

Candidate 4 evidence

ENTER NUMBER OF QUESTION	DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN
5.	<p>End of life decisions can involve a patient choosing what course of action they believe is best for them when they're coming to the end of their life. Some of the options they may have include going through end of life care such as palliative care or even euthanasia. Decisions that are made coming towards the end of a patients life are important because ultimately they deal with the issue of life and death which is extremely personal to a patient.</p> <p>One decision a patient may come to near the end of their life is to go through end of life care. This is specialised care that will help a patient come to terms with the concept of death which may be imminent. Palliative care is a form of end of life care. Palliative care aims to provide spiritual, physical and emotional care for patients</p>

ENTER NUMBER OF QUESTION	DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN
	<p>nearing the end of their life. If carried out effectively, palliative care can prevent a patient asking for euthanasia. The National Council for Palliative Care stated 'the aim of palliative care is to provide support for patients who are nearing the end of their life and their family.' I believe one strength of the National Council's view is that they not only provide care for the patient but also the patient's family. They can do this through providing bereavement support for the family. I believe this would be advantageous for both the patient and their family as both parties will be able to be on the same page and understand what each other are going through.</p> <p>Another aspect of palliative care that I believe has strength is that it is a 'holistic' approach in that it cares for all aspects of a person and not just their illness, which</p>

ENTER
NUMBER
OF
QUESTIONDO NOT
WRITE IN
THIS
MARGIN

It can be claimed euthanasia is guilty of. As a result, patients may feel that through palliative care they can truly appreciate and understand themselves as a person, which I believe to be particularly important.

When dealing with decisions to be made nearing the end of a person's life, I believe that it's particularly important that patients have the option to go through palliative care if they wish to do so. The Church of Scotland agrees with my view to a large extent as they stated that 'palliative care should be widely available to all'. This shows that they believe palliative care is a worthwhile process for a patient to go through and that it should be available to anyone no matter their age, ~~sex~~ or condition. I believe the Church of Scotland's stance on palliative care has strength as they believe that everybody

ENTER NUMBER OF QUESTION	DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN
	should at least have the chance to cure their suffering through cure before resorting to euthanasia and essentially what they would describe as killing.
	However, some people suffering from incurable conditions may feel that palliative care is not the right option for them and instead they would want to end their suffering through euthanasia.
	Euthanasia is derived from the Greek word 'euthantos' which means killing of another the killing of another but the definition has evolved over time to 'the deliberate ending of a human life in order to relieve suffering' as stated by the NHS. Euthanasia is currently not permitted in the UK. However, the euthanasia does not have any special legal position in the UK as instances that we would describe as euthanasia come under murder or manslaughter. However, under the 'Suicide 1961 Act' assisted dying is not

ENTER NUMBER OF QUESTION	DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN
	<p>may feel that they have nothing to live for as they are simply living to exist and are not thriving. I believe that one strength of the Campaign for Dying in Dignity's view is that it would allow those who are suffering from immense pain to be free from it. It would also allow those that are not have medical palliative care but it didn't work, to have a final solution to end end their pain. However, I believe that one weakness of this view is that it wouldn't allow those with terminal illnesses with over a year to live to go through euthanasia when it can be argued that those people would want it the most as they will have longer to suffer. Despite this, I believe that we will never know for sure when a patient will die, they may exceed or not exceed their predicted life expectancy. Medical staff are human too and may make mistakes. Overall, I believe that euthanasia</p>

ENTER NUMBER OF QUESTION	DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN
	<p>should be available for those who have seen a decrease in their quality of life and have already had palliative care. Therefore, I believe that the Campaign for Dying with Dignity's response is justifiable to a fairly large extent.</p>
	<p>On the other side of the argument, Christians would claim that killing through euthanasia should not be an option in end of life decisions as they believe in the sanctity of life argument. The Sanctity of life argument suggests that there is something special or holy about human life and therefore it should be preserved and not destroyed by euthanasia. Christians believe that all life is God-given, this means that God picks and chooses when a person will be born and will die. This is shown through Ecclesiastes 3:1-3 'there is a time</p>

ENTER NUMBER OF QUESTION	DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN
	<p>for everything. There is a time to be born and there is a time to die.' This suggests that God has a plan for everybody's life and we must respect that by not ending a life prematurely through euthanasia. Catholics, in particular, would believe that no human being has the authority to intervene in God's natural process of life and death. This was further shown by Pope John Paul II who stated 'euthanasia is the grave violation of God's law as it is the deliberate and immoral killing of a human person. This shows that Catholics would believe euthanasia is unacceptable to a large extent and would believe that end of life decisions should not involve euthanasia as that requires taking a life, that God didn't plan. Instead, they would believe end of life decisions should be based on care to a large extent as they see life as a gift</p>

ENTER NUMBER OF QUESTION	DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN
	<p>from God. At least</p> <p>Overall, although I disagree ^{believe} with the Christian view has strength as they I believe it's beneficial that they value life so highly as I do, believe that life is special.</p> <p>However, I disagree with the Catholic view as I don't believe there is anything special about living a life full of suffering. Therefore, I believe ^{agree} that with most of the non-religious views from the Campaign of for living with dignity that euthanasia should be an option. But I believe that this should be an option for those who have already had palliative care and saw no positive results from it. However, I believe the euthanasia that should be permitted is only voluntary euthanasia where it is clear that it's what the patient wants and that there has been no coercion involved. I believe that the patient must</p>

ENTER NUMBER OF QUESTION	DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN
	<p>be competent; they understand their condition fully and the risks or benefits of the decisions they make.</p> <p>Overall, I believe end of life decisions should be based on care, not killing to a point of fairly large extent as I believe that the end of life decision of euthanasia can also in some cases be seen as caring for the patient as it would allow them to be free from their suffering. I believe it can also be seen as caring for the patient if the the decision to have euthanasia was what the patient wanted, as the medical staff and family of the patient will be caring for the patient by following through with their wishes and not forcing them to live a life of continuous pain. I believe that end of life decisions are extremely personal and should be based on whatever the patient feels is best for themselves.</p>