

## Schedule 2 Part A Service Specification

<b>Service Specification No.</b>	<b>08</b>
<b>Service</b>	Assured Availability of Palliative Care Drugs
<b>Commissioner Lead</b>	Gary Barnfield
<b>Provider Lead</b>	
<b>Period</b>	1 April 2023 to 31 March 2025
<b>Date of Review</b>	January 2024

### 1. Population Needs

#### 1.1 National/local context and evidence base

As part of improving end of life care in Sheffield and implementing the local End of Life Care Strategy, NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board - Sheffield Place (SYICB Sheffield) is keen to provide assured access to palliative care drugs for patients and their representatives, by arranging reliable and extended availability from community pharmacy.

It is recognized that there can be difficulty for palliative care patients in obtaining specialist drugs during and out of normal business hours. Community pharmacies do not normally hold a full stock of palliative care drugs due to the cost involved and shelf life of medicines. The onus is usually on the patient or their representative to search for a provider if the medicine is not available at their regular community pharmacy and cannot be obtained within the time required.

### 2. Outcomes

#### 2.1 NHS Outcomes Framework Domains & Indicators

<b>Domain 1</b>	<b>Preventing people from dying prematurely</b>	
<b>Domain 2</b>	<b>Enhancing quality of life for people with long-term conditions</b>	
<b>Domain 3</b>	<b>Helping people to recover from episodes of ill-health or following injury</b>	
<b>Domain 4</b>	<b>Ensuring people have a positive experience of care</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Domain 5</b>	<b>Treating and caring for people in safe environment and protecting them from avoidable harm</b>	<b>Y</b>

#### 2.2 Local defined outcomes

Improved access for patients and their carers to palliative care drugs to ensure receipt of the drugs in a timely manner.

This service helps to support resilience within urgent care.

### **3. Scope**

#### **3.1 Aims and objectives of service**

The aim of the service is to offer assured access to palliative care patients or their representatives to palliative care drugs from community pharmacy.

#### **3.2 Service description/care pathway**

3.2.1 The pharmacy will keep a stock of palliative care drugs (see Appendix 1) to be available during normal business hours.

3.2.2 The pharmacy will dispense the item(s) required to the patient or their representative on presentation of a prescription.

3.2.3 The pharmacist will provide advice to the patient or their representative on the drugs as necessary.

3.2.4 The pharmacy will ensure that the item is immediately re-ordered once the minimum stock figure is reached (Appendix 1).

3.2.5 The pharmacy will store all palliative care drugs securely and keep an up to date record of stock levels (as per the CD register requirements).

#### **3.3 Population covered**

Patients or their representatives presenting a legitimate prescription for medication used in palliative care.

#### **3.4 Any acceptance and exclusion criteria and thresholds**

N/A

#### **3.5 Interdependence with other services/providers**

The Provider may liaise with other providers of end of life care, such as:

- St Luke's Hospice
- Patient's GP
- Palliative Care Nursing Team
- Community Nurses
- Out of hours GP provision

### **4. Applicable Service Standards**

#### **4.1 Applicable national standards (eg NICE)**

The pharmacy premises will provide secure lockable store for the palliative care drugs that complies with Controlled Drug regulations.

**4.2 Applicable standards set out in Guidance and/or issued by a competent body (eg Royal Colleges)**

N/A

**4.3 Applicable local standards**

The Provider has a duty to ensure that pharmacists and staff involved in the provision of the service have relevant knowledge and are appropriately trained in the operation of the service. The responsible pharmacist will be expected to be familiar with the scope of palliative care drugs for the purposes of providing specialist support to this patient group.

**5. Location of Provider Premises**

**The Provider's premises are located at:**