

ETHICS AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING (MAiD): FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The following questions are intended to help you and those you work with in the process of reflecting on your positions and needs regarding ethical issues raised by MAiD.

- What is your initial, gut reaction to the prospect of participating in providing MAiD?
- When you reflect on that initial reaction, what are the things that contribute to it? For example, which mentors' positions? Which patients' stories? Which personal experiences with friends, family members, or pets? Which understanding of the way to be a "good" health care provider? What stories do you want to tell to explain or illustrate the reasons for your reaction?
- Surveys indicate that a majority of health care providers support MAiD (70% or higher) but that the number willing to participate in provision is much lower (20-30%). Why do you think that is? What might that tell us about ethically relevant features of MAiD for health care providers?
- What might change your position in a particular case (if anything)?
- When else in your career might you have experienced a difference between what you supported in principle and what you felt capable of doing in practice?
- What sorts of cases do you find most ethically challenging in everyday practice? What is it about those cases that troubles you?
- What do you anticipate might present the most significant challenge for you regarding MAiD?
- How do you address the moral burdens and moral distress that are often associated with everyday health care practice?
- What proactive steps might you take to address the potential for moral distress arising from participation in or conscientious objection to MAiD?