

# Understanding the Role of Registered Supporters in Aged Care

## The Registered Supporter Role

You have the right to make your own choices about your life. Sometimes, you may want or need help to make decisions about your aged care. If you choose, you can nominate someone you trust to support you in communicating these decisions.

The registered supporter role is part of the new Aged Care Act and is designed to protect your rights, support your independence, and help you stay in control of your own life. There are three types of registered supporter, the summary below explains each type and what information they can see.

### 1. Supporter

A supporter is someone the older person chooses to help them with their aged care.

The older person agrees that this person can:

- Be listed as their official supporter, **and**
- Receive the official aged care medical, financial, lifestyle, legal and personal information, that would normally be given to the older person.

**In simple terms:**

*"You can help me understand and manage my aged care, and you can also see the information I receive."*

### 2. Supporter Lite

A supporter lite is also someone the older person chooses to help them but with one key difference:

The older person **does NOT give permission** for this supporter to receive their official aged care medical, financial, lifestyle, legal and personal information.

This person can still support the older person, but they won't automatically be sent updates or access the older person's information.

**In simple terms:**

*"You can help me, but you're not allowed to receive my private aged care information."*

### 3. Supporter Guardian

A supporter guardian is someone who is both:

1. A registered supporter **and**
2. A person who already has legal decision-making power for the older person (e.g. enduring power of attorney, guardian appointed by a tribunal).

Because they already have legal authority, they automatically receive all the aged care information that a supporter would receive.

**In simple terms:**

*"You help me with my aged care and you legally have the power to make some decisions for me already."*

## Quick Comparison

Supporter Type	Can see the older person's information?	Has legal decision-making power?
<i>Supporter</i>	Yes, with consent	No
<i>Supporter Lite</i>	No	No
<i>Supporter Guardian</i>	Yes, automatically	Yes (under existing legal appointment)

To change the status of a supporter, add a new one, or remove one, please contact My Aged Care. Please also let us know so we can update our records accordingly.



*For more information, please scan the QR code to read Department of Health, Disability and Ageing resources*



**Helping Hand**

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