and specific and pecuniary legacies have been paid.

RESIDUARY LEGACY – you may leave someone the whole of the residue of your estate or divide it amongst a number of people and organisations.

REVERSIONARY LEGACY – a way of leaving money or property to one person for their use during their lifetime, after which it ‘reverts’ to another person or organisation named by you in your Will.

SPECIFIC LEGACY – a gift of a particular item of your property, such as your house or car.

Please let us know...

so we can keep you
up to date

If you have made a Will mentioning AICR, please use the Pledge Form on the reverse of this card to let us know.

Then we can make sure you continue to receive regular news of AICR's work and the progress our scientists are making in cancer research. And, of course, we would very much like to say a sincere 'thank you' for your generous gift.

Of course, your Pledge is not binding in any way – it is simply a statement of your current intentions.

If you have any questions about including a legacy to AICR in your Will, we'd be happy to answer them for you.

Just write your telephone number in the space provided and we'll call you.

ASSOCIATION FOR
INTERNATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH

Madras House, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9EH
Registered in Scotland, No. 152991 Charity No. SC022918
Tel: (01334) 477910 Web address: www.aicr.org.uk

Legacy Pledge/Enquiry Form

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

I am pleased to inform you that I have included a legacy to AICR in my Will *(please tick box)*.

I have some questions and would like you to phone me *(please tick box)*. My telephone number (including area code) is:

The best time to call is between:

_____ and _____

PLEASE RETURN this card to:

The Legacies Officer

AICR

FREEPOST

St Andrews

Fife

KY16 9BR