

Palliative Just in Case Medication Kit



Interior Health
Every person matters

Patient and Family Information – Palliative Care

www.interiorhealth.ca

Why do I need a Palliative Just in Case Medication Kit (Back-Up Kit)?

When a person is palliative and at home sometimes symptoms such as: pain, nausea, shortness of breath or sudden confusion occurs or changes when we least expect it.

To help manage sudden symptoms we like to have a “Plan B” in place. “Plan B” at home is a Palliative Just in Case Medication Kit, on hand to support any symptom distress and keep you at home if that is where you prefer to be.

We will be asking you questions about how you feel having this kit in the home and how you might keep it safe but accessible.

What is a Palliative Just in Case Medication Kit?

The medication kit contains medications and the supplies needed to help manage certain symptoms. These extra medications are given as pills or through a small line inserted by the nurse that goes just under the skin. The line may be inserted before or when the kit is being accessed. A small bag of supplies will be left in the home to assist with putting in the small line.

How do I get a Palliative Just in Case Medication Kit?

The prescription for the medication kit is completed by a doctor/nurse practitioner. Please have it filled at your local pharmacy. The medications will be covered by the BC Palliative Care Benefits program. You can talk to your home health nurse if you have questions.

When will the Palliative Just in Case Medication Kit be accessed?

The medication kit will be accessed by a health care provider if and when your symptoms are getting a little harder to manage with your regular medications and you are experiencing more symptom distress.

Medications in the kit are meant for short term use until a regular prescription for the same medication can be filled by the pharmacy.

Who will give the medications from the kit?

The first dose from the Palliative Just in Case Medication Kit, will be given by your doctor/nurse practitioner, a home health nurse and in some cases by a paramedic if they were called in an emergency. They will leave you prepared medications and teach you how to give the next doses and record them on a sheet. Your doctor will then order these medications as a regular prescription.

- Please leave the sealed bag of medication and supplies in a safe and secure place, out of reach from children and pets.
- If you have any questions or concerns about these medications please contact your home health nurse.

****PLEASE RETURN THE PALLIATIVE JUST IN CASE MEDICATION KIT TO THE PHARMACY OF YOUR CHOICE WHEN NO LONGER NEEDED****