

Note: this is an English translation of a Dutch validated questionnaire to inform the reader. The English version has not been validated.

After death questionnaire to be filled in by treating pulmonologist or oncologist and general practitioner of the patient

Note: only one answer on every question is possible, unless it is otherwise indicated.

In general

1. How often on average did you meet the patient (consultations, house calls, not taking into account contact by telephone)?

Last week before death	2nd until 4th week before death	2nd and 3th month before death
... times a week	... times a week	...times a month

2. How many days did the patient stay in your work setting in the last week before death?
 - _____ days (out of seven)
 - did never stay in the last week in my work setting

Performance status of the patient in the last week before death

3. What was the performance status of the patient?

0	Fully active, able to carry on all pre-disease performance without restriction
1	Restricted in physically strenuous activity but ambulatory and able to carry out work of a light or sedentary nature, e.g., light house work, office work
2	Ambulatory and capable of all selfcare but unable to carry out any work activities. Up and about more than 50% of waking hours
3	Capable of only limited selfcare, confined to bed or chair more than 50% of waking hours
4	Completely disabled. Cannot carry on any selfcare. Totally confined to bed or chair

Death of patient

4. Would you like to indicate on a scale from 0 to 10 how you evaluate the death of the patient?

Bad	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Good
-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	------

5. Was the death suddenly and totally unexpected?
 - yes
 - no

Wish/request of patient

6. Has the patient, as far as you know, ever expressed a wish for you to prescribe, supply or administer drugs with the explicit intention of hastening death, shortening or ending life, or allow the patient to end his/her own life?
- no, the patient had not expressed a wish → go to question 8
 - yes, the patient had expressed a wish for a physician to administer drugs with the explicit intention of hastening death, shortening or ending life → go to question 7
 - yes, the patient had expressed a wish for a physician to prescribe or supply drugs to end his/her own life → go to question 7
7. To what degree was an explicit and repeated request made the last time the wish was discussed?
- to a very strong degree
 - to a strong degree
 - to a minor degree
 - do not know

Room for comments:

Medical decisions with a possible life-shortening effect

8. Did you or a colleague physician perform one or more of the following acts (or did you let these acts be performed), knowing that this act could hasten death?
- a. Not starting or stopping a treatment*?
- yes
 - no
- b. Intensifying pain and/or symptom control by use of drugs?
- yes ⇒ go to question 9
 - no ⇒ go to question 10
- * in this research, 'treatment' includes artificial food and/or fluid
9. Was hastening of death co-intended, looking at the act as described in question 8b?
- yes
 - no
10. Was death the consequence of one or more of the following acts that you or a colleague physician decided to perform with the explicit intention of hastening death*?
- a. Not starting or stopping a treatment **?
- yes
 - no

* 'To hasten death or not prolong life'

** in this research 'treatment' includes artificial food and/or fluid

11. Was the death of the patient the consequence of the use of a drug that was prescribed, supplied or administered by you or a colleague physician with the explicit intention of hastening death (or allow the patient to end his or her life)?

a.

- yes
- no

b. If yes, who administered the drug (introduced the drug into the body)?

(Check as many answers as applicable)

- the patient
- you or another physician
- nursing staff
- someone else

Other

12. Was the patient kept continuously asleep with high doses of sedatives (e.g. benzodiazepines or barbiturates)?

- yes, and artificial food or fluid were not administered
- yes, and artificial food or fluid were administered
- no