

# Symptom Response Kit (SRK)

## When to Order a SRK

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### A SRK should be considered when:

1. The patient is appropriate for a Palliative Care approach.
  2. The prognosis is <6 months and the patient is expected to deteriorate quickly.
  3. The goal is to avoid emergency room visits and/or hospital admission.
  4. There is a known trajectory with expected symptoms.
  5. The patient/family are aware and in agreement to store the SRK in the home and not to open it unless with direction from their health care provider.
  6. Medications in an existing SRK have expired and/or new medications are needed for new anticipated symptoms.
- Nurses in the home will determine if anticipated symptoms have arisen and contact the Prescriber, if indicated.
  - Nurses in the home will administer medications as ordered and follow up with the Prescriber regarding symptom management.
  - It is the responsibility of each member in the patient's health care team to review and share care goals, and to support planning for an expected death.

### Process:

- Prescriber completes the Symptom Response Kit Prescription/Order form and faxes to local Ontario Health atHome.
- The pharmacy will deliver the SRK by 9pm the next business day.

### Please Note:

If symptoms are currently being presented, or the PPS is  $\leq 20\%$ , a SRK is NOT appropriate. Please order medications directly from the patient's local pharmacy or pharmacy of choice.

**For more information** on the SRK process, please contact your local Ontario Health atHome office at 310-2222.

SRKs should be considered at  
**PPS 60-40%**

SRKs are for  
**anticipatory**  
planning for  
expected symptoms

There is  
**NO COST**  
to the patient