

Medical assistance in dying (MAID) in Manitoba

To be eligible for medical assistance in dying, a patient must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be eligible for publicly funded health services in Canada
- Be at least 18 years old and capable of making decisions about their health
- Have a serious and incurable illness, disease or disability
- Be in an advanced state of decline that cannot be reversed
- Be suffering unbearably from the illness, disease, disability or state of decline
- Be at a point where their natural death has become reasonably foreseeable taking into account all of their medical circumstances
- Be aware of all the treatment options available to relieve their suffering, including palliative care
- Have made a voluntary request and have provided informed consent for medical assistance in dying free of any outside pressure or influence

Before a patient is able to have medical assistance in dying, a review must be completed to see if they are eligible. This process is required by law. It also ensures the patient is aware of all available care options and has the information needed to make an informed decision.

The process for determining eligibility for medical assistance in dying in Manitoba generally takes at least two weeks and includes:

- Connecting the patient with the MAID team to speak with a nurse about their medical history and facilitate access to **review their medical records**. The MAID team will review medical records from the primary health care team as well as relevant specialists, diagnostic imaging and lab reports.
- If, based on this review of medical records, the patient is likely to meet the legal criteria and still wants to proceed, the MAID team will arrange for the **two independent physician reviews** required by law. Both physicians must agree the patient meets criteria.
- Completing a **written request** for medical assistance in dying that has been signed by two witnesses. For patients unable to write another adult may sign the request on the patient's behalf.
- There must be **ten (10) clear days** between the day the request is signed and the day medical assistance in dying is provided. For example, if the request is signed on October 1st the earliest the patient could have an assisted death would be October 12th.
- At the time of the **provision** of medical assistance in dying, the patient must be competent and able to provide consent for an assisted death.
- The patient is free to change their mind at any time.

For more information about the process and requirements related to medical assistance in dying, please visit:

www.wrha.mb.ca/maid

Or contact the provincial medical assistance in dying team directly:

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Toll-free: 1-844-891-1825
Email: maid@wrha.mb.ca
Fax: 204-940-8524