

## Palliative Care Specialist Formulary List

**\*\*Other indications for particular drugs may be included on completion of further specialist lists\*\***

For information on use of unlicensed medicines or medicines used 'off-label' - [click here](#)




Please refer to the [Scottish Palliative Care Guidelines](#) website for evidence-based or best-practice guidance on a range of common clinical issues for the management of adult patients with life-limiting illnesses. The guidelines include advice and information on:

- Pain management
- Symptom control
- Palliative Emergencies
- End of Life Care
- Medicine Information Sheets
- Subcutaneous infusion of medication and compatibility of drugs that can be given subcutaneously via a syringe driver or syringe pump



For the NHS Tayside policy for the use of 'Just in Case' boxes in primary care – [click here](#) (NHS Tayside Staffnet intranet link only). Section 6.5. outlines the guidance for the safe and secure handling of medicines. This includes the action to take if the administration instructions on the dispensed medicine(s) differs from the instructions written on the current authority to administer documentation. General practice templates are available to facilitate the generation of prescriptions with generic administration instructions. These enable medicines to be administered via subcutaneous bolus injection or continuous subcutaneous infusion. Medicines should be administered in accordance with the current authority to administer documentation.

A range of patient information leaflets have been produced on medications that are used within palliative care, see [Scottish Palliative Care Guidelines](#).

The Scottish Palliative Care Guidelines include colour coding for the status of medicines:

-  Red – For medicines normally initiated and used under specialist guidance\*
-  Amber – For medicines normally initiated by a specialist but may be used by generalists\*
-  Green – For medicines routinely initiated and used by generalists




\*These classifications differ slightly from that within the [Tayside Area Formulary](#) traffic light status for medicines:

Tayside Area Formulary Traffic light status information	
 Red	To be prescribed by Hospital Specialists Only.
 Amber	Can be prescribed in General Practice under the direction of a Specialist.

The above formulary traffic light status information applies to the medicines listed in the Tayside Palliative Care Specialist Formulary list below.



**In addition to medicines included within the Scottish Palliative Care Guidelines, the following medicines are approved for prescribing by or on the recommendation of a prescribing palliative care specialist:**

In the event of a broken link please forward details to [carol.walkinshaw@nhs.scot](mailto:carol.walkinshaw@nhs.scot)  
Please include the location and full title of the link

MEDICINE	SUMMARY OF RESTRICTED INDICATION	CATEGORY	PROTOCOL
Fentanyl injection (used by subcutaneous injection) (unlicensed use 'off-label')	Pain management. Renal palliative care. Used with specialist supervision.	 Amber	Contact the local palliative care services* for further advice
Ketorolac injection (unlicensed use 'off-label')	Pain management. Short term use. Used with specialist supervision.	 Amber	Contact the local palliative care services* for further advice
Lidocaine infusion (unlicensed use 'off-label')	Neuropathic pain on advice of the Pain team or a Consultant in Pain or Palliative Medicine.	 Red	<a href="#">NHS Tayside Pain Management Guidelines Book</a> (NHS Tayside Staffnet intranet link only)

\*Local palliative care services:

- Angus & Dundee - Doctor of the Day, Roxburghe House, Dundee, Pager 2703 via Ninewells switchboard.
- Perth & Kinross - Doctor of the Day, Cornhill Macmillan Centre, Perth Royal Infirmary, Pager 4757 via Ninewells switchboard.
- **Out of Hours (Tayside wide) - On call Consultant in Palliative Medicine via Ninewells switchboard.**
- [CLICK HERE](#) for Tayside Community Pharmacy - Palliative Care Stock list and details of community pharmacies in Angus, P&K and Dundee localities.

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