



**EMERGENCY
HEALTHCARE
PLANS FOR CARE
HOME RESIDENTS
(EHCPS)**

WHAT IS AN EHCP?

An EHCP is an individual care plan for nurses and care staff to follow if a resident becomes ill in an emergency.



When care home residents are frail and elderly, an emergency hospital admission often causes distress and disorientation.

An Emergency Health Care Plan (EHCP) can be designed for each individual in consultation with the resident and their relatives, to look at what to do if a common emergency should occur.

The EHCP guides care staff and nursing staff in the relief of distressing symptoms such as pain and agitation.

When symptoms are managed well, there is no need for the resident to be admitted into hospital.

Using an EHCP enables appropriate care for a frail or elderly resident. Care and support can then be continued in a place where surroundings and caregivers are familiar.

WHEN SHOULD WE CONSIDER AN EHCP?

When:

- A Do Not Attempt Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (DNACPR) form is in place and one or more of the following applies
- The resident or their relative/ representative have requested an Emergency Health Care Plan
- The resident's condition is changing and /or deteriorating
- The resident has experienced a recent hospital admission.
- The resident is at risk of unnecessary hospital admission for any other reason.
- The resident has made an Advance Decision to Refuse Treatment (ADRT) or Living Will

If you or your relative/representative would like to know more about an EHCP, please ask the care/ nursing staff at your Care Home.

DECIDING RIGHT

Deciding right – A North East initiative for making care decisions in advance.

Further information available at:

<http://www.necn.nhs.uk/common-themes/deciding-right/>

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