



WMA Declaration on Euthanasia

***Adopted by the 39th World Medical Assembly, Madrid, Spain, October 1987
and reaffirmed by the 170th WMA Council Session, Divonne-les-Bains,
France, May 2005***

Euthanasia, that is the act of deliberately ending the life of a patient, even at the patient's own request or at the request of close relatives, is unethical. This does not prevent the physician from respecting the desire of a patient to allow the natural process of death to follow its course in the terminal phase of sickness.

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