



Information about Assisted Dying



Important:

This information is about dying which might be upsetting to read.



Hard words are in **bold** and are explained underneath.

About Assisted Dying:



The Government is talking about making a new law called the **Terminally Ill** (End of life) Bill.



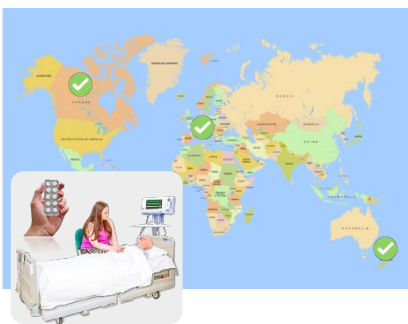
When someone is **terminally ill** it means that they are expected to die of their illness within 6 months.



Assisted dying is where someone who is terminally ill and in a lot of pain, is helped to take some pills that will end their life sooner.






The new law would make assisted dying legal.





Many other countries already allow assisted dying, for example Canada, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand, Spain, Belgium, and Austria.

How would Assisted Dying work in the UK?

 A composite image showing a doctor in a white coat, a judge in a black and purple robe holding a gavel, and a man in a purple sweater thinking. A green checkmark is overlaid on the image.	<p>2 doctors and a judge would have to agree that the patient understands the choice they are making.</p>
 A man in a red jacket holding a blister pack of pills.	<p>The patient would have to take the pills themselves.</p>
 A composite image showing a patient in a hospital bed, a hand holding pills, and a man and woman. A green checkmark is overlaid on the patient, and a red X is overlaid on the hand holding pills.	<p>Someone who is not terminally ill will not be allowed to take those pills.</p>

Is Assisted Dying a good thing?

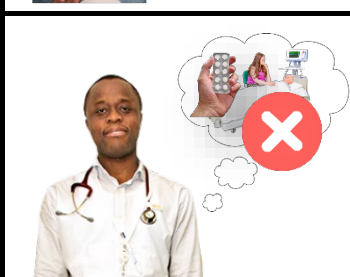
 A woman in a light blue t-shirt looking thoughtful, with a thought bubble above her head.	<p>Assisted dying can help people who are in a lot of pain to choose what happens to them.</p>
 A group of people, including a person in a wheelchair, raising their hands in support.	<p>People who support assisted dying say that everyone has the right to a good death.</p>



But some people are worried because people might feel under pressure to take the assisted dying pills, especially old, vulnerable, and poor people.



Some people believe their religion stops them from helping someone to die.



Some doctors believe their training stops them from helping someone to die.



Some people think that we should have better **end-of-life care** instead.



End-of-life care means the support and care someone has around the time when they are dying.



Some people are worried that in future governments might allow more people to use assisted dying.

In Canada, for example, some people who do not have terminal illnesses can be assisted to die.

What happens next?



MPs agreed that we should work towards making assisted dying legal in the UK.



But there are still lots of things for government to agree before it becomes the law.



The law won't change for people for about 2 years.



Find out more here:

You may like to visit the [Victoria and Stuart project](#) for help on end of life care planning.