

Medical Assistance in Dying for GP's

Medical Assistance in Dying, commonly referred to as MAiD, is when a doctor or nurse practitioner helps a patient, at their voluntary request, to end their life. MAiD has been legal in Canada since June 2016 and is governed under federal law by the Ministry of Health, BC. There are specific eligibility requirements, safeguards and regulatory oversight in place to ensure that patients are supported in their legal right to access MAiD.

What is the eligibility criteria for MAiD?

- Has a serious and incurable illness, disease, or disability that is in an advanced state of irreversible decline.
- This illness, disease or disability causes intolerable physical or psychological suffering that cannot be relieved by any means that the patient finds acceptable.
- Is capable of providing informed consent throughout the assessment process
- Must be at least 18 years old
- Be eligible for publicly funded health services in Canada i.e., have MSP

What is the process?

- Provide a copy of the Request for MAiD (form 1632) to your patient. This is the **ONLY** way to formally initiate the request for MAiD (see below for forms)
- Two medical assessments are required to complete your patient's request for MAiD. The Assessment Record (Assessor - form 1633) would be completed by a GP or a practitioner already involved in a patient's care, e.g., Oncologist, specialist, etc.
- If you are a GP & have received a Request for MAiD (Form 1632) then an Assessment Record (Assessor- form 1633) is needed, we ask that you complete this form and return it to the MCCC.
- The Assessment Record (Prescriber - form 1634) is completed by a practitioner from our program and is arranged by the MCCC. It is this practitioner who would deliver the provision of MAiD.

What if I object to MAiD?

- If completing an assessment for MAiD is contrary to your moral or religious beliefs, please inquire if there is another practitioner in your practice or program who is able to complete this assessment for your patient. If there is not, refer your patient to MCCC and complete form 1642, Transfer of Request and return to the Ministry of Health.
- Please note, MCCC has limited practitioners to assess patients who are unknown to them for the Assessor report.
- If you are not a conscientious objector to MAiD but you do not wish to complete the assessment because of lack of information about MAiD or limited time, please contact our office so we can best support you in supporting your patient.

Request of MRPs

When you receive a Request for MAiD (form 1632) from your patient or from the MCCC, the request is to complete an Assessment Record (Assessor - form 1633). Please review this form as it relates to your patient and their request for an assisted death.

Many patients (up to 50%) want to have the paperwork in place for MAiD but will not actually proceed with it. It is common for patients to feel reassured and in control as their disease progresses.

Additional resources and forms:

- Ministry of Health, BC for forms and information:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca>
- Fraser Health:
www.fraserhealth.ca
- College of Physicians & Surgeons:
<https://www.cpsbc.ca>
- Canadian Assoc. of MAiD Assessors and Providers:
<http://www.camapcanada.ca>

MAiD Care Coordination Centre:

PH: 604-587-7878 Fax: 604-523-8855
Email: mccc@fraserhealth.ca