

Supportive Care Service Referral Criteria

Our Supportive Care Service is available to all those who are affected by a life-limiting illness who are accessing or have accessed the services of Ashgate Hospice. This includes the patient and those around them. The individual diagnosed with a life-limiting illness must be registered with a North Derbyshire GP.

If you are a patient or loved one and would like to access our services, you can be referred by a healthcare professional, for example, your GP. Alternatively, you can self-refer or be referred by your family and friends, if you have given your consent. Referrals for children are also accepted to this service.

The service provides individuals (patients and their family members including children) support for the following needs:

- Counselling
- Social
- Spiritual
- Emotional

Criteria for accessing the Counselling service

- Patients receiving care from Ashgate Hospice can be referred to the Counselling service.
- Family members of those who have received care from Ashgate Hospice can be referred to the Counselling service.
- Please however do not refer in for bereavement counselling assessment until at **least 6 weeks post bereavement** to allow for natural grief to have started.
- **If accepted** for counselling after assessment, then this will not commence until **at least 3-6 months after the death of a loved one.**
- Please also be aware if it is a spouse and they have fallen into the criteria to attend the **Recently Bereaved Group**, counselling assessment will **NOT** take place until after this process has finished.
- **Priority** will be given to patients of Ashgate Hospice coming into the service for the first time.