



St Joseph's Hospice

Compassionate Community Care since 1905

Advocacy | Compassion | Justice | Quality | Respect

Referral criteria:

Referrals will be accepted for any patient:

- Over the age of 18.
- With any life limiting or progressive illness.
- At any stage in their illness.
- Experiencing severe, intractable, complex problems that are not responding to routine treatment and therapeutic intervention, and which have persisted after palliative care by a non-specialist.
- Where their support network is/are having difficulties in adjusting to/coping with their illness physically, psychologically, spiritually or emotionally.
- At key transition points in their illness where a specialist episode of support, including specific therapeutic interventions that cannot be provided by a non-specialist service, is indicated to optimise the patient or carer's wellbeing and prevent avoidable deterioration.
- To assess their need for further Hospice services or inpatient care.
- Experiencing difficulties in bereavement, and would benefit from specialist support / further psychological intervention.
- Where complex information and explanation is required relating to the illness, treatment, care options and allied support services

Referrals will also be accepted where Health Care professionals require specialist advice and support with case management.

Reason for Referral include:

- Specialist multidisciplinary assessment.
- Complex symptom management.

- Complex psychological/spiritual issues.
- Provision of supportive care including those delivered by day services.
- Provision of specific treatments where agreed with the multidisciplinary team and where appropriate arrangements can be confirmed, for example, day-case procedures.
- Specialist respite care.
- Specialist rehabilitation.
- Bereavement care.
- End of life inpatient care, where hospice is the patient's preferred place of care.
- Information and signposting.

Referrals will be accepted from:

1. Any health care professional, provided that the patient, carer and general practitioner/consultant are aware and in agreement with the referral to the service.
2. Self-referrals, provided they meet our criteria; where appropriate we will contact the relevant healthcare team to gain more information.