

Adult Muscular Dystrophy

Snapshot

*Chris is a 43 year old man with muscular dystrophy. Three years ago, his lung collapsed and following his tracheostomy, he required 24-hour care. This was a complete life change as previously, his mother and his PA were his primary carers. Chris is now living a full life at home with his dedicated team of carers and his mother is able to enjoy her life, free from worry.

“Prestige has given me back my independence. That’s priceless. I didn’t think what I have was possible.”

Chris

For more information please contact us via email on info@prestige-nursing.co.uk or call **0800 0237 2222**

Interventions

Tracheostomy; BPAP; suctioning; cough assist; ventilator; nebuliser; handling and hoisting; personal and domestic care.

Chris’ goals

Chris was determined to return home and live as independently as possible. His critical medical condition gave him anxiety so he needed to trust in his team. He worried about the loss of personal space from 24-hour care so it was key that Chris and his carers got on well.

Meeting the needs

Prestige responded quickly with a team of carers to support Chris. And, to ensure reassurance and continuity, we happily employed Chris’s live-in PA of 8 years, *James, as part of the team. James was medically trained at the hospital with additional training from Prestige.

We provide double-up care mornings and evenings and a night carer attends to Chris’s medical and personal needs. We also provide sleeping care if James is away. The package is bespoke giving Chris complete control over his choice of carers which is very important to him. “The Prestige team are very good at judging characters – always putting the right people in for me.” He adds, “I trust them. They give me emotional as well as practical support.”

Chris visits the branch regularly and considers them part of his extended family. Our branch manager has helped him secure funding for a holiday accompanied by his carers and the carers have even painted his kitchen! “My views are completely respected. I feel understood, my carers are more like friends – the trust and family feel means everything.”

The carer

James enjoys the responsibility and the connection with colleagues. He feels it is important for the carer to understand the client’s needs then put ‘heart and soul’ into meeting them. “I get satisfaction when I see that Chris has independence.”

The outcome

Chris leads an active social life and takes pride in his charity work as a befriender and tutor, supporting people with long-term health conditions. “This is my first experience of care, I can’t fault it,” says Chris’s mum, *Claire, “I don’t have to worry now. The carers are all so well trained and they’ve always got time”.

Working in partnership

The CCG recommended Prestige and review Chris’s care plans. Chris chooses to have the district nurses change his tracheostomy once a month, as he likes the medical contact. He also has regular contact with the respiratory outreach nurse. James says “They rely on us because we are with Chris every day. We’re all part of the same team, it’s like a jigsaw puzzle, it all just slots together”.