

## Letter for Your Health Care Provider

Dear\_\_\_\_

The Elizabeth Whitefield End-of-Life Options Act went into effect on June 18, 2021, authorizing medical aid in dying as an end-of-life option. You may receive patient inquiries about this option and thus might wish to discuss it alongside other end-of-life choices with your patients. Compassion & Choices has worked since 1997 in this evolving field and is here to help you understand this medical option and to help you keep your practice safe, effective, and patient-centered.

We provide a wide range of free resources to support you and your patients, including:

- One-on-one consultations with physicians who have years of end-of-life and medical aid-in-dying experience through our free and confidential **Doc2Doc program: 1-800-247-7421.** All qualified clinicians can utilize this resource.
- <u>*Clinical Criteria for Physician Aid in Dying*</u> and <u>supplemental clinical information</u> published in the Journal of Palliative Medicine (2015).
- Information on our website:
  - <u>https://www.compassionandchoices.org/in-your-state/new-mexico</u> includes medical aid in dying eligibility requirements, information for medical providers, and forms needed to comply with the law;
  - <u>https://www.CompassionAndChoices.org/end-of-life-planning/</u> features tips, toolkits and forms on end-of-life care and choice for individuals seeking information on the full range of end-of-life options, including a video for terminally ill patients wanting to learn more about medical aid in dying.;</u>
  - <u>https://www.CompassionAndChoices.org/resources</u> includes fact sheets on medical aid in dying; and
  - <u>https://endoflifeoptionsnm.org/</u> includes local resources from our partner organization, End of Life Options New Mexico.

If you have a patient requesting medical aid in dying, please contact our Doc2Doc line at <u>1-800-247-7421 so we can provide you with up-to-date information on medication protocols. These</u> protocols are updated and reviewed regularly, and provided free of charge.

In collaboration with End of Life Options NM, Compassion & Choices is committed to assisting in implementing and ensuring access to the law. We are committed to providing support and clinical information for qualified healthcare providers interested in supporting their patients who are eligible and want the option of medical aid in dying.

Please feel free to contact us at any time with questions or concerns. We look forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards,

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Dr. David Grube National Medical Director, Compassion & Choices