

INFECTIONS

Infections at the end of life are common, and expected

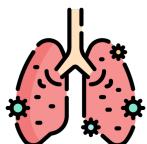
Common types of infection



Urinary - 'UTIs' especially if there is a catheter in the bladder



Skin - Most often from ulcers developing at pressure points ('Pressure Ulcers') from being unable to change position



Lung - From aspiration of normal secretions or from liquids or food taken by mouth

What is done

- It is important to understand that not all infections can or should be treated
- Typically, urinary infections may be treated with antibiotics
- Skin breakdown, ulcers are usually treated with local measures (Creams, Dressings)

- › The hospice team will concentrate on skin care at the time of each visit ([Click here for more info on skin care](#))
- › Lung infections are more complicated, and often antibiotics do more harm than good or simply do not work
- › Dying from, with dementia, is usually the result of recurrent infections, especially pneumonia
- › This is what happens, what is expected at this stage, and is largely unavoidable
- › Giving antibiotics often do not help as they need a healthier body in order to work as intended