

alarms and safety aids

Many people with epilepsy find it helpful to consider safety aids or equipment that might help them with day-to-day life.

For example, an alarm that can alert family or friends when someone has a seizure, or a safety pillow if they have seizures when asleep. For further details contact each company directly.

Please note: Epilepsy Society does not endorse these companies and we stress that it is a personal choice whether someone uses alarms or other safety aids. Other companies may also provide these types of products.

VAT exemption

Some equipment designed specifically to help people with disabilities does not include VAT. For example, you may not need to pay VAT on a seizure alarm system if you say it is for someone with epilepsy.



Call the HM Revenue and Customs Helpline on 0845 010 9000 or visit www.direct.gov.uk for more information.

seizure alarms and fall call alarms

The companies listed below provide alarms directly to individuals and costs usually apply (except from the Muir Maxwell Trust). From these companies, 'fall call' alarms cost from around £85 + VAT, and bed seizure alarms from £170 - £600 + VAT. Products and costs from other companies will also vary.

Alarm systems are also sometimes available through housing associations or social services departments, and are sometimes called community alarms, 'Lifeline' or Telecare systems. You can ask your social services department for an 'assessment of need' which may show the need for an alarm system. Any charges for community alarms vary from one authority to another, and also vary according to the service provided.

Aremco

01622 858 502

email: aremco@onetel.com

Epilepsy bed seizure alarms and fall detector alarms. Advice available. Different types of detectors can be linked to the basic alarm unit. Trial period may be available.

EasyLink Electronics

01536 264 869

www.easylinkuk.co.uk

Automatic fall call detectors and bed seizure alarms with pagers. Advice available.

Muir Maxwell Trust

0131 273 5256

www.muirmaxwelltrust.com

A charity offering practical support for children with severe epilepsy, including free bed seizure alarms. There may be a waiting list for alarms.

Safety Systems Distribution Limited

0800 328 2950

www.safetysystemsdistribution.co.uk

National distributors of various alarm systems including Emfit bed monitoring systems.

Sensorium

0800 056 5454

www.sensorium.co.uk

A range of safety systems including bed seizure alarms. Advice and repair service available.

Tunstall Group Ltd

01977 661 234

www.tunstallgroup.com

A range of safety systems including fall call and mattress alarms, that link to a 'Lifeline' system. Continuous cover connected to a central base in local authorities via a phone line.



Call us for a large print version

safety helmets

Aremco

01622 858 502

email: aremco@onetel.com

Various sizes, designs and additional features available. Some designs can be made to measure.

G&S Smirthwaite Ltd

01626 835 552

www.smirthwaite.co.uk

Specialised protective helmets in two designs, tailored to individuals' needs. Various sizes and additional protectors are available.

Opcare Orthopaedics

01235 552 828

www.opcare.co.uk

Medical referral needed. Advice available.

safety pillows

Safety pillows have small holes in so that someone may be able to breathe through them more easily if they are lying face down during a seizure.

The Helpful Hand

01625 424 438

www.thehelpfulhand.co.uk

Safety pillows and mobility equipment. Home assessment available.

Sleepsafe Products

07092 255 916

www.sleep-safe.co.uk

Safety pillows. Extra covers available.

seizure alert dogs

Support Dogs

0114 261 7800

www.support-dogs.org.uk

A charity that provides training for 'Seizure Alert dogs' for adults aged 16-60 years. Certain criteria need to be met to have a support dog. Existing pet dogs cannot be trained as Seizure Alert dogs.

location devices using GPS and mobile systems

Sazo

0800 078 7999

www.verifyandlocate.com

Devices which use mobile phone signals and Global Positioning System (GPS) satellites to locate a person. Advice available. Some units also have a panic button that alerts people by text.

consumer advice

Ricability

0207 427 2460

www.ricability.org.uk

An independent consumer research charity providing free and independent reports on products and services for older and disabled people. Information on various types of equipment. Factsheets and guides available.

Disabled Living Foundation

0207 289 6111

Helpline: 0845 130 9177

www.dlf.org.uk

Free advice on a wide range of disability/mobility equipment. Safety advice on showers. Equipment demonstration centres. Free factsheets on safety aids.

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Epilepsy Society is the working name for The National Society for Epilepsy, registered charity number 206186

Every effort is made to ensure that all information is correct.

Please note that information may change after printing.

This information is not a substitute for advice from your own doctors. Epilepsy Society is not responsible for any actions taken as a result of using this information.

www.epilepsysociety.org.uk



helpline

01494 601 400

Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm
Confidential (national call rate)