

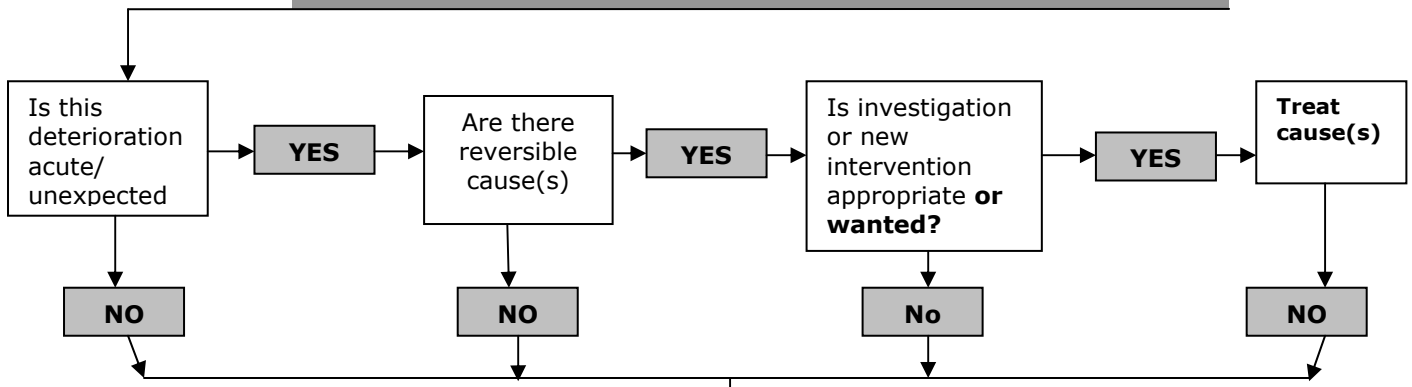


## Recognizing Dying

**Two or more of the following (new signs / symptoms) may apply:**

- Profound weakness or bedbound
- No longer able to swallow tablets
- The person is peripherally shut down
- The person is semi-comatose/unconscious
- Only able to take sips of fluids
- Unable/unsafe to swallow any fluids
- Person/family/whanau state they are dying

### CONTACT GP/Nurse Practitioner(NP)



Discussion with the resident (where appropriate) & relative/carer to explain current plan of care

Commence the Last Days of Life Care Plan (LDL)

How to use the Last Days of Life Care Plan :

1. Front page: Date and time LDL commenced – Plan may be commenced by the most senior RN after telephonic discussion with the GP/NP. The LDL must be endorsed by the most senior medical person GP or NP in charge of the person’s care.
2. Complete all sections as this refers to **“holistic”** care
3. GP/NP areas (heading or left shoulder) are in **RED** (If the document is colour – alternatively it is a darker shade)
4. All goals are in **bold** typeface. Interventions, which act as prompts to support the goals, are in normal type
5. Any variance (difference to goal) is documented on the “variance analysis – resident story” page
6. Medication Algorithm - should be available for guiding prescribing medication

**Available:** In LDL Resource folder & Mercy Hospice Internet →Health Professionals→Last Days of Life Care  
<https://www.mercyhospice.org.nz/services/last-days-of-life.asp>

**If you require further advice 24hrs each day 7 days a week please contact the Specialist Palliative Care Service at Mercy Hospice Auckland - PH 3615966**