

REFERRAL GUIDANCE: PALLIATIVE CARE

WHO PROVIDES PALLIATIVE CARE

There are six Hospices and a MacMillan Service (West Sector) providing specialist palliative care services across the Greater Glasgow & Clyde Health Board Area. The core services accessible to patients are:

- In-Patient Unit
- Community Palliative Care Nurse/ Team
- Outpatient Services
- Day Services

Please visit the websites below for the full range of services available from each Service Provider.

www.accordhospice.org.uk

www.ardgowanhospice.org.uk

www.mariecurie.org.uk/help/hospice-care/hospices/glasgow

www.palliativecareggc.org.uk/index.php?action=cms.cns_west

www.ppwh.org.uk/healthcare-professionals

www.smh.org.uk

www.svh.co.uk

WHO TO REFER

Patients aged 18 years and over (unless otherwise specified by individual service providers) with a life-limiting condition who require specialist palliative care.

HOW TO REFER

GP's and District Nurses are encouraged to refer electronically via SCI Gateway by selecting "Palliative Care Services GG&C" on the referral destination.

Other ways to refer are specified on the individual websites.

WHAT INFORMATION IS NEEDED FOR REFERRAL

In the SCI Gateway referral, please complete the information requested within the "Palliative Services" tab as follows:

- Service required for your patient (from the drop-down menu/ as above)
- Reason for referral (symptom control/assessment or end of life care)
- Patient's awareness of referral, diagnosis and consent
- Prognosis (days, weeks, months, don't know)
- Main symptom(s) with an indicator of severity (mild, moderate or severe)
- Next of kin details
- Information regarding the patient's current care environment

Further information can be provided in the "Clinical Data" tab as per standard SCI Gateway functionality.

WHY IS THIS INFORMATION NEEDED

The quality of this information will allow the multidisciplinary team at each Service Provider to triage the referrals to ensure that:

- The patient is directed to the most appropriate service within an appropriate timescale
- The patient's needs can be prioritised in event of a waiting list for any service (eg. in-patient unit bed or community team service)
- The patient and/or family are expecting to be contacted by the Service Provider as they are aware of the referral and have given their consent
- Details of next of kin are available for pre and post bereavement support if required