

## Criteria for Discharge from Specialist Palliative Care Services

**Specific Criteria for the discharge of a patient from Specialist Palliative Care Services [SPC] provided by Hospice Marlborough are:**

1. There is a change in disease status such that the patient no longer has any SPC needs, e.g.
  - Following response to treatment
  - Disease evident as only slowly progressive
2. There is symptomatic improvement such that the patient no longer has SPC needs.
3. Following initial SPC assessment, it is determined that the patient does not have SPC needs and that ongoing needs are more appropriately met by other healthcare agencies.
4. The patient, following informed discussion, requests to be discharged from SPC.
5. The patient or family persistently prevent effective SPC input e.g. restricting access for assessment.

**The SPC team are always available to re-engage as appropriate or to offer advice and support to other involved healthcare professionals.**