Dear Physician/Nurse Practitioner;

I am excited to share a participation opportunity for Saskatchewan licenced physicians and nurse practitioners. I am undertaking a project to better understand the decision making factors considered by practitioners who currently do not participate in medical assistance in dying. Participation in this project will provide insight into practitioners’ decision making within a new clinical context and may be used to support continuing education programs, and remediate gaps in employee supportive care fostering quality, safe workplaces and satisfying work environments. Additionally, project results may be used to support MAiD programming and health delivery organization policy design, supporting quality care for those at the end-of-life. Exploring the realities of MAiD implementation in relation to practitioner choice inform future iterations of practice statements, identify policy and education needs, as well as, illuminate possible professional association and legal supports.

I wish to connect with physicians and nurse practitioners who may have thought the following:

1) “I don’t know what I would do if I was approached by a patient for MAiD related care,”

2) “I might be interested in participating, but have not been approached by a patient,”

3) “I don’t think I would participate in MAiD related care,” or

4) “I would not participate if approach by a patient.”

If you relate to these, I would like to meet with you. Please email me at jma401@mail.usask.ca, and I will confirm your participation eligibility and will send you a complete participant information/consent form. I will work with you to determine a time, place and modality for an interview (in person, telephone or WebEx). At the time of the meeting full informed consent will be obtained, you will be asked to complete a brief context/demographic questionnaire and participate in an interview including questions and vignettes. The interview will be recorded and subsequently transcribed. The questions will explore your current practice context, your feelings regarding potential participation in MAiD, reflection on potential situations and the factors influencing your choices in MAiD care participation. It is anticipated the discussion will take a maximum 60 minutes. After preliminary data analysis, I will share aggregate findings back via email with you to see if you have any further, comment, reflection or insight.

The information and results from this project will support my doctoral project and be shared via multiple knowledge translation venues. Information may be submitted for publication, and shared in professional conferences via abstract, poster presentations or presentations. Information may also be shared with professional associations, employers and educational bodies. If you wish to have a copy of the publications or documents, please connect with me via email. Please feel free to share this letter of invitation to participate through your networks with your colleagues as are you are comfortable.

To arrange participation or to have any of your questions answered, please email me at jma401@mail.usask.ca. This email account is only accessed by myself and is password protected. This project was reviewed by the University of Saskatchewan Behavioural Research Ethics Board on April 29, 2019 (REB # 902).

On behalf of myself and research team, thank you for your consideration.

Janine Brown, RN CCNE PhD(c)

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