

# Parent and carer information sheets: A guide for health professionals

The Last Days of Life toolkit includes 12 information sheets to support parents/carers. These information sheets are not a replacement for discussions between the Care Team and parents/carers. Instead they are used to reinforce information provided by the Care Team about what to expect over the next few days. It can also prompt parents/carers to think about any further questions that may arise following these conversations.

It is not uncommon for parents/carers to need information given in more than one format to allow them to understand what to expect in the last days of life. Written information can also provide parents/carers with confidence to talk about what is important for their child during this difficult time.

Not all the information sheets will be relevant to every parent/carers. The Care Team should review all information sheets and decide which ones are appropriate for each family as well as discuss what further written information they may need.

It may not always be best to give parents/carers all the chosen information sheets at once. Depending on the family, it may be preferable to provide them over a period of time as their child’s condition deteriorates and when the parents/carers indicate that they are wanting more information about particular issues.

Please use this sheet to record the names and dates you have provided the information sheets to parents/carers so that all members of the Care Team are aware of what has been shared with the family.

Title of information sheet	Given to	Given by	Date
Asking questions can help			
What happens in the last days of life			
Medicines in the last days of life			
Taking a child home to die			
Supporting someone who is caring for a dying child			
Siblings and the last days of life			
Understanding your grief			
When a child dies at home			
When a child dies in hospital			
Arranging a funeral for a child or adolescent			
Arranging a funeral for a baby			
Managing lactation and breastfeeding			

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