

Disclaimer – NCG Guidelines

The NCG Palliative Care Committee feel privileged to have been part of the development of guidelines on management of common symptoms in cancer patients.

Great effort has gone in to making them; through peer review, consultation process by engaging faculty from healthcare institutions of different sectors from across India.

However, there will be a few instances where specific local protocols will differ from the NCG Palliative Care guidelines. In such instances, the prescribers are advised to be aware of and to follow their own local institutional, regional guidelines.

In addition, the NCG symptom management guidelines are as suggestions only. They reflect current practice of palliative care in India. The guidelines are to be used in conjunction with research and practice literature such as; the Palliative Care Formulary, The Oxford Textbook of Palliative Medicine, The Oxford Handbook of Palliative Care etc. NCG takes no responsibility for the way the recommendations are interpreted, applied or impact patient care. As ever, the ultimate responsibility of care-outcomes is with the healthcare professional in-charge, who selects the care-plan based on the individual situation of their patients.

Recommendations for use of some of the drugs in these guidelines are outside their current product licences (Off-label use)¹. This may change with the evolution of research in the area of interest. We encourage all to seek advice from your local specialist palliative care team to clarify care-plans as and when deemed necessary.

¹ Authorised drugs can be used legally in clinical situations that fall outside the remit of the authorisation (referred to as 'off-label'), for example for a different age group, a different indication, a different dose or route or method of administration