

Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board

EMALB 2019-01 Medical Assistance in Dying MAiD Responsible Branch: Emergency Medical Assistants (EMA) Licensing Branch Contact: Clinical Advisor clinicaladvisor@gov.bc.ca	Reference Information (Manual, page number, chapter):
	Replaces former policy: N/A
	Date Effective: June 19, 2019
	Last Update: March 1, 2023
	Next Review Date: January 2025
Keywords	E.g. examinations, regulation, licensure etc.

1. Policy Rationale & Purpose:

The federal government amended the Criminal Code and passed Bill C-14 in June 2016, providing legal protection for persons who aid physicians and nurses who provide services for medical assistance in dying (MAiD).

Under the *Emergency Health Services Act*, the Emergency Medical Assistants (EMA) Licensing Board is responsible for examining, registering, and licensing all EMAs in British Columbia. The Board, under the authority of the *Emergency Health Services Act*, sets licence terms and conditions.

2. Policy Scope

This policy applies to all qualified EMAs that are licensed or endorsed to initiate intravenous lines.

3. Policy Statement:

A qualified EMA may initiate an intravenous line that has been ordered by a physician or nurse practitioner for MAiD.

An EMA may not administer medication for MAiD in any circumstance.

4. Legal Authority:

- [Emergency Health Services Act](#)
- [Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation](#)

5. Key Stakeholders:

- British Columbia Emergency Health Services Corporation (BCEHS)

6. Definitions:

Medical assistance in dying is defined as:

- a) the administering by a medical practitioner or nurse practitioner of a substance to a person, at their request, that causes their death; or
- b) b) the prescribing or providing by a medical practitioner or nurse practitioner of a substance to a person, at their request, so that they may self-administer the substance and in doing so cause their death.

Bill C-14 defines a medical practitioner as a person who is entitled to practice medicine under the laws of the province (e.g., physician).

7. Resources:

- [Bill C-14](#)

Reviewed by the EMA Licensing Board on: June 18, 2018

Approved: Amanda Saville, Director



Date approved: June 18, 2019

Drafted by: Kim Fiege

Change Index

Date	Author	Details
2023-03-01	Sam Creamer	Added links to legal authority
2023-11-03	Screamer	Policy reviewed, no changes