**Referrals to Ashgate Hospice Inpatient Unit (IPU)**

The IPU aims to offer short term (usually up to 14 days) care to support patients with acute and or complex needs.

All referrals are assessed daily (Monday-Friday) on the units’ capacity and patients need. Referrals should be considered if the patient:

Has active, progressive advanced disease, a limited prognosis and the focus of care is on quality of life

and

Is registered with a GP practice from North Derbyshire (High Peak & North Dales, North East Derbyshire & Chesterfield localities).

Is 18 years or over

(In certain circumstances referrals for admission from outside the catchment area may also be considered)

and

Patient consents for referral (where the patient has capacity to consent)

and

* Is at End of Life (last days of life) with complex care needs, causing distress to the patient or family which cannot be managed at home despite a full care package and the Hospice is their preferred place of death.

 Or

* Is at End of Life (last 1-2 weeks) with an overall rapid decline in functional status and worsening of existing problems, causing distress to the patient or family which cannot be managed at home despite a full care package and the Hospice is their preferred place of death.

Or has

* A life limiting illness whose level of need is considered beyond the scope of the current caring team due to;

Severe, distressing, and uncontrolled symptoms such as pain, nausea, vomiting, breathlessness, complex functional decline.

Complex psychological distress such as overwhelming anxiety related to the patient’s disease.