



## End of life medication access for primary care patients wanting to die at home

hospice@HOME are pleased to be offering patients whose terminal phase can be managed by their primary care providers, easy access to medications and 24 hour coordinated support if their preference is to die at home through implementation of the [Just in Case Box Guidelines](#).

The Just in Case Box is a package of prescribed medications, consumables and 24 hour medical and nursing telephone support that enables access and haste when end of life symptoms emerge. It is placed early in the patient's home and can be used when the medications, already accessible to the patient, can no longer manage the terminal symptoms. Importantly, lay carers of those who are prescribed a Just in Case Box will also receive training and education from hospice@HOME in how to competently administer subcutaneous end of life medications. The standardised education package called [Caring Safely at Home](#) was developed by Brisbane South Palliative Care Collaborative and is now accepted as best practice for lay carer medication administration in the community.

The box is prescribed by the patients GP for those who have a prognosis of less than 6 months and have expressed a preference to die in their own home. An [online education package](#) is offered free of charge to all Community Health Nurses in Tasmania. The package is available online and when completed nurses will receive a Certificate of Completion which awards 3 CPD points. There is an additional 1CPD point awarded for a reflective activity following interaction with a patient who has been prescribed a Just in Case Box.

For further information please go to [www.hospiceathome.org.au](http://www.hospiceathome.org.au) and click on the drop down tab called "Just in Case Boxes".

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