**Supplementary medicines information for palliative care patients**

All medicines are supplied with a manufacturer’s ‘Patient Information Leaflet’. This can provide a great deal of information about the medicine, its normal uses and side effects. However, most medicines have more than one effect on the body and for many years, palliative care (hospice) doctors have found that certain medicines are safe and effective for the treatment of symptoms ***other*** than those specified by the medicine’s manufacturer and there is now plenty of experience to confirm such use.

We are providing you with this extra information to inform you of the reason(s) why you are taking this medicine and to highlight any other information. This should be read in conjunction with the ***attached*** manufacturer’s patient information leaflet.

**HYOSCINE BUTYLBROMIDE INJECTION**

**Hyoscine butylbromide injection is normally prescribed for administration by injection into a muscle or blood vein to treat smooth muscle spasm, usually in the gut or bowel (‘colicky pain’).**

**In palliative care, it is usually prescribed for injection just under the skin (‘subcutaneously’) to dry excessive chest secretions in end of life care and to treat inoperable bowel obstruction when colicky pain or vomiting is troublesome.**

**Frequently asked questions**

***Q. What form(s) of this medicine are there and how is it usually used?***

* The injection is administered by continuous infusion just under the skin (subcutaneous) using a syringe driver pump.
* It can also be injected subcutaneously intermittently when necessary for the same indications.

**NB Always follow the dose indicated on the label or advised by a healthcare professional.**

***Q. What are the most common side effects?***

* Dry mouth, blurred vision, hesitation or difficulty passing urine and flushing.

**Further information**

If you have any questions about any of the medicines you have been prescribed or have any problems with side effects, please speak to one of the following:

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# *St Catherine’s Hospice St Catherine’s Hospice Pharmacist*

Telephone: 01293 447333 Telephone: 01293 53500