

About Palliative Symptom Response Medication

Patient and Family Information Sheet

If you are receiving palliative care services, your doctor or nurse practitioner may order drugs known as **symptom response medications** to help you manage and relieve your symptoms at home.

Medications and supplies are provided through the Ontario Health atHome and delivered by Calea Pharmacy to your home in a sealed package.

If you know your doctor or nurse practitioner will be ordering these medications, here are some helpful tips to help you understand the process:

- You or your caregiver are required, by law, to **show your identification to the pharmacy delivery person** when they arrive with your medication package.
- When you receive the medication **DO NOT OPEN the sealed package**. The health care team will open the package when needed.
- **Please call your nurse to report any changes or new symptoms**. At each visit, your nurse will check and manage your medications/ supplies to make sure they're ready when needed.



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- Always **store these medications away from children and pets in a safe, cool dry place** – preferably out of sight and in a place where your care team can get to the medication easily.

Contact Information

If you have any questions regarding this service, please contact: **310-2222** • ontariohealthathome.ca

- Medications are to be used only by the designated patient. **They should never be shared with anyone else or kept for future use.**
- Left over medications and supplies should be put in your **biomedical waste container.**
- Contact your Ontario Health atHome Care Coordinator or health care team, and **they will arrange for the no-cost pickup of the biomedical waste container.**

Pharmacy List

To see the list of pharmacies where unused/expired medications can be returned visit this site:

<http://healthsteward.ca/province/ontario/>