

You are going to read a newspaper article about euthanasia. Nine sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences from A-J the one which fits each gap 1-9. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

What is euthanasia?

Euthanasia refers to deliberately ending someone's life, usually to relieve suffering. Doctors sometimes perform euthanasia when it's requested by people who have a terminal illness and are in a lot of pain. It's a complex process and involves weighing many factors. 1. _____

Are there different types?

There are several types of euthanasia. What's chosen depends on a variety of factors, including someone's outlook and level of consciousness.

Assisted suicide vs. euthanasia

Assisted suicide is sometimes called physician-assisted suicide (PAS). PAS means a doctor knowingly helps someone end their life. This person is likely experiencing persistent and unending suffering. They may have also received a terminally ill diagnosis. Their doctor will determine the most effective, painless method. In many cases, doctors will provide people with a drug they can take to end their life. A 2. _____ With euthanasia, a doctor is allowed to end the person's life by painless means. For example, an injection of a lethal drug may be used.

Active vs. passive

When most people think of euthanasia, they think of a doctor directly ending someone's life. This is known as active euthanasia. 3. _____

Passive euthanasia is sometimes described as withholding or limiting life-sustaining treatments so that a person passes more quickly. A doctor may also prescribe increasingly high doses of pain-killing medication. Overtime, the doses may become toxic. 4. _____ Palliative care focuses on keeping people as comfortable as possible at the end of their life.

Voluntary vs. nonvoluntary

If someone makes a conscious decision to seek help with ending their life, it's considered voluntary euthanasia. 5. _____:

Nonvoluntary euthanasia involves someone else making the decision to end someone's life. 6. _____ This is generally done when someone is completely unconscious or permanently incapacitated. It usually involves passive euthanasia, such as withdrawing life support from someone who's showing no signs of brain activity.

Is euthanasia legal?

People have debated over the ethics and legality of euthanasia and PAS for centuries. Today, laws about euthanasia and PAS are different across states and countries.

Morality and religion

Some people believe euthanasia is murder and find it unacceptable for moral reasons.

7. _____ In addition, many churches, religious groups, and faith organizations argue against euthanasia for similar reasons.

Physician judgement

PAS is only legal if someone is mentally capable of making the choice. However, determining someone's mental capabilities isn't very straightforward. One study found that doctors aren't always capable of recognizing when someone is fit to make the decision.

Ethics

8. _____ For more than 2,500 years, doctors have taken the Hippocratic oath. This oath encourages doctors to care for and never harm those under their care.

Some argue that the Hippocratic oath supports PAS since it ends suffering and brings no more harm. On the other hand, some debate it results in harm to the person and their loved ones, who must watch their loved one suffer.

Personal choice

"Death with dignity" is a movement that encourages legislatures to allow people to decide how they want to die 9. _____

- A. Some people simply don't want to go through a long dying process, often out of concern of the burden it puts on their loved ones.
- B. lethal dose of opioids, for example, may be prescribed for this. In the end, it's up to the person to decide whether they take the drug.
- C. Local laws, someone's physical and mental health, and their personal beliefs and wishes all play a role.
- D. Purposely giving someone a lethal dose of a sedative is considered active euthanasia.
- E. The person must give their full consent and demonstrate that they fully understand what will happen.
- F. This makes the distinction between passive euthanasia and palliative care blurry.
- G. Many also argue that the ability to decide your own death weakens the sanctity of life.
- H. Some doctors and opponents of PAS are concerned about the ethical complications doctors could face.
- I. A close family member usually makes the decision.
- J. This program is designed to help people navigate complicated end-of-life issues, from state laws to finding spiritual support.