

**Submission into the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021**

**Submission No.:** 202  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name  
**Position:** I/We support the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill  
**Comments in relation to:** Eligibility criteria\* ,The request and assessment process  
**Attachments:** No attachment

**Submitter Comments:**

With a family history of motor neurone disease and having recently undergone genetic testing for the disease I am in full support of the Assisted Dying Bill. In regards to the eligibility criteria and the request and assessment process my biggest concerns are when a disease is deemed eligible and the length of time the assessment process would take. For example my grandmother was diagnosed and progressed to no form of communication within 6 months and then passed away a few months later, the diagnosis of my mother took over 6 months and she then was losing the ability to communicate and walk. She then passed away from dehydration in a nursing home ill equipped to deal with a disease like MND some 6 months later. If I should receive a positive result for my genetic testing and then develop MND I do not wish to wait for 2 specialists to confirm I am going to die (it is a given as MND is terminal with no chance of cure or remission) and while waiting find I can no longer express MY wishes and then end up die gasping for breath, choking or suffering the effects of dehydration. I understand the requirements of safeguards but for diseases that progress as quickly as MND and leave someone physically unable to communicate it leaves someone like me scared and unable to plan for a death free from all all the pain and anxiety my mother, grandmother, great aunt, great grandmother and great great grandmother went through.