



Understanding California's End of Life Option Act (EOLA / SB-128)

Patient & Family Information Handout

What is the End of Life Option Act?

The California End of Life Option Act allows a terminally ill adult (with a prognosis of six months or less) to request and obtain medication to end their life in a peaceful manner. Patients must be capable of making their own medical decisions and must self-administer the medication.

Aevum Hospice's Role

- **Support, Not Participation:** Aevum Hospice provides physical, emotional, and spiritual support throughout your end-of-life journey.
- **No Direct Involvement:** Aevum Hospice staff and Medical Directors do **not** prescribe, order, or administer End of Life medications.
- **Your Care Continues:** Choosing this option will not change your access to hospice care, comfort-focused treatment, or family support.
- **Respect for Choice:** We honor your right to explore this option and will provide information and referrals as appropriate.

Steps if You Are Considering This Option

1. **Talk to Your Doctor**
Your attending physician is the first point of contact. They can explain whether you qualify and outline the legal steps.
2. **Request Information**
Ask your Aevum Hospice nurse or social worker for a copy of:
 - The California End of Life Option Act text
 - Aevum Hospice's Position Statement
 - California Department of Public Health (CDPH) forms/checklist
3. **Get Support**
 - Your hospice care team can help address physical symptoms, emotional distress, and spiritual concerns.

- If you have questions about motivations (such as pain, anxiety, or fear), your team will reassess your care plan to ensure your comfort.

Important Things to Know

- **Self-Administration Required:** Only you, the patient, may take the medication. Staff cannot assist in preparing or administering it.
- **Presence at Time of Ingestion:** Hospice staff may be present only if another non-agency adult (family or friend) is with you. If no other person is available, staff must step out during ingestion.
- **Death Certificate:** The underlying illness will be listed as the cause of death, and the manner of death will be documented as *natural*.

Resources

- **California Department of Public Health (CDPH)**
[End of Life Option Act Forms & Guidance](#)

Aevum Hospice Contact

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