

## Preferred Priorities for Care (PPC)

A tool for discussion and recording of EoLC wishes and preferences

### Description

**The PPC is a tool which essentially serves three purposes:**

1. It facilitates discussion/s around end of life care wishes and preferences and from these discussions
2. The PPC can enable communication for care planning and decisions across care providers
3. Should the person lose capacity to make a decision about issues discussed, a previously completed PPC acts as an advance statement. This means that that information included within the PPC can be used as part of an assessment of a person's best interests when making decisions about their care.

The individual's preferences and wishes may change over time and differ from that which was originally recorded within the PPC, so it is important that any review of care decisions should always be undertaken in direct consultation with the individual. The information in the PPC should be only be used to inform decisions about a person's care if they are no longer able to decide or express their wishes. If the person loses capacity, information in the PPC about their wishes and feelings can be used as part of the process of Best Interests decision making.

### Key elements

- Is for adults (over 18) with capacity and completion is voluntary
- Whilst the PPC is not legally binding, carers are required under the Mental Capacity Act to take into account previous documentation when considering Best Interests
- The PPC is a person held document which is applicable in all care settings
- The PPC is a tool to facilitate end of life care discussions- the discussions may incorporate what a person wants now and what they may want in the future
- All health and social care staff should be 'open to' and encourage discussions with individuals about their PPC
- It is a tool for an individual to record their wishes and preferences for end of life care, including where they would like to be cared for at the end of life, which in turn can assist with care planning across care providers
- At the time any decision becomes relevant and where a person retains capacity to make that decision, their current views/ choices take precedence over anything recorded in the PPC
- If the person has lost capacity to make a particular decision, the information in the PPC about their wishes and feelings acts as an 'advance statement' and can be used to inform best interests decisions
- With the permission of the individual the information contained within the PPC can be shared with family and professional carers to ensure that everyone is aware of their wishes and work towards delivering the care that the person would like and within the setting that they chose
- The document provides the opportunity to record if a person has a Lasting Power of Attorney or to note another person who they choose to speak on their behalf
- It is never too early to initiate a PPC discussion.

Further information: <http://www.endoflifecareforadults.nhs.uk>

'Capacity, care planning and advance care planning in life limiting illness – a guide for Health and Social Care Professionals' is at <http://www.endoflifecareforadults.nhs.uk/publications/pubacpguide>