

From: [Inquiry into End of Life Choices POV eSubmission Form](#)
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Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into End of Life Choices
Date: Saturday, 25 July 2015 6:30:15 PM

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Mr Jay Franklin

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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#MySubmission:

#MyStory:

I was born with a bowel condition called Hirshsprungs disease and my first operation was at 6 days of age.

I've had all my large intestine & majority of my small intestine removed. I've had well over 100 operations over my 38 years and been on & off (TPN IV Feeding) for over 20 years, I've had lots of operations for bowel obstructions & chronic abdominal adhesions plus I've had a lot of fistulas between my bowel & bladder due to many complications.

My last major surgery was in 2007 for a bowel obstruction & to try and clear out all my abdominal adhesions, this surgery lasted for 18hrs before being rushed back only a few hrs later due to a leak in the bowel for a further 6hrs and spent 3 weeks in ICU before going back to the ward for a few months recovering.

In 1991 I spent 9 months in hospital for a fistula between my bowel & bladder & underwent about 10 operations to try and fix this but due to all flucloxacillin I was on this caused necrotising enteritis in 1992 and it resulted a large part of my bowel dying & needing to be removed requiring 6 months in hospital.

I now suffer from chronic abdominal adhesions and I'm in chronic pain every day of my life.

This has effected my life a lot, especially since 2001 my health has deteriorated quite a lot and there is nothing more that they can do for me surgically apart from trying to manage my chronic pain and also I've made a big decision that if I was to get another bowel obstruction I don't want any further surgery, just to be kept comfortable.

I also go into hospital every 4 - 6 weeks for IV pain relief, as I don't absorb my pain medication properly due to my very short gut that I have remaining.

I've been on & off TPN (IV Feeding) for well over 20 years & I've been back on it now for about for about 12 mths & will be on it for the remainder of my life.

I've also made another big discission that I want to die with dignity and not from a bowel obstruction and I've been accepted to go to Switzerland for Voluntary Euthanasia, but now my health has declined to a point whereby I'm unable to travel all the way from Australia to Dignitas in Switzerland.

And I feel that not only myself but all Australian's should be able to make there own decisions on "End Of Life Choices", I also feel that this just shouldn't just be limited to patients that are classed as being "terminal" but also for people such as myself for example who have being suffering my entire life, that I should have the right to say when enough is enough & end my suffering on my terms seeing that I've been told there is nothing more surgically they can do for me anymore.

Because they don't class my situation as being "Terminal", even though there is nothing further my surgeons can do for me anymore, palliative care doesn't come to my assistance therefore I'm unable to receive IV pain medication in the home. Even tough I have a "Advance Care Plan" in place stating that I do not want anymore surgical intervention if I was to get another bowel obstruction & I'd just liked to be kept comfortable with maximum pain relief and sedation.

I've had a "Advance Care Plan" in place at The Austin Hospital for a number of years now stating that if I was to get another complete or incomplete bowel obstruction due to all my abdominal adhesions that I don't want anymore intervention & just to be kept as comfortable as possible with maximum pain relief & sedation, but I feel very strongly that this needs to go a step further and I should be able to make the decision here in my own country to end my suffering when I feel the time is right for me as I feel this should be fundamental human right.

Let's hope that we can get a great outcome from the public & common sense prevails into "End Of Life Choices".

Not only for those who are terminal but for all Australians for eg: like myself who have been suffering for so long, in my situation almost 40 years.

We should be able to say when enough is enough and be able to end our suffering in a dignified matter, & in a rational way & not have to worry about breaking any stupid laws that allows a competent adults to be able to make a rational discussion about there "End Of Life Choices".

Please watch the links on my story, & feel free to share my story.

<http://m.theage.com.au/victoria/jay-is-sick-of-being-sick-but-not-being-terminally-ill-doesnt-have-a-way-out-20121005-274vz.html>

<http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/stories/2013/09/16/3847237.htm>

Kind regards,
Jay Franklin.

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File1:

File2:

File3: