

[INSERT PHARMACY LOGO]
[Pharmacy Name]

<Pharmacy Street Address>
<Pharmacy Suburb State Postcode>
<Pharmacy Contact Number>
<Pharmacy Fax Number>
<Pharmacy Email address>

<Doctor Surgery Name>
<Doctor Surgery Street Address>
<Doctor Surgery Suburb State Postcode>

<XX Month 2020/2021>

Dear Dr [insert name]

Re: Prescription medicines for community-based palliative patients

Most people say that, if they had a terminal illness, they would prefer to be cared for at home and to die there if possible. It is well recognised that your input is pivotal to that outcome including the timely prescription of palliative care medicines to manage emergent symptoms.

Queensland Health, as part of the *palliPHARM* initiative (see *palliPHARM* factsheet), recommends that pharmacies and residential aged care facilities stock appropriate core palliative care medicines in anticipation of those medicines being required for palliative patients. In addition, GPs are encouraged to proactively prescribe these medicines for when they may be needed.

I am writing to share with you our pharmacy's involvement with the *palliPHARM* initiative that will contribute to home-based palliative patients receiving care in their environment of choice. Also, to let you know that our staff have recently undertaken training and education to enhance the support and assistance we can provide to our palliative patients, their families and carers.

In line with Queensland Health recommendations, we would propose stocking the following medicines listed in the *Core Palliative Care Medicines List for Queensland Community Patients* (see attached factsheet):

1. Analgesic – [Medicine]
2. Anticholinergic – [Medicine]
3. Antiemetic – [Medicine]
4. Antipsychotic – [Medicine]
5. Anxiolytic – [Medicine]

We understand that the *Core Palliative Care Medicines List for Queensland Community Patients* is not intended to restrict which medicines can be prescribed for individual patients, but that it is one approach which will allow pharmacies to anticipate the medicines most likely to be prescribed, and allow prescribers to anticipate the medicines most likely to be readily available in Queensland community pharmacies.

If the proposed list of medicines does not align with your prescribing preferences, if you would like to add to this list or you would like to discuss anticipatory prescribing for some of your patients, I would welcome the opportunity to explore this further.

Kind Regards,

<Contact Name>

<Contact Person Position>