

Hamilton Health Sciences Algorithm for Responding to Requests for Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) (January 2017)

Physicians should review the following references:

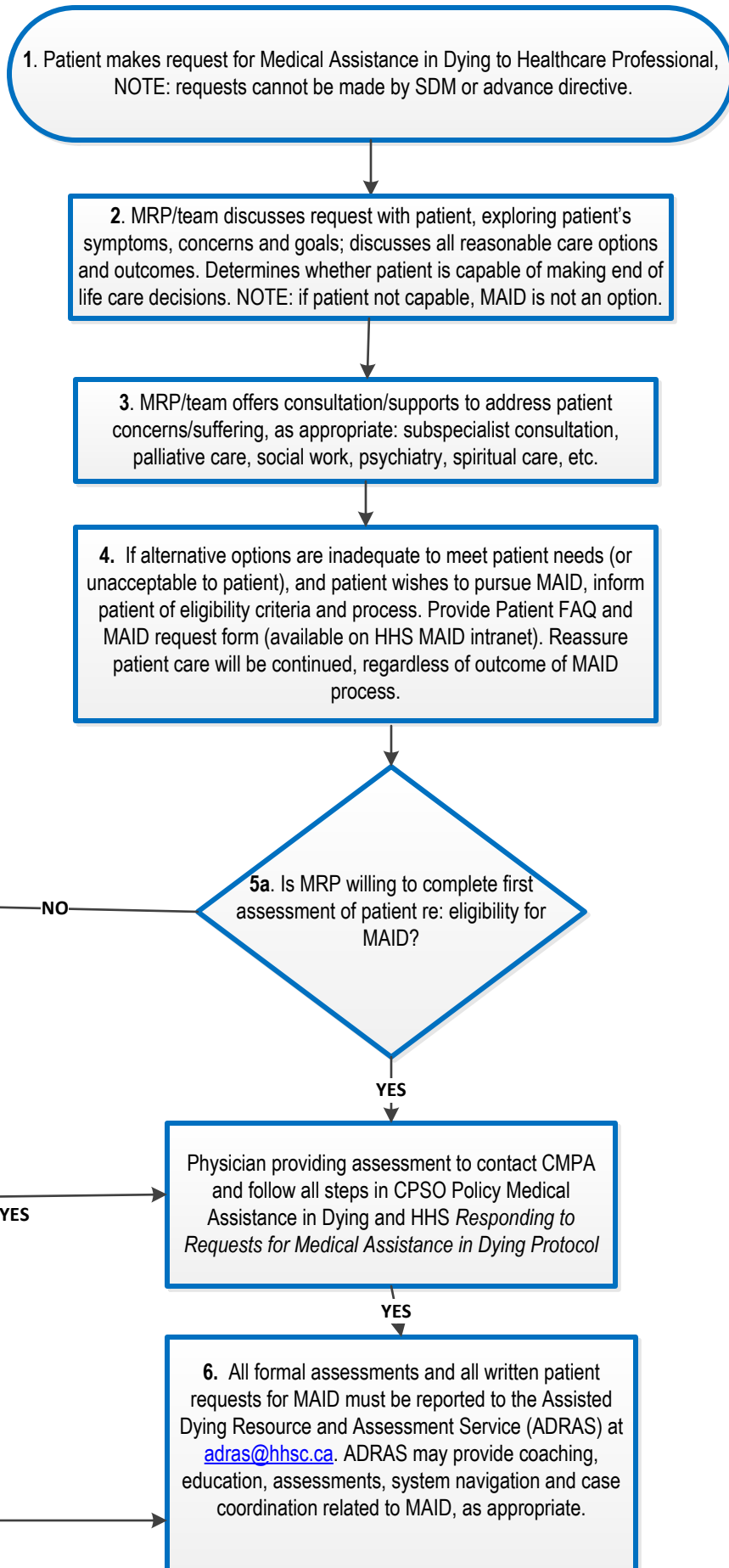
CPSO Policy Medical Assistance in Dying (June 2016) www.cpso.on.ca

HHS *Responding To Requests For Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) Protocol*

All steps should be documented in the patient's health record.

The Assisted Dying Resource and Assessment Service (ADRAS) may be contacted by any member of the healthcare team for coaching/support related to MAID. Referrals for formal assessment are only accepted from the patient's MRP. ADRAS can support MAID requests from HHS inpatients and outpatients. Referrals/inquiries should be directed to adras@hhsc.ca. Response provided within 1 business day.

Visit the Medical Assistance in Dying HHS intranet site for more information



1. Patient makes request for Medical Assistance in Dying to Healthcare Professional, NOTE: requests cannot be made by SDM or advance directive.

2. MRP/team discusses request with patient, exploring patient's symptoms, concerns and goals; discusses all reasonable care options and outcomes. Determines whether patient is capable of making end of life care decisions. NOTE: if patient not capable, MAID is not an option.

3. MRP/team offers consultation/supports to address patient concerns/suffering, as appropriate: subspecialist consultation, palliative care, social work, psychiatry, spiritual care, etc.

4. If alternative options are inadequate to meet patient needs (or unacceptable to patient), and patient wishes to pursue MAID, inform patient of eligibility criteria and process. Provide Patient FAQ and MAID request form (available on HHS MAID intranet). Reassure patient care will be continued, regardless of outcome of MAID process.

5a. Is MRP willing to complete first assessment of patient re: eligibility for MAID?

5b. MRP informs patient (sensitively and without judgment) that he/she is unwilling to provide formal assessment. MRP has obligation to attempt to refer to a willing provider, and to not impede access to MAID.

5c. Contact other physicians/NPs in the patient's circle of care (including family physician). Is another physician/NP in the circle of care willing to complete assessment of patient?

Physician providing assessment to contact CMPA and follow all steps in CPSO Policy Medical Assistance in Dying and HHS *Responding to Requests for Medical Assistance in Dying Protocol*

6. All formal assessments and all written patient requests for MAID must be reported to the Assisted Dying Resource and Assessment Service (ADRAS) at adras@hhsc.ca. ADRAS may provide coaching, education, assessments, system navigation and case coordination related to MAID, as appropriate.