



Palliative Care Services Referral Criteria

August 2023

Specialist palliative care services are available in Chorley, Greater Preston, Longridge, and South Ribble for adults (aged 18 and over) with progressive, life limiting illnesses of any aetiology e.g. metastatic cancer, end stage respiratory disease, cardiac failure, progressive neurological disease, advancing dementia, general frailty with multiple co-morbidities.

Community referrals will only be accepted if the person you are wishing to refer is registered with a General practitioner in Chorley, Greater Preston, Longridge, and South Ribble. If you are referred for inpatient care and the person is not registered with a General practitioner in Chorley, Greater Preston, Longridge, and South Ribble, please contact the hospice on 01772 629171 (Monday to Friday 08.30-16.30) to discuss with a member of the medical team prior to submitting a referral.

Referrals are accepted for any of the following reasons:

- Pain and/or symptom management. e.g. symptoms that are not responding to initial steps in management, or are anticipated to be challenging.
- Psychological, spiritual and/or social needs.
- Terminal care (last days/weeks of life).
- Support with advance care planning.
- To act as a specialist resource for primary healthcare teams.

Please note, whilst recognising the value of respite, unfortunately we are unable to offer inpatient respite care at St Catherine's Hospice.

Referrals are accepted from:

- Hospital Consultants
- General Practitioners
- Doctors in training ST3 or above
- Specialist Palliative Care teams
- Specialist nurses
- Ward nurses (team leader)
- District nurses (team leader)
- Community matrons
- Allied Health Professionals/Advanced clinical practitioners

