



St Catherine's
hospice care

Medical Outpatient Clinics

Clinics are held at St Catherine's Hospice - a local registered charity which is here to help people experience quality of life, to the end of life. The service provides practical and emotional support for adults living with life-shortening illnesses in Preston, Chorley and South Ribble.

Registered charity No: 512186

www.stcatherines.co.uk

01772 629171

@StCatherinesPre



Where are the outpatient clinics held?

Many people access our care through medical outpatient clinics, held in the Woodside Clinic in the grounds of St Catherine's Hospice or in the main hospice building. Appointments sometimes take place over the phone, in discussion and agreement with you.

Our aim is to provide adults living with life-shortening illnesses in Preston, Chorley and South Ribble with access to the right support at the right time, promoting quality of life, independence and choice at every stage of their journey.

How do the clinics help?

Held by Consultants in palliative medicine, palliative medical specialty doctors or palliative medicine trainees, the clinics offer expert medical assessment and advice on complex symptom management, psychological support and planning for the future. The clinics also provide an opportunity to introduce hospice services to local people.

What happens during an appointment?

We take the time to discuss your individual needs and wishes, including medical and emotional support. Our clinics cover complex symptoms including pain, nausea and vomiting, bowel problems, breathlessness, and anxiety.

The doctor will explore options for ongoing treatment and care, agree these collaboratively with you, and will then suggest any appropriate and helpful changes to your GP, who remains responsible for overall care. This might mean alterations to medication and treatments to make sure you are as comfortable as possible.

Can family members attend the clinics?

We welcome close family members or carers to attend and to ask questions, so we can work with you as well as your loved ones to determine what's important to you all and how St Catherine's can best meet your needs now and in the future.

What happens next?

If your current palliative care needs are being met, you may be discharged from our outpatient clinic back to the care of your GP, following discussion and in agreement with your clinic doctor. However, we're always ready to see you again when the need arises, by referral from a GP, hospital doctor, specialist nurse or district nurse.

If you are finding it difficult to attend outpatient clinic appointments, our team will explore alternative ways of supporting you and ensuring that your palliative care needs continue to be met.

For more information about the services provided by St Catherine's Hospice, please call 01772 629171 or visit www.stcatherines.co.uk.