

The Palliative Care Drug Chart

Palliative Care Drug Chart

Only for authorisation of injectable (PRN) and syringe pump medication and record of administration for adult patients. The chart can be used by organisations outside Somerset NHS Foundation Trust at their discretion.

Any other medication to be administered by Trust staff must be prescribed on the MAR chart / electronic prescribing system

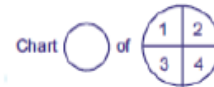
For Specialist advice, contact:

- St. Margaret's Hospice 01823 333 822
- Weston Hospice 01934 423 900
- Dorothy House Hospice 0345 0130 555

Medication prescribed on a MAR can either be handwritten, or on a sticker that meets the following requirements: containing patient's name and NHS number or DOB, a clear dose, frequency, route and prescriber name: all of which should be printed or written clearly. The prescriber's signature should overlap both the sticker and MAR underneath. Do not remove or overlap/overlay stickers, new/changes to prescriptions should always be on a separate line.

PATIENT DETAILS:

First Name:	Allergies/Sensitivities:
Last Name:	
DOB: NHS No:	
GP Practice:	
<input type="checkbox"/> No known allergies	



Write clearly when completing this chart. If entries are not legible do not administer any drugs and consult the prescriber

Just in case (JiC) medication: supply at least 5 doses when authorising PRN drugs only. More doses will be needed if complex symptoms, frequent PRNs or if authorising syringe pump: e.g. at least 3 day's supply.				
Drug:	Subcutaneous (SC) as required (PRN) dose:	Ampoule Strengths:	Starting dose range over 24 hours via subcutaneous syringe pump:	Usual total maximum dose/24 hours: (Max dose may be increased with clinical discretion)
SYMPTOM 1: PAIN / DYSPNOEA				
Morphine Unless already on an alternate opioid	2.5 - 5mg 2-4 hourly Usual max: 6 doses in 24 hours	10, 15, 20 or 30mg/ml in 1ml amps	10-15mg/24hr (If opioid naive)	No upper limit but prescriber may indicate a max dose If patient is already on an opioid see back page for conversion table
If eGFR <30 please see Somerset Guidance on Anticipatory Prescribing in Renal Failure at End of Life				
SYMPTOM 2: NAUSEA AND VOMITING				
Levomepromazine	6.25mg 2-4 hourly Usual max: 4 doses in 24 hours	25mg/ml	6.25mg / 24hr	25mg
Higher doses of Levomepromazine can be used in a syringe pump to treat agitation in addition to Midazolam				
SYMPTOM 3: AGITATION IN LAST DAYS OF LIFE				
Midazolam	2.5-5mg 2-4 hourly Usual max: 6 doses in 24 hours	10mg/2ml	10-20mg/24hr (5-15mg if lower dose indicated)	30mg
Midazolam can be used in a syringe pump to prevent seizures				
Levomepromazine 2nd Line	12.5 - 25mg 2 - 4 hourly Titrated to effect Seek advice	25mg/ml	25mg/24hr	Seek specialist advice for doses >50mg
SYMPTOM 4: RESPIRATORY TRACT SECRETIONS IN LAST DAYS OF LIFE				
Hyoscine Butylbromide	20mg 2-4 hourly Usual max: 6 doses in 24 hours	20mg/ml	60mg/24hr	120mg
Can also be used at the same doses for colic or to reduce secretions in inoperable bowel obstruction				

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AS REQUIRED INJECTABLE DRUGS (in addition to syringe pump dosing)
 If four or more PRN doses are required in 24hrs you must seek clinical reassessment.
 For opioids the PRN dose is usually 1/6th of the total 24hr dose

Patient Name:	
NHS No:	

For dosing guidance see front page

Drug:		Date:																		
Indication:		Time:																		
Dose range:	Max number of doses in 24hrs:	Dose:																		
Route: Sub-cutaneous	Dosing interval	Route:																		
Prescriber Signature:		Initials:																		
Print Surname:	Date:																			
Drug:		Date:																		
Indication:		Time:																		
Dose range:	Max number of doses in 24hrs:	Dose:																		
Route: Sub-cutaneous	Dosing interval	Route:																		
Prescriber Signature:		Initials:																		
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Dose range:	Max number of doses in 24hrs:	Dose:																		
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