

# Care pathway for medical practitioners not providing assisted dying services

Cultural and spiritual support | Involvement of whānau | Accessible information | Optimisation of end of life care

## Information

- ▶ Ministry of Health website
- ▶ Information in print and accessible formats
- ▶ Ministry of Health Secretariat – 0800 223 852 (also contact for SCENZ Group)
- ▶ eolc@health.govt.nz

## Preparation

- ▶ Assess level of involvement
- ▶ Complete training and review guidance
- ▶ Understand employer's internal policies and procedures
- ▶ Build local connections with service providers and iwi

## Person raises assisted dying

- ▶ **Topic is clearly raised by person seeking assisted dying** (practitioner must not raise)
- ▶ Ask clarifying questions
- ▶ Consider the setting and whether the right time to discuss
- ▶ Involve whānau (with consent)
- ▶ Refer to *Responding when a person raises assisted dying – conversation guide and handbook*

## Responding to the person

### Conscientious objection

- ▶ Advise person of objection
- ▶ Advise person of right to contact the SCENZ Group to get name and contact details of a doctor who is willing provide assisted dying

(minimum legal requirements)

OR

### Lacking skills or experience

- ▶ Advise person of reason for not providing service
- ▶ Connect person to doctor who is willing to provide assisted dying (eg, refer to known AMP or support contacting SCENZ Group)
- ▶ Provide information in appropriate formats

## Continued duty of care

- ▶ Identify remediable concerns
- ▶ Optimise medical management, including symptomatic end of life care, or referrals for palliative, hospice, or other specialist care
- ▶ Optimise psychosocial, cultural and spiritual supports
- ▶ Allow space for further conversations
- ▶ Support whānau wellbeing and engagement
- ▶ Follow employer's internal policies and procedures

End of Life Choice Act 2019 | Professional standards | Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights | Ngā Paerewa | Te Tiriti o Waitangi