

APPENDIX 1

MEDICAL STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE ON ASSISTED DYING

I would appreciate it so much if you could fill out this *anonymous and confidential* questionnaire on assisted dying. It is part of my 5th year SSM. It should not take you too long. If you have any questions or comments, please email me (XXX). Thank you very much for your time.

Age:

Sex:

MBBS Year:

Are you a graduate? *(Please circle as appropriate)* YES NO

Religious Belief: *(Please circle as appropriate)* Theist (i.e. believe in a god)
Atheist (i.e. do not believe in a god)
Agnostic (i.e. do not know)
None of above

Religious Heritage: *(Please tick as appropriate)* Christian
i.e. if you come from a religious family/background Hindu
Jewish
Muslim
Other
None

Please read the following scenario:

Mrs X is a 36 year old lady with two young children, who suffers from motor neuron disease. Her breathing deteriorated to the point where she needed permanent ventilation. She has had a PEG fitted for feeding, as she had increased difficulty swallowing. She cannot move her arms or legs and she can no longer speak. She has little use of her fingers and uses a small computer to communicate. She has a living will requesting no heroic measures.

Please read the following additions to the scenario. Do you agree or disagree with the doctor's actions?

For the purposes of this questionnaire, please assume that the following situations are all legally possible and permissible.

1. Mrs X is medically well. She is deemed competent. She wishes for the ventilator to be withdrawn. The consulting physician switches off the ventilator.

Do you agree with this action?

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Questionnaire continues overleaf.....

2. Mrs X is medically well. She is deemed competent. She wishes to die. She asks her consulting physician to help her die. The physician agrees to assist death by personally, slowly, increasing her morphine dose.

Do you agree with this action?

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Mrs X develops a chest infection. She falls into septic shock and eventually into a coma. The doctors on ICU agree that she is brain dead and consult the family to switch off the ventilator. The consulting physician switches off the ventilator.

Do you agree with this action?

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Mrs X is medically well. She is deemed competent. She wishes to die. She asks her consulting physician to help her die. The physician agrees to assist death personally administering a lethal injection of potassium chloride.

Do you agree with this action?

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Mrs X is medically well. She has severe cognitive impairment as a result of her disease. She wishes for the ventilator to be withdrawn. The consulting physician switches off the ventilator.

Do you agree with this action?

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Do you think you, as a doctor, could administer a lethal injection (e.g. Potassium Chloride) to a competent patient, like Mrs X, who wishes to die? (Please again assume that such an action is legal.)

Yes **No**

Thank you for your time!