

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE to PBS Prescribing for End of Life Care for Out of Hospital Patients

Medicine	Indication	Dose	Route	Frequency	Quantity	PBS/comments	
Oral morphine mixture (Ordine)	Severe pain/ breathlessness	2-4mg	Oral	2-4 hourly PRN	1x 200ml bottle (2mg/ml)	*Use hydromorphone instead if eGFR <30ml/min (see below)	
Morphine for injection	Severe pain/ breathlessness if unable to tolerate oral Ordine	2.5-5mg	Subcut	2-4 hourly PRN	5 ampoules = 1 box (10mg/ml)	Call PBS for authority if additional quantities needed *Use hydromorphone instead if eGFR <30ml/min (see below)	
Metoclopramide for injection	Nausea & vomiting	10mg	Subcut	QID PRN	10 ampoules = 1 box (10mg/2ml)	No authority needed for 10 amps Up to 40 amps with streamline authority (code 6084)	
Clonazepam oral liquid (Rivotril)	Agitation/ restlessness or seizures	5 drops (0.5mg)	Oral (Or sublingual)	2-4 hourly PRN	1x 10ml bottle (2.5mg/ml)	PBS authority needed – indication is ‘ <i>prophylaxis of myoclonus</i> ’	
OR	Clonazepam for injection (Rivotril)	Agitation/ restlessness or seizures	0.5mg	Subcut	BD PRN	5 ampoules = 1 box (1mg/ml)	PBS restricted benefit – ‘ <i>epilepsy</i> ’

Use instead of morphine if eGFR <30ml/min	Oral hydromorphone liquid (Dilaudid)	Severe pain/ breathlessness	0.5-1mg	Oral	2-4 hourly PRN	1x 200ml bottle (1mg/ml)	If impaired renal function
	Hydromorphone for injection (Dilaudid)	Severe pain/ breathlessness if unable to tolerate oral liquid Dilaudid	0.5-1mg	Subcut	2-4 hourly PRN	5 ampoules = 1 box (2mg/ml)	If impaired renal function Call PBS for authority if additional quantities needed

- PBS authority phone number is 1800 888 333 – call for increased quantities or authority items.
- Increased quantities will be required for patients on syringe drivers