



## CRITERIA FOR REFERRAL

We will accept referrals for those children who have life limiting/life threatening conditions, for which the prognosis is that there is no reasonable hope of cure and the child/ young person is likely to die prematurely. Some conditions cause progressive deterioration resulting in the child or young person becoming increasingly dependent on their parents or carers.

We delineate conditions into 4 categories, taking direct referrals for those in Groups 1 and 2.

### **Group 1**

Life threatening conditions for which curative treatment may be feasible but can fail and where access to palliative care services may be necessary when treatment fails. Children in long term remission or following successful curative treatment are not included.

(Examples: cancer, irreversible organ failures of heart, liver, kidney)

### **Group 2**

Conditions where premature death is inevitable, where there may be long periods of intensive treatment aimed at prolonging life and allowing participation in normal activities.

(Example: cystic fibrosis)

### **Group 3**

Progressive conditions without curative treatment options, where treatment is exclusively palliative and may commonly extend over many years.

(Examples: Batten disease, mucopolysaccharidoses, muscular dystrophy)

### **Group 4**

Irreversible but non-progressive conditions causing severe disability leading to susceptibility to health complications and likelihood of premature death.

(Examples: severe cerebral palsy, multiple disabilities, brain or spinal cord injury)