

# One Page Guide to Continuing Healthcare Fast Track Referrals

**Fast Track Continuing Healthcare (CHC)** referrals are the means by which care packages or placements can be organised and funded promptly to support people who are nearing the end of their life to die in their preferred place. Clinicians should make a referral if they can demonstrate that the person meets the following criteria:

- ⇒ The person has a rapidly deteriorating condition **AND**
- ⇒ Their condition may be entering a terminal phase **AND**
- ⇒ They have health care needs as a result which constitute a **primary health need**

A **Primary Health Need** arises where the nursing or other health services required are:

- (a) more than incidental or ancillary to the provision of accommodation which a social services authority is, or would be but for the person's means, under a duty to provide (where the person is, or is to be, accommodated in a care home); **OR**
- (b) of a nature beyond which a social services authority whose primary responsibility is to provide social services could be expected to provide.

**ALL of the above criteria must be met for the person to be eligible for fast track.**

*Before making a referral consideration should be given to whether or not the person's needs can be met by core health services (e.g. community/ palliative care services)*

In order to ensure that referrals are processed quickly clinicians should ensure that the following information is included on the referral form:

- ⇒ Diagnosis/ Prognosis (include stage on End of Life Pathway)
- ⇒ Evidence that the person is deteriorating rapidly
- ⇒ Evidence that the condition may be entering a terminal phase
- ⇒ The care needs required by the person and in particular those that are over and above needs that could reasonably be met by social services

Completed **Fast Track** referral forms should be sent to the CityCare CHC Team at  
**[ncp.fasttrackreferralsnotts@nhs.net](mailto:ncp.fasttrackreferralsnotts@nhs.net)**

If the person does not meet the criteria above but does still have health care needs they may still be eligible for CHC but not Fast Track. In this case a **CHC checklist** should be completed and sent to **[ncp.continuingcarenotts@nhs.uk](mailto:ncp.continuingcarenotts@nhs.uk)**

**In the event of any queries please contact the CityCare CHC Team on  
01623 785410 (option 2)**