

Submission into the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Submission No.: 36
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Position: I/We support the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill
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Submitter Comments:

My first partner had a 10 year illness, the last 2 years were hell and his final 2 weeks not knowing me. He was brain dead but his heart would not stop, so I was administering 6 drops of water in his mouth every 15 minutes and applying moisture cream to his lips. He was connected to a syringe driver for morphine but that never stopped him being restless. I was so lucky to have a team of 10 volunteers who were there and night.

My second partner died after 4 months of being dragonised with throat cancer, Allan could not eat or swallow so I administered his food by a tube in his stomach. The last week of his life was extremely painful and difficult, I had the help of a Palliative Care Nurse from PA Hospital and on the second last day of his life we could not stop the burning pain in his throat. Allan was transferred to QE11 Hospital and died the next day, he drowned in his own blood.

Both my partners would have had DYD in the later stages of their illness to dye with dignity and not to have suffered severe pain and complications with their illness.