

Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD)

In this process, a person can request assistance in dying, and if found eligible, can have a doctor or nurse practitioner help voluntarily end their life. You can request to be assessed for MAiD by calling 1-844-550-5556 or speaking with your care team.

Choosing what is right for you

As you think about and discuss your care options with the people closest to you and your care team, it may be helpful to consider:

- What does quality of life mean to me as I near my end of life?
- How much care will I need as my health declines?
- What kind of support will be helpful?
- What type of environment provides me with comfort and peace of mind?
- What would ease the minds of those close to me?

Talking with your health-care team can help you make the best decision for your care.



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Learn more about end-of-life supports for patients and families on www.vch.ca.

Making the decision that is right for you

End-of-life care before, during and after death.





Understanding end-of-life care

End-of-life care supports clients, their families and caregivers before, during and after death. It focuses on comfort, dignity and quality of life.

Your care team will discuss with you your health-care needs, goals of care and end-of-life care options to ensure you receive the right services and support.

Making a decision about end-of-life care preferences may take time as you reflect on your situation and wishes. Your choice is not final, your team will aim to honour your wishes even if they change.

Where you can receive end-of-life care

Different services may be available to you, your loved ones and caregivers to help you find the right care in the right place.



Personal home

Many people prefer to spend their final days at home surrounded by familiar faces and in a comfortable environment. Care options are available depending on your needs and available services.



Long-term care

Long-term care homes are for people with serious illnesses or declining health who need around the clock support. Care teams are trained to provide all end-of-life care and can call on specialized palliative care services for extra support.



Hospice

Hospice care helps people who are in the final stages of life, focusing on comfort and quality of life. Hospice teams also support spiritual, cultural and emotional needs in a setting that feels calm and home-like.



Hospital

Hospitals specialize in diagnosing and treating illnesses or symptoms. Typically, a hospital stay is short-term, aimed at stabilizing symptoms before transitioning to a more comfortable setting such as at home or in hospice.

Your care team can answer questions, help determine the best care option for you and help with the application process.