

## Forward planning: ME Awareness Week

Thursday 3 May, 2018

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ME AWARENESS WEEK: SHINING A SPOTLIGHT ON THE HORROR OF AN ILLNESS THAT IS SUCKING THE LIFE FROM 250,000 BRITS

Imagine only having enough energy each day to choose between taking a shower or using the toilet.

Think about how painful it must be to be so exhausted that you cannot play with your son or daughter.

Picture your loved one unable to bathe, clothe or feed themselves.

This is the devastating reality of an incurable disease being faced by tens of thousands of people across the UK - an illness that barely gets any funding and that some people ignorantly refuse to accept as real.

Next week (May 7-13) is ME Awareness Week, where campaigning charities like the ME Association, are fighting harder than ever to bust apart these damaging misconceptions.

We are more than happy to assist press in any way whatsoever to highlight this social justice issue.

We have case studies of people of all ages and both sexes across the country who are willing to lay bare the impact of ME on their lives.

Examples of recent coverage include a young girl whose family believe was KILLED by ME - and a young mum who cannot even play with her son.

The UK's foremost expert on ME, Dr Charles Shepherd, is willing to speak to all media as required.

Please do get in touch if you would like to potentially run a story on this cruel, misunderstood illness, the key facts of which are these:

- 250,000 patients in the UK, with 1-in-4 bedbound or housebound
- £3.5bn lost to the UK economy each year
- Twice as common as MS but 20x less funding
- No sign of a cure

Many thanks,

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