

Compassion & choices Care and Choice at the End of Life

Delaware Physicians Survey: Results Overview

June 07, 2022

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Objectives

- Assess willingness of Delaware physicians to support passage of State's proposed legislation to authorize medical aid in dying under certain conditions.
- Gauge how many supportive physicians are members of the Delaware Medical Society.
- Evaluate how support for the bill compares, based on length of practice.

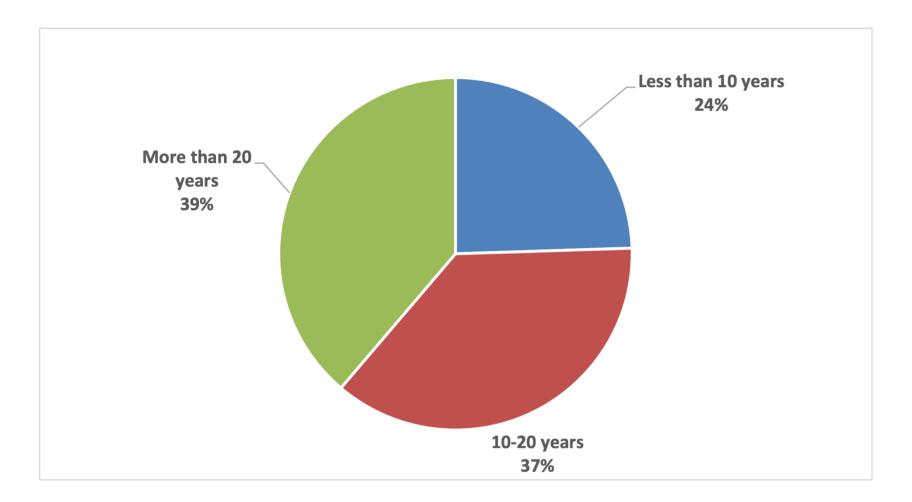


Methodology

- Online survey of Delaware physicians fielded between May 23 and June 6, 2022
- Random-sample size of 147 respondents. Surveys collected using two methods:
 - Panel respondents from three providers (N=129)
 - Database/email respondents (N=18).
- Respondents received honoraria for participation, as is custom for panels
- Statistical variation is +/- 8%, with a 95% confidence level

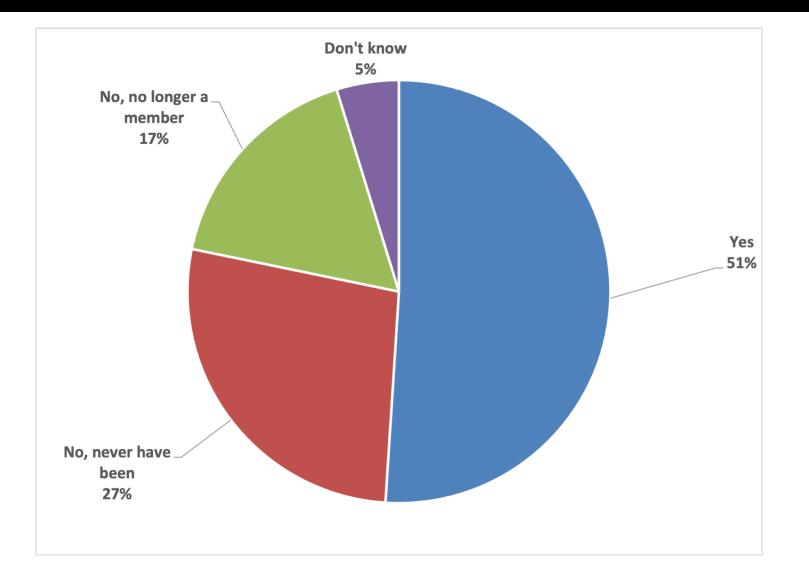


Years in Practice





Medical Society of Delaware Membership

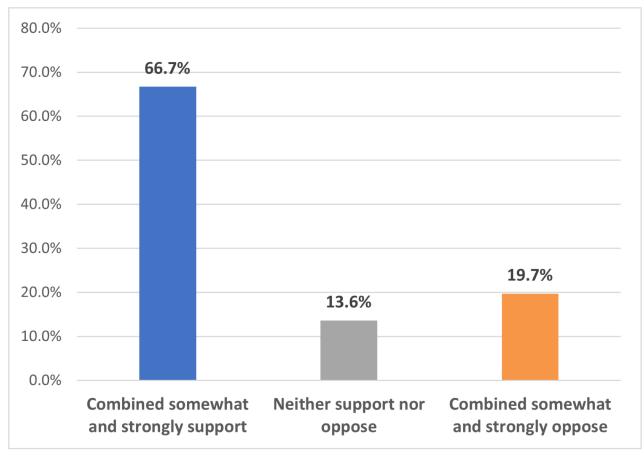


Physician Opinions regarding Medical Aid-In-Dying

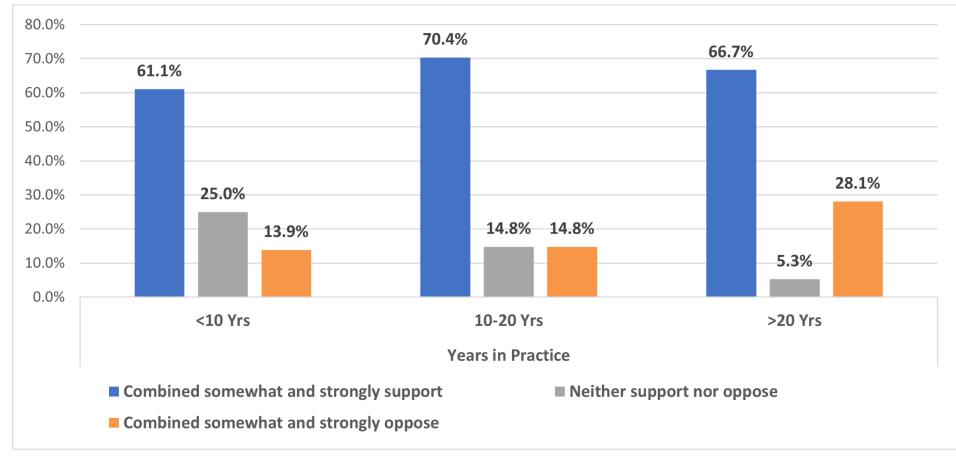
Medical aid in dying (MAiD), which is defined as a practice in which a terminally ill adult with decision-making capacity asks for and receives a prescription medication that may be self-ingested to hasten a foreseeable death.



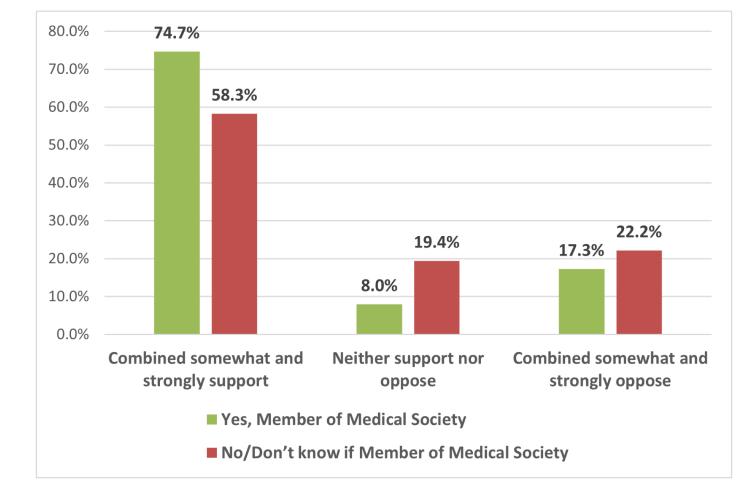
Two-thirds (66.7%) of Delaware Physicians Surveyed Support or Strongly Support MAiD



2-Out-of-3 Seasoned Delaware Physicians (10+ years practice) Surveyed Support or Strongly Support MAiD.



Nearly Three-Fourths of MAiD-Supporting Physicians Surveyed are Members of the Medical Society of Delaware.



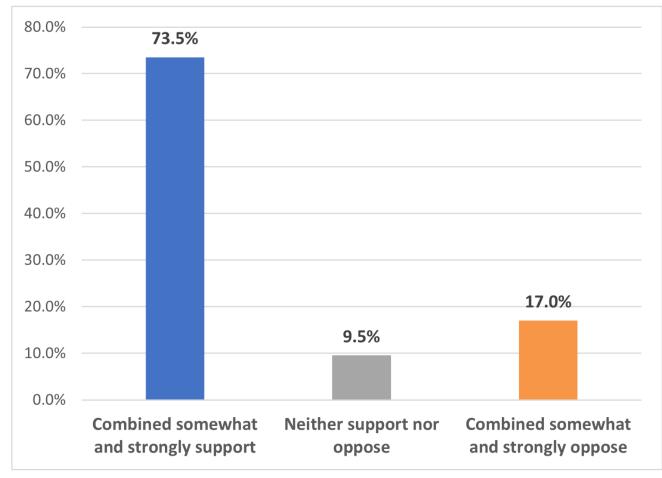
Support for Proposed Delaware Legislation

Legislation that would authorize medical aid in dying, with stipulations



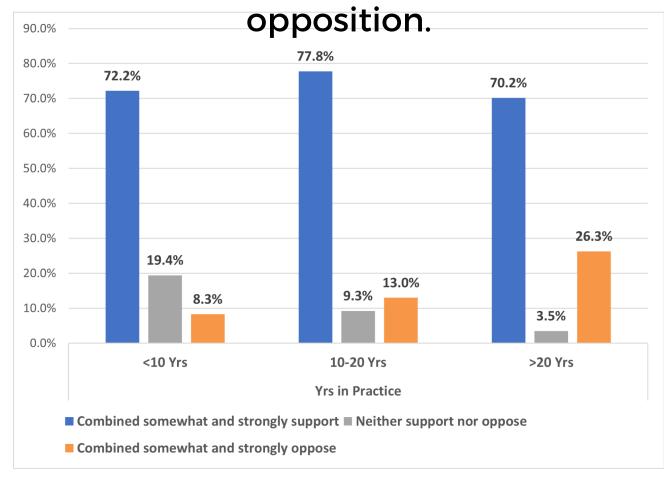
Q2: MAiD Legislation Support

Nearly 3-out-of-4 Delaware Physicians Surveyed Support, Or Strongly Support Proposed MAiD Legislation in Delaware.



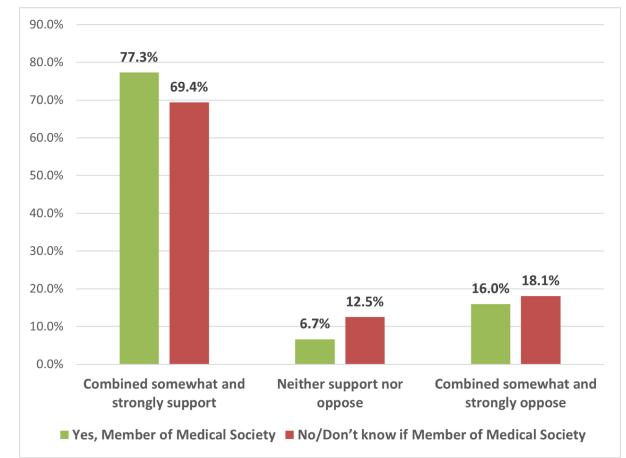
Profile of Physicians Who Support MAiD Legislation

Support for the proposed MAiD legislation is high across all experience levels; however, as years in practice increase, so does



Profile of Physicians Who Support MAiD Legislation

More Than Three-Fourths of Physicians Who Support Proposed MAiD Legislation Are Members of the Medical Society of Delaware.

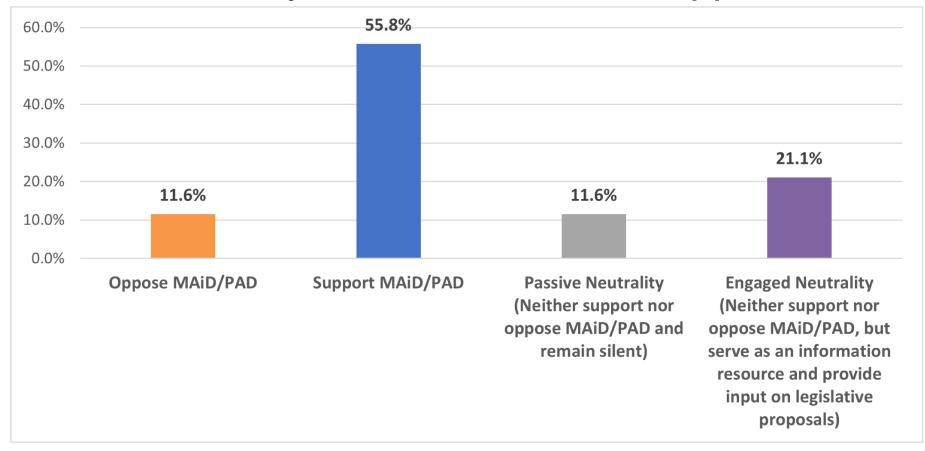


Recommended Medical Professional Association MAiD position



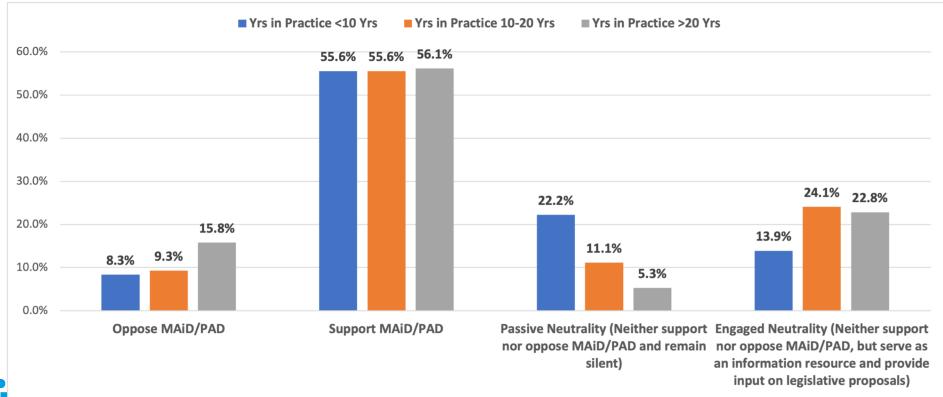
Q3: Position Delaware Medical Society Should Adopt

More Than Half of Delaware Physicians Surveyed Say Medical Society of Delaware Should Support MAiD.



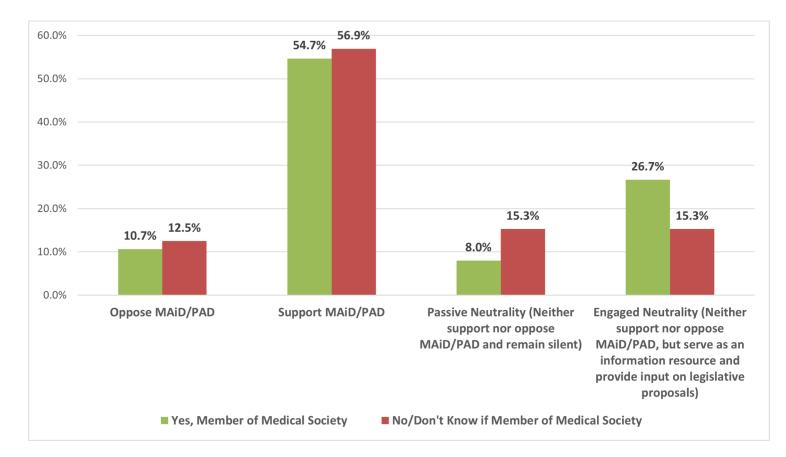
Q3: Position Medical Society of Delaware Should Adopt (by Years in Practice)

More Than Half of Delaware Physicians Surveyed, Across All Experience Levels, Say the Medical Society of Delaware Should Support MAiD.



Position Medical Society of Delaware Should Adopt (by Medical Society Membership)

Of the Delaware Physicians Surveyed Who Say the Medical Society of Delaware Should Support MAiD, More Than Half Are Society Members.



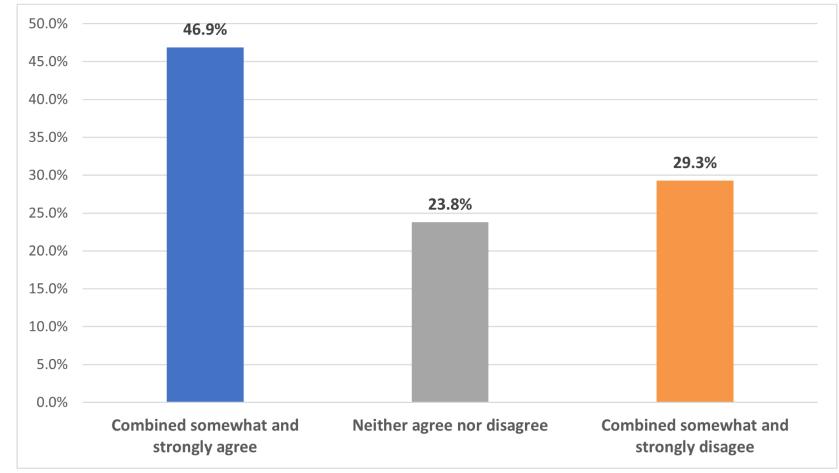


Delaware Physician Opinion Regarding MAiD for Personal Purposes



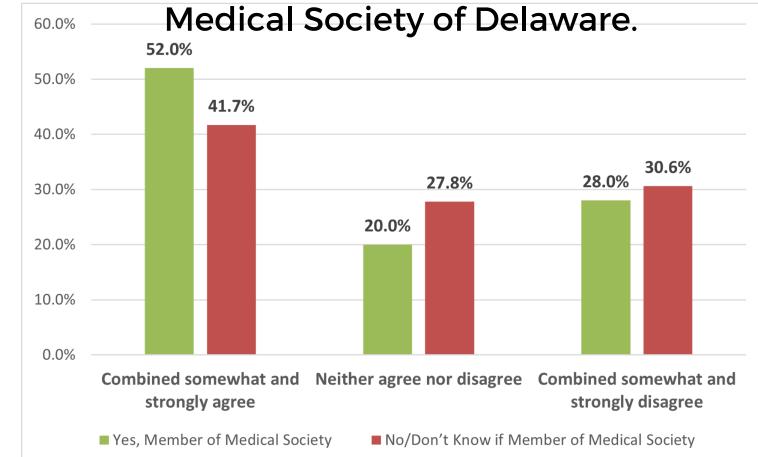
Q4: Willingness to Write Prescription for Qualifying Patient (If MAiD was authorized in Delaware)

Nearly Half of Delaware Physicians Surveyed Willing to Write a Prescription for a Qualifying Patient.



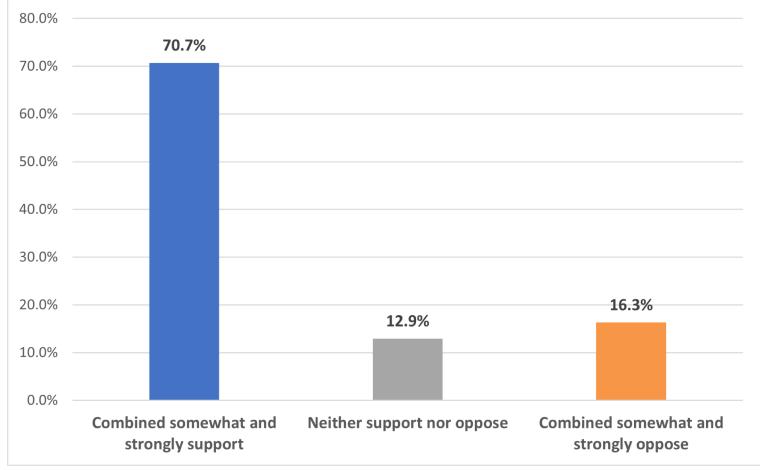
Q4: Willingness to Write Prescription for Qualifying Patient (If MAiD was authorized in Delaware) – By Medical Society of Delaware Membership

More Than Half of the Delaware Physicians Surveyed Who Are Willing to Write a Prescription for a Qualifying Patient Are Members of the



Q5: Desire for Option of MAiD if a Delaware Physician is Terminally III

7-Out-of-10 Delaware Physicians Surveyed Say They Would Like the Option of MAiD if They Became Terminally III.



Conclusions

- A clear majority of Delaware physicians surveyed support passage of the state's proposed legislation to authorize MAiD.
- More Than Three-Fourths of Physicians Who Support Proposed MAiD Legislation Are Members of the Medical Society of Delaware.
- Support for MAiD is high across all experience levels (at least 70% somewhat support); however, physicians in practice for 10 – 20 years are the most supportive.
- More than half of Delaware physicians believe that the Delaware Medical Society should support MAiD/PAD.

