

Guidance for professionals on how to complete LN004062

(Not to be given to patients/carers)

Who this management plan is for and why it should be considered

- Palliative care patients who are at risk of significant bleeding (either from existing bleeding source or where tumour may erode into a major blood vessel).
- To enable relatives to feel confident in supporting a patient with bleeding.
- To avoid inappropriate hospital admission for a person who may be in the last weeks/days of life.

Management plan for bleeding

- Practical advice and reassurance is already included in the leaflet. Where significant bleeding is likely to be a terminal event, midazolam IM is usually supplied to be administered by health care professionals to make the patient less aware of the distressing situation.
- There can be delays in waiting for community staff to administer IM medication, and consideration should be given as to whether the patient would benefit from the relatives/friends having access to buccal midazolam which can be administered more rapidly. This decision will depend on tumour site (eg may not be practicable for a patient with an oral cavity lesion) and availability and willingness of relatives/carers to administer the drug.

Emergency medication supplied

- **Please document all medication prescribed for emergency management of bleeding in the free-text box provided on the leaflet.** The usual adult dose IM midazolam is 10mg and the usual dose of buccal midazolam is 5 to 10 mg.

- Please document other anticipatory medication prescribed.
- Please ensure all drugs are transcribed to the Medicines Administration Record (MAR) chart.

When to call for help

- Consider how long to leave the individual before calling for assistance, and whether hospital admission would be appropriate in any circumstances.
- This should be discussed with the individual and family.

Who to call for help

- Please provide numbers for community nurses, GP and any one close to the individual.
- Suggest GP/out of hours (OOH) GP or 999 for persistent seizures.

****The information in this leaflet is to support and not replace a full and thorough face to face consultation with the patient****

If you feel that you need any support with this conversation or the contents of this management plan, please contact the relevant hospital or community specialist palliative care team.

Useful contact numbers:

LTHT Hospital Palliative Care Team:

0113 206 4563

Wheatfields Community Team:

0113 278 7249

St Gemma's Community Team:

0113 218 5500

ReSPECT and EDAN

Please ensure any relevant information is also available on the patient's ReSPECT plan and EDAN