

*Appendix 1 to Morten Magelssen, Berit H. Bringedal, Karin Isaksson Rø, Helene Seljenes Dalum. Attitudes to assisted dying among doctors in Norway. Journal of the Norwegian Medical Association 2025; 145. doi: 10.4045/tidsskr.25.0053.*

*This appendix is a supplement to the article and has not been subject to editorial processing.*

**Appendix:** *The panel of doctors and representativeness*

The Institute for Studies of the Medical Profession maintains a representative panel by regularly supplementing it (before every second mailing) with a random sample of newly qualified or recently licensed doctors to replace those who have left the panel due to, for example, retirement. This has kept the panel fairly representative of doctors in Norway in terms of sex, age and job categories. Following the introduction of the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), all participants were required to renew their consent to take part in the panel, resulting in a considerable loss of participants. The Institute for Studies of the Medical Profession therefore invited a random sample of doctors under the age of 70 to replace these panel members. This has resulted in a skewed representation in terms of sex and age, as shown in Table 1.

## D2 Attitudes to assisted dying

Assisted dying is a current topic of public debate. We have previously examined doctors' attitudes to the legalisation of assisted dying and now wish to know what doctors currently think about this issue.

### Definitions:

**Assisted dying** is a collective term for physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia.

**Physician-assisted suicide** refers to a doctor helping a person to end their life by prescribing a lethal drug that the person takes themselves.

**Euthanasia** refers to a doctor intentionally causing a person's death by administering a lethal drug at the patient's request.

**Non-treatment decisions** refers to withholding or withdrawing treatment in seriously ill patients. This is not classified as assisted dying.

Assisted dying is permitted in some European countries, but in Norway, both forms of assisted dying are illegal.

### Attitudes to assisted dying

D2	Take a stance on these statements:	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
D2.1	Physician-assisted suicide should be permitted for terminally ill patients with a short life expectancy					
D2.2	Euthanasia should be permitted for terminally ill patients with a short life expectancy					
D2.3	Assisted dying (i.e. both physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia) should be permitted for patients with an incurable non-terminal chronic illness					
D2.4	Assisted dying solely due to an incurable mental illness should be permitted					
D2.5	Assisted dying should be permitted for persons who are tired of life and want to die but do not have a serious illness					

### Willingness to carry out assisted dying and attitudes to the right to decline (conscientious objection)

D3	Take a stance on these statements and questions:	Yes	No	Don't know
D3.1	If physician-assisted suicide is legalised, I may be willing to aid this (i.e. by prescribing a lethal drug that the patient takes themselves)			
D3.2	If euthanasia is legalised, I may be willing to carry it out			
D3.3	If assisted dying is legalised, doctors should have the right to decline (conscientious objection)			
D3.4	Has a patient ever asked you to carry out assisted dying?			
D3.5	Have you ever carried out physician-assisted suicide? (i.e. aided suicide by prescribing a lethal drug that the patient takes themselves)			
D3.6	Have you ever carried out euthanasia? (i.e. intentionally caused a person's death by administering a lethal drug at the patient's request)			
D3.7	Have you ever intentionally cause a person's death by administering a lethal drug <i>without</i> the person requesting this?			

D4	Take a stance on these statements:	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
D4.1	I can be open to assisted dying being permitted in Norway if doctors do not have responsibility for carrying it out					