**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.

**METOCLOPRAMIDE**

**In palliative care, metoclopramide is prescribed for nausea and vomiting due to many different reasons, and sometimes to help relieve indigestion, heartburn, hiccups or reduced gut activity.**

**Frequently asked questions**

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

* Metoclopramide is supplied as a tablet or solution for injection (10mg/2ml).
* Metoclopramide is usually administered just below the skin (subcutaneously) as a continuous infusion (using a small pump called a syringe driver) or sometimes as a single injection when necessary for extra symptom relief.
* In palliative care, your doctor may recommend a higher dose than the manufacturer’s leaflet or it may be necessary to continue to take Metoclopramide regularly if the reason for needing it continues to affect you.

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

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

* Occasionally drowsiness, restlessness or diarrhoea
* Metoclopramide is usually well tolerated, but should be used with caution in Parkinson’s Disease and young people.

**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:

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

Telephone: 01293 447333 Telephone: 01293 535000