

MEMBERS' RIGHT OF CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION TO MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING (MAID)

Speech language pathologists and audiologists are not directly involved in medical assistance in dying (MAID). However, they might be asked to assist a physician, nurse practitioner or organization in the following areas:

- Overcoming a communication barrier
- Providing information to maximize hearing
- Providing information regarding swallowing function
- Being part of an interdisciplinary team to develop policies for MAID
- Coordinating MAID services

The College acknowledges that members may have conscientious objections to participating in MAID. Conscientious objection may arise from religious, spiritual, philosophical and/or moral values. Members are not required to participate in MAID if they conscientiously object to the process.

However, the member must make all reasonable attempts to refer the patient to another non-objecting SLP or audiologist or direct the patient to MAID services and resources.

Also, the member must respect the patient's autonomy and treat the patient with dignity regardless of the member's personal beliefs and values. Finally, the member is expected to continue to provide SLP or audiology intervention until such time as care can be transferred to a non-objecting member.