

Referrals to Ashgate Hospicecare Community Palliative Care Specialist Nurse Team

Referrals should be considered if the patient:

Has active, progressive advanced disease, a limited prognosis and the focus of care is on quality of life

and

Is registered to a GP practice within the North Derbyshire and Hardwick Health CCGs

Is over 18 years of age

and

Patient consents for referral (where the patient has capacity to consent)

and

Has one or more of the following:

- A life limiting illness whose level of need is considered beyond the scope of the current caring team.
- Severe, distressing and uncontrolled symptoms such as pain, nausea, vomiting, breathlessness.
- Complex psychological concerns such as overwhelming anxiety related to the patients disease, crisis intervention, advance care planning, ethical issues regarding treatment decisions.
- Spiritual concerns may require help in adjusting to diagnosis or prognosis.
- Or is at End of Life (last weeks of life) with complex care needs causing distress to the patient or family.

If a patient does not meet the above criteria. Please contact the Triage Palliative Care Specialist Nurse to discuss.

References

Association for Palliative Medicine (2012) Commissioning Guidance for Specialist Palliative Care; Helping to deliver commissioning objectives. Association for Palliative Medicine. Southampton.

NHS England (2016) Specialist Level Palliative care: information for commissioners. NHS England. Leeds.