Personal Alarm Call Systems

Do you live alone?

Are you concerned about getting to the phone in an emergency?

A Personal Alarm Call System (PACS) may help!

A Personal Alarm Call System (also known as Emergency Call System) can enhance your peace of mind and confidence to live in your home alone. Help is available if injury or illness prevents you from getting to the phone.

Personal Alarm Call Systems use a standard telephone line and include two components - a transmitter and a receiver. The receiver is the unit connected to the telephone line and the transmitter is carried by the user or positioned in areas of high risk such as the bathroom.

Transmitters
Transmitters are available as pendants, wristlets, belt clips, key rings and wall mounted switches. The switches can be activated by push, pull, squeeze or other alternatives.

Transmitters are usually battery operated and come with different features such as water resistance, fall detection or extended range. The user activates the transmitter to call for assistance. When activated the transmitter sends a signal to the receiver to commence dialling for assistance.

Receivers
The receiver of a Personal Alarm Call System remains in a single location attached to a standard telephone line. Receivers can incorporate a telephone or be a separate unit positioned alongside the usual telephone. When the user triggers the transmitter the receiver is activated and dials out. Some receivers can provide two way communication.
PACS can be Call Centre monitored or nominated person monitored.

**Call Centre**
When activated the receiver calls a monitoring station which is operational 24 hours a day 7 days a week. The call station will be able to identify the caller and follow a pre-arranged process, for example, calling a designated relative, a friend, or if necessary, an ambulance. Monitored systems incur an ongoing cost.

![Image of a Personal Alarm Call System](image)

**Nominated Person**
These systems rely on the response of nominated people for assistance. When activated the receiver will commence dialling the first of the pre-programmed telephone numbers and continues to dial through the list until one of the contacts responds. A respondent needs to acknowledge the individual requiring help to confirm a person has been contacted.

For assistance in selecting the most appropriate Personal Alarm Call System for you, contact the Independent Living Centre.

**Key Storage**
If using a Personal Alarm Call System it is useful to have a safe place to store a house key. This will facilitate easy access into the home for those responding to the call for help.

![Image of a key fob and house key](image)