

MAiD Newsletter:

July 2023



1. Current Legislation:

- Canada's legislation **Bill C-7** provided a time-limited exclusion for individuals whose sole underlying medical condition is a mental illness, from being eligible for MAiD. This exclusion is delayed until **March 2024** at which time provincial and health authority safeguards and processes will have been established.
 - **At this time, if a mental illness is the principal condition leading someone to seek MAiD, they are not eligible.**

2. MAiD Waitlists:

- Depending on your community, there may be a waiting period for assessments when a person submits a request for MAiD. This is usually due to a lack of physician and nurse practitioner assessors and is exacerbated during the summer months. South Island has an ongoing waitlist (weeks to months for assessment attachment, depending on urgency) but we are starting to see waiting periods in several other communities across the island. If you are involved with someone requesting MAiD, please help manage their expectations by reviewing all other care options, including EOL care options with them. In addition, we encourage patients/families or HCP's to reach out with questions regarding the waitlist.

3. CAMAP Education:

- The Canadian Association for MAiD Assessors & Providers is hosting assessor and provision education sessions (for physicians & nurse practitioners) Sept 23/24th and we are hopeful they will be in Victoria. Please contact Amanda Proznick amanda.proznick@islandhealth.ca for further details or if you would like to be added to the list.

4. Appreciation:

- To everyone who provides support to patients through their MAiD journey and an additional shout out to all the primary care providers & specialists for tackling the ministry MAiD forms and completing non-provision MAiD assessments. We hear how much the patients/families appreciate this support, so thank you all.

End of Life Conversations. Lean In.
We welcome all feedback and any questions, suggestions, or concerns
Please email maid@islandhealth.ca or
Call us at 250-727-4382