

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 (not including mental illness*);
- Be in an advanced state of decline that cannot be reversed;
- Be suffering unbearably from the illness, disease, disability or state of decline;
- 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.

*Note: Federal law indicates that Canadians with **mental illness** as a sole medical condition will NOT be eligible for MAiD until March 2023. There are no exceptions to this law – the Manitoba MAiD team must comply with all requirements and safeguards of the Canadian Criminal Code.

Before a patient can access 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. MAiD is provided **only** to legally eligible patients.

Patients seeking medical assistance in dying should **speak with their health-care provider**. The provincial MAiD team is authorized to work alongside your regular health-care team to provide medical assistance in dying within regional health-care facilities across the province.

The process for determining eligibility for medical assistance in dying **differs** depending on whether or not a patient's natural death is reasonably foreseeable.

Steps required include:

- Connecting the patient with the MAiD team to speak with a nurse about their medical history and arrange to **review their medical records**. The MAiD team may also ask the patient and their health-care providers to complete a **medical questionnaire**.
- If, after review of medical records and/or questionnaire, the patient is likely to meet the legal criteria, the MAiD team will arrange for the **two independent MAiD practitioner reviews** required by law. Both MAiD practitioners must agree the patient meets criteria.
- Completing a **written request** for medical assistance in dying that has been signed by one witness.
- For patients whose natural death is **not** foreseeable, the law requires a minimum **ninety (90) day** assessment period and expert input regarding the cause of the patient's suffering.
- At the time of arranging 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: <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/services/maid/>.

The provincial medical assistance in dying team can also be contacted directly at:

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Toll-free: 1-844-891-1825

Email: maid@sharedhealthmb.ca

Fax: 204-940-8524