

DRAFT CPhA Principles on Assisted Dying

Care	Patients should have access to comprehensive end-of-life care, including palliative care.
Liability	Federal legislation should ensure that pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are protected from any criminal liability related to the practice of assisted dying.
Conscience	Freedom of conscience for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians must be respected; pharmacists and pharmacy technicians must not be compelled to participate in assisted dying.
Choice	Patients have the right to receive unbiased information about assisted dying, and how to access end-of-life care.
Access	The federal government should ensure that prescribers and pharmacists have access to the most appropriate drugs in order to provide Canadians with the best possible end-of-life care.
Consent	Pharmacists must have knowledge of the purpose of any prescription intended for use in assisted dying, and have confirmation of the patient's consent.
Collaboration	Prescribing physicians must collaborate with pharmacists in accordance with best practices to facilitate the best possible end-of-life care.
Oversight	A national advisory panel of interdisciplinary health professionals, including pharmacists, should be established to guide the implementation of assisted dying in Canada, and review the practice as it develops.
Support	The federal government should provide health care professionals with appropriate resources to ensure they are equipped to provide end-of-life care, including assisted dying.