

Terminal care planning checklist for General Practice

Background

The GP's role in end-of-life care includes development of a terminal care management plan¹. This supports the third clinical process in the [Prompts for End-of-Life Planning \(PELP\) Framework](#).

Purpose

This document provides a checklist to assist GPs to prepare a terminal management care plan to guide the care for a person at home in their final hours, days, or week.

Note: The person's terminal care management plan should be shared with other relevant health professionals.

Actions	Completed
Advance care planning (ACP) and medical goals of treatment	
ACP documents reviewed	
Substitute decision maker/s identified	
Medical goals of treatment plan reviewed	
Documentation	
Not for resuscitation (NFR) available in the home	
Expected death at home documentation available	
Process in place for who will complete the verification of death documentation	
Person/organisation to complete Medical Certificate of Cause of Death identified	
Symptom management	
Comprehensive symptom assessment completed	
Cardiac defibrillator deactivated if applicable	
Medicines prescribing and deprescribing	
Medicines review: - Non-essential medicines ceased - Essential medicines converted to subcutaneous, dermal, or sublingual routes	
Anticipatory medicines prescribed	
Written orders and medicines are available in the home	
Process in place for who is to write continuing scripts and orders	
Pharmacy identified and process to obtain medicines in place	
Family/carers	
Family/carers aware of process for out of hours support	
Family/carers aware of need to keep sufficient supply of medicines in the home	
Family/carers provided with a checklist for immediate after-death care	
Cultural and spiritual needs addressed/considered for family/carers	
Bereavement care considered for family/carers	

