

**END OF LIFE OPTION ACT**  
**Policy No. H:9-031**  
**California Only**

**PURPOSE**

To provide guidelines for the End of Life Option Act and its utilization by patients of Suncrest Hospice

**POLICY**

Suncrest Hospice is committed to providing high quality, interdisciplinary hospice care for all eligible patients, including those who wish to obtain an aid-in-dying drug in the state of California (pursuant to CA Health Safety Code (HSC) Division 1, Part 1.85, End of Life Option Act 443 – 443.22).

**PROCEDURE**

1. Suncrest Hospice is not legally required to prescribe, administer, and/or participate in the End of Life Option Act.
2. Suncrest Hospice does not prolong nor hasten death.
3. Suncrest Hospice will neither prescribe nor administer drugs with the intent of ending a patient's life.
4. If a patient, or his/her legal representative, requests information regarding the End of Life Option Act, Suncrest Hospice will:
  - a. Provide basic information about the End of Life Option Act; and,
  - b. If requested, provide the patient, or his/her legal representative, with a referral to the appropriate health care provider.
5. If a patient, or his/her legal representative, elects the End of Life Option, the patient, or his/her legal representative, will:
  - a. Contact an End of Life Option Act health care provider;
  - b. Make all arrangements with the End of Life Option Act health care provider; and,
  - c. Pay for all services provided by the End of Life Option Act health care provider.
6. Suncrest Hospice will continue to support the patient and his/her family.
7. Suncrest Hospice will not discharge patients who request End of Life Option Act services.

8. Suncrest Hospice staff or volunteers will not be present at the time that a patient ingests an aid-in-dying drug.
9. Suncrest Hospice will provide bereavement support to the identified survivors after the patient's death.
10. Per the End of Life Option Act, all new California employees and contracted staff will be made aware of this policy upon hire.
11. This policy will be posted on Suncrest Hospice's internet website for public access. In posting the policy, it will also serve as the annual notice requirement.

Resources:

Full End of Life Option Act Statute:

[https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=HSC&division=1.&title=&part=1.85.&chapter=&article=](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=HSC&division=1.&title=&part=1.85.&chapter=&article=)

Coalition for Compassionate Care of California: <https://coalitionccc.org/>

California Department of Public Health

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHSI/Pages/End-of-Life-Option-Act.aspx>