



What is an Advanced Consent Arrangement?

Advanced Consent Arrangement (ACA) is a written arrangement between the person requesting MAID (the patient) and the MAID Physician or Nurse Practitioner (provider) who will give them Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID). The law requires the patient to give consent immediately before receiving MAID. The ACA allows the patient to agree in advance to receive the medications in the event they are unable to give consent at the time.

Who can give me MAID?

If you have lost your ability to consent at the time of MAID and an ACA is to be used, **MAID can only be given by the Doctor or Nurse Practitioner who has assessed you and has entered into the agreement with you.** That is why you may have an ACA in place with more than one practitioner who assessed you. It is **very important to let the program know if your condition is deteriorating or you are admitted to the hospital** so that we can communicate with that practitioner.

How do I know if I can have an ACA?

There are only specific situations and conditions where an ACA can be put in place.

- You must have a reasonably foreseeable death (your condition is expected to shorten your natural life). Both assessors must agree that you fall into this category. You may ask if an ACA applies to your situation but only the assessors can make the decision.
- You must meet all the legislative requirements and safeguards and be eligible for MAID.
- You must be considering a date for MAID and/or be at risk of losing your ability to give consent on or before the date, you have chosen for provision of MAID. In Saskatchewan, the latest date you can choose is 90 days from signing the arrangement. This can be renewed once if both you and the provider agree. This date must be entered at the time the arrangement is signed.
- You must be capable of giving consent to receive MAID, at the time this arrangement is completed. Please note that, although the practitioner may have the best intentions, there may be events out of their control that may create the need to adjust dates and times inside of the specified MAID date.

What if I need MAID before the date on the arrangement?

It is important to have a discussion with the assessor/provider and your close contact regarding:

- What you would like to do should you lose capacity prior to the agreed upon date.
- Which family member or close contact will let the Provincial MAID Program or the assessor know if your health is declining or you want to have MAID on or sooner than the date on the form.

What if I cannot sign?

A designate can sign for you but only if you ask them to and it is done in front of you. They must be 18 years of age, must understand your request for MAID and must not know or believe that they are a beneficiary in any way from your death.

