

1 PREFERRED PRIORITIES FOR CARE (PPC) YOUR ADVANCED WISHES

(Adapted from National PPC document)

WHAT IS THIS DOCUMENT FOR?

The Preferred Priorities for Care (PPC) section can help you prepare for the future. It gives you the opportunity to think about, discuss and write down your preferences and priorities for care at the end of your life. (You do not need to do this unless you want to).

The PPC can help you and your carers (your family, friends and professionals) to understand what is important to you when planning your future care. If a time comes when, for whatever reason, you are unable to make a decision for yourself, anyone who has to make decisions about the care you receive, on your behalf, will be able to take into account anything you have written in your PPC. Sometimes people wish to refuse specific medical treatments in advance. The PPC is not meant to be used for such legally binding refusals. There is a separate leaflet about this called 'Advance Decisions to Refuse Treatment'. It is advisable to discuss this with your Doctor or Specialist Team if this is something you wish to pursue.

You may find that your feelings about your care change over time. This is entirely normal. It simply reflects that different things become more or less important at different times, and that we cannot always respond as we would hope to in a given situation. You should ensure that any plans you make are kept as up to date as possible.

SHOULD I TALK TO OTHER PEOPLE ABOUT MY PPC?

You may find it helpful to talk about your future care with someone close to you such as family or friends. However, this can sometimes be difficult as people might not agree or it might be too emotional. Often, just having a discussion can be very useful, in order to get difficult issues out into the open. It may be helpful to talk about any particular needs that your family or friends may have, if they are going to be involved in caring for you. Your professional carers (for example your doctor, nurse or social worker) can help and support you and your family with this.

WILL MY PREFERENCES AND PRIORITIES BE MET?

What you have written in your PPC will always be taken into account when planning care. However, sometimes things can change unexpectedly (for example carers becoming over-tired or ill) or practical resources not being available to meet a particular need.



WHAT SHOULD I INCLUDE IN MY PPC?

Things you may wish to consider:

Where do you think you would like to be cared for if you are dying?
(for example home, hospital, nursing home, hospice).

Remember that you may find that when the time comes your preferred place of care may not be an option due to the level of nursing required, lack of beds, the need for hospital tests or you may have changed your mind as to what you feel is most suitable. This should not stop you considering your preferred place of care, as you see it now.

Whether you would want to be told when you are close to death
(assuming your doctors and nurses are able to predict this), and whether you want other people to know.

Who should talk to any children, or other close family such as elderly parents, about your impending death if you are unable to do so?

Who should look after your pets?

How you want your final days to look and sound?
(For example: flowers, pictures, photos, music, TV, radio etc)

Who you would wish to visit you near the end?

Is there anything that you would not want to happen to you?
(For example being admitted to hospital, being told you are dying, having investigations)

Tissue Donation/Medical research

Would you want to donate certain tissues after you die? Even after a natural, dignified death, certain tissues can be beneficial to others, for example parts of the eye such as the corneas. You may feel strongly about wanting to donate organs for medical research, you will need to sign specific documentation for this.

There is a preferred priorities of care form attached which you may wish to look at and complete and share with family and the healthcare professionals looking after you.

Some people find it helpful to record some thoughts and wishes around funeral arrangements too. There is a form covering details of funeral planning that is included as part of this information pack.

If you would like to discuss this further with a member of the team involved in looking after you, please just ask



PREFERRED PRIORITIES FOR CARE DOCUMENT

(A non-legally binding document to represent your future hopes and wishes)

Ideally keep this document with you and share it with anyone involved in your care.

A copy will be needed for GP/ district nursing / Hospice / MacMillan / nursing home notes as appropriate-

Your Name

Address

..... Postcode

Do you have a 'Living Will' or Legal Advance Decision? Yes / No

If yes please give details (who has a copy?)

.....

PROXY / NEXT OF KIN

i.e. Who else would you like to be involved if it ever becomes difficult to make decisions?

Contact 1 Relationship to you

Telephone Do they have Lasting Power of Attorney Yes / No

Contact 2 Relationship to you

Telephone Do they have Lasting Power of Attorney Yes / No

Do you have any special requests or preferences regarding your future care?

If your condition deteriorates where would you most like to be cared for?



Is there any thing you would ideally like to avoid happening to you?

Do you have any comments or wishes that you would like to share with others?

Are you happy for the information in this document to be shared with other relevant healthcare professionals? Yes/No

Patient signature Date

Next of kin/carer signature (if present) Date

Healthcare professional signature Date

Details of any other family members involved in advance care planning discussions

Details of healthcare professionals involved in advance care planning discussions

Reviewed on (give dates):

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Remember to regularly review whether this document still represents your wishes. Sign and date any changes you make.