## CORE FOUR
Indications in the last days of life | CORE FOUR drugs for the last days of life | Alternatives*  
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Pain or emergency | Rx Diamorphine injection: dose 5-10 mg or one sixth of current 24 hour diamorphine requirement | *Sublingual diamorphine 10mg or Morphine conc. liquid 20mg/5ml sublingual  
Nausea/vomiting | Rx Cyclizine injection 50mg | Buccal prochlorperazine 3mg / rectal prochlorperazine 5mg  
Excess secretions | Rx Hyoscine hydrobromide injection 0.4mg | Hyoscine transdermal patch 1mg/72hrs (may need 2-3)  
Agitation/ restlessness | Rx Midazolam injection 10mg | *Sublingual lorazepam 1mg/rectal diazepam 10mg  

*Sublingual administration is not always easy for patients if the mouth is dry, co-ordination is poor and cognitive function is reduced. Rectal administration can be a challenge for carers both physically (turning and positioning the patient) and emotionally.

Other useful drugs are haloperidol and levomepromazine