

Memo

DATE: August 11, 2016

TO: All Members of the Fraser Health Medical Staff

RE: **Managing Requests for Medical Assistance in Dying Service**

If you have a patient who is seeking Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) service, please review the following online resources:

- **The Patient and Caregiver Journey**
[http://physicians.fraserhealth.ca/getattachment/Clinical-Resources/Strips/Clinical-Services/MAID/MAID/MAiD-The-Patient-and-Caregiver-Journey-v4-July-19-2016-\(1\).pdf.aspx/](http://physicians.fraserhealth.ca/getattachment/Clinical-Resources/Strips/Clinical-Services/MAID/MAID/MAiD-The-Patient-and-Caregiver-Journey-v4-July-19-2016-(1).pdf.aspx/)
- **Assessment of Eligibility Guide**
<http://physicians.fraserhealth.ca/getattachment/Clinical-Resources/Strips/Clinical-Services/MAID/MAID/Assessment-of-Eligibility-Guide-FHA-v5-July-27-2016.pdf.aspx/>

If you and the patient have already discussed their diagnosis, prognosis, and all therapeutic possibilities including palliative care, proceed with the following process. Also see the attached algorithm.

Step 1: Assessment

If you are unwilling/unable to assess or provide the Medical Assistance in Dying service, refer your patient to another practitioner or advise the patient to contact the Fraser Health Medical Assistance in Dying Care Coordinating Centre (MCCC) at mccc@fraserhealth.ca or 604.587.7878 for further assistance.

If you are willing/able to assess the patient (Assessor) and/or provide (Prescriber) the Medical Assistance in Dying service:

- a) ensure you provide your contact information to the mccc@fraserhealth.ca so they have a record of your intent to participate;
- b) and have the patient complete the [Record of Request of Patient](#);
- c) and complete either the [Record of Assessment \(Assessor\)](#) or [Record of Assessment \(Prescriber\)](#) and;
- d) fax both forms to 604.523.8855.

Once the first record of assessment is completed:

- a) contact a second Assessor or an Assessor/Prescriber, or
- b) if you do not know a practitioner willing/able to function as an Assessor or an Assessor/Prescriber, contact your Site Medical Director or email mccc@fraserhealth.ca
- c) have the other practitioner complete the [Record of Assessment \(Assessor\)](#) or [Record of Assessment \(Prescriber\)](#)

Note: assessments must be completed by two practitioners who are independent of each other.

To provide the Medical Assistance in Dying service in a Fraser Health hospital, the Prescriber must be a member of the Fraser Health Medical Staff and be granted specific privileges in Medical Assistance in Dying. Contact the Credentialing Office at CredentialsOffice@fraserhealth.ca) to apply for privileges.

Ensure you have discussed with the patient and then document service provision details including location.

Note: from the date the patient signs the Record of Request of Patient there is a legal minimum 10 calendar day wait time unless both the Assessor and Assessor/Prescriber agree to shorten the wait time due to a potential loss of the requesting patient's capability.

Step 2: Service Provision

Please review the following information:

- **Planning for MAiD**

[http://physicians.fraserhealth.ca/getattachment/Clinical-Resources/Strips/Clinical-Services/MAiD/MAiD/Planning-for-MAiD-presentation-for-website-v2-July-27-2016-\(1\).pdf.aspx/](http://physicians.fraserhealth.ca/getattachment/Clinical-Resources/Strips/Clinical-Services/MAiD/MAiD/Planning-for-MAiD-presentation-for-website-v2-July-27-2016-(1).pdf.aspx/)

The MCCC team will contact you to confirm service provision details.

Step 3: Prescriber Information

When certain the service will proceed, contact the MCCC to obtain the medication prescription form.

If service provision is cancelled, please advise the MCCC at 604.587.7878.

Step 4: Post Service Care

Following service provision, the Prescriber:

- (a) completes the Death Certificate as per usual practice; and also completes the [BC Coroners Service Report of MAiD Death form](#)
- (b) faxes completed practitioner documents to the MCCC at 604.523.8855
- (c) submits all completed forms to the BC Coroner's Office at fax 604.660.7766 (Attention: Vince Stancato, Deputy Chief Coroner)

Further information, including the forms, can be found at the Fraser Health physicians website at this link: <http://physicians.fraserhealth.ca/Clinical-Resources/#MAiD>

Definitions:

Assessor: a physician or nurse practitioner who interviews the patient requesting Medical Assistance in Dying and completes the Record of Assessment. Two Assessors are required and one will also be the Prescriber.

Prescriber: is a physician or nurse practitioner who has assessed the patient and prescribes the medication (oral or IV) to the pharmacist. In the community, the Prescriber can work with their local community pharmacy and in Fraser Health, the facility pharmacist will help order and provide the medication at the time of service.

Consultant: the practitioner to whom a patient must be referred for consultation by the Assessor or Prescriber if either are unsure of patient's capability to make an informed decision about accepting Medical Assistance in Dying. The Consultant may be a psychologist, psychiatrist, neurologist, or geriatrician. When there is concern about the possible existence of an underlying mental health problem, the Consultant must be a psychiatrist.
