How we are funded

Our care and emotional support is totally free of charge for both patients and their families; but not without cost.

Severn Hospice is part of health services offered to people living in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and North Powys but we are not part of the NHS. We are a completely independent charity and have to raise over two-thirds of our running costs each year.

Our services are funded through a combination of kind donations from local people, fundraising activities, our lottery and shops, gifts in people's wills and grants from the NHS.

There is more information about our services and ways to support us on our website.

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Bicton Heath
Shrewsbury
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Telford
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TF1 6RH

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Information about driving and medication

Some medications can make you feel drowsy and you may have slower reaction times.

This leaflet aims to help you make a decision about whether you should be driving.

Drowsiness is particularly common when starting medication or when the dose is increased. You should not drive for a few days after starting or increasing one of these medications until this effect has resolved.

You should never drive if:

- You feel drowsy
- If you have drunk any alcohol
- If you are feeling physically ill or find you can not concentrate
- There is any reason that you would be less able to perform an emergency stop

If you feel able to drive, it is advisable to drive in daylight with good visibility and start with short journeys. You might want to consider having an experienced driver with you at first.

Some of the medication listed below can make you sleepy. This is not an exhaustive list but if you are worried about a medication you are taking please speak to the prescriber.

- Opioids such as codeine, tramadol, morphine, oxycodone and fentanyl
- Antihistamines such as chlorphenamine (Piriton)
- Anti-anxiety medication such as loraepam and diaze- pam
- Sleeping tablets such as zopiclone and temazepam
- Pain killers for nerve pain such as gabapentin, pregabalin, amitriptyline and clonazepam
- Antidepressants such as amitriptyline and dosulepin
- Anti-sickness medication such as levomepromazine, haloperidol and cyclizine

There are legal limits for the amount of medication you can take. However, as long as you take prescription medication as prescribed, and your driving is not impaired, you will not be breaking the law.

questions you might have			

Frequently asked questions

1. Do I need to inform the DVLA?

It is advisable to inform the DVLA of your condition and medication you are taking. In the majority of cases the DVLA will not need further information and may offer further advice about driving.

If you drive a HGV your **MUST** inform the DVLA if you have been diagnosed with cancer.

2. Do I need to inform my insurance company?

It is recommended that you inform your insurance company about the medication you are taking. In most cases they will be happy to continue the insurance cover if your doctor has confirmed you are fit to drive.

Even if you have been told you are fit to drive, it is your responsibility to decide your fitness on each occasion.

Useful contacts:

DVLA (Drivers Vehicle Licensing Agency)
Drivers' Medical Enquiries,
DVLA,
Swansea
SA99 1TU

Telephone: 0300 790 6806