

Interview themes and questions

- I. Participant background information
 1. Age
 2. Gender
 3. Professional background (palliative care, assisted dying, role and presence in palliative care)
 4. Nationality
- II. Experience in palliative care and/or assisted dying (depending on location may use the term hospice instead of palliative care. Clarify and use the assisted dying term used by the informant)
 1. What is your particular interest or experience in this subject (as described in the Participant Information Sheet)?
 2. What is the term used to describe assisted dying?
 3. Can you tell me something about your place of work?
 4. How long have you been involved in palliative care or in this work with assisted dying?
 5. What direct experiences have you had with (replace with term used by participant)—assisted dying and palliative care?
- III. Relationship of palliative care with assisted dying
 1. What is the policy about palliative care (or hospice) and/or assisted dying in your area of work? Has this policy changed? If so, how has it changed? What might have influenced the change?
 2. What were your views about assisted dying prior to the legalisation in Flanders/Quebec/Oregon? Can you say something about your views prior to the change in the law?
 3. What do you sense the mood is (about assisted dying/palliative care). Where are the debates? (If you were to characterise the mood in _____ what are the issues)?
 4. If involved in advocacy about assisted dying, what were your views about or experience with palliative care? Have your views changed? If so, how have they changed?
 5. What changes have you seen in palliative care practise since the law was passed or since you have been involved in this issue?
 6. Can you give an example of this experience (removing details that would identify patient)?
- IV. Broader cultural differences, location specific issues
 1. Is there something about this location at would be good to know about?
 2. Do you think there are specific professional groups or disciplines within palliative care that influence the choice to seek assisted dying in particular ways?
 3. Which lobby/professional groups or disciplines have greatest influence on the practice of assisted dying here and why do you think this is the case?
- V. Outcomes of assisted dying legislation and impact on palliative care practice
 1. To what extent is assisted dying offered as a part of palliative care services?
 2. Do you come into contact with professionals offering the other service (palliative care or assisted dying—if participant only involved with one aspect)?
 3. How has assisted dying impacted your relationships with patients, family members, friends, and other colleagues
 4. Are there any specific issues or challenges regarding offering assisted dying as a part of palliative care?
 5. What are the main issues you see in offering assisted dying as an option in palliative care?
 6. Do you have any concerns about any aspects of the assisted dying law in your location (Quebec, Oregon, Flanders)? What are they?
 7. What are the main things that have changed in palliative care practices, if this is your area of expertise, as a result of the law being passed?
- VI. Rationale for integrating or rejecting assisted dying as a part of palliative care
 1. What have you learned or can be learned from your experiences/knowledge of the relationship between palliative care and offering assisted dying?