

Dear Members of the Special Joint Committee on Physician-Assisted Dying (PAD),

I would like to state my personal thoughts in hope that they will help establish guidelines for PAD.

- In case I develop a terminal illness or dementia, I would like to direct that my life be ended at a point of my choosing. I don't want to live if I am no longer able to communicate or hug members of my family or need very personal hygiene to be carried out by someone other than myself. I don't want to be a tax on society when resources could better spent on helping those with something for which to live.
- Other people have different values, so we should all be able to choose when we want our lives to end.
- There should not be approved conditions for which assisted dying is limited.
- Due to the possibility of becoming incompetent, either mentally or physically, when I had previously been competent, I would like to be able to make an advance request for PAD.
- I would like to be able to choose my method of dying; have it carried out where I would like it to occur (ie: medical or private facility or private home) and not need a physician to carry it out if do not choose to have one.
- **I would like to suggest that “Safe Dying Facilities” be created for those who would prefer to end their lives away from home but are not in a medical facility or hospice.**
- **I would also like to suggest that once approved by a physician, assistance to die be allowed by someone other than a physician.**

Thank you for your consideration to let me end my life as I choose; to not suffer an undignified LIFE or DEATH and to relieve my loved ones, friends and care workers of a tedious, long, drawn out decline into death.

Very sincerely,

Katherine M. Underwood