

## **Death With Dignity: Supporting Patient needs at the End of Life**

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Passage of Maine's Death with Dignity law in 2019 allows interested terminally ill people a legal avenue to work with their medical providers to gain access to medication to end their lives. The law has been somewhat controversial with some professionals and family members.

Medical and behavioral health providers and their organizations face a number of ethical dilemmas as they move to implement the law in their practices. This training will review the law and the steps to carrying out the law with patients. It will address the differences and the overlap with suicide and it will also offer an opportunity to explore the values clarification needed and the ethical challenges faced by patients, their families, healthcare professionals and organizations in end-of-life care.

### Learning Objectives:

- Develop an understanding of the elements of Maine's Death with Dignity law and application in healthcare settings.
- Develop an appreciation of the ethical dilemmas inherent in suicide intervention and management across all care settings.
- Address the complex ethical issues arising from implementation of the Death with Dignity Act.

*The Maine Medical Education Trust designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.*

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