

From: [Inquiry into End of Life Choices POV eSubmission Form](#)
To: [LSIC](#)
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into End of Life Choices
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Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Ma Sharon Pask
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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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My mother suffered from frontal lobe dementia and passed away on 22nd June 2015 at Villa Maria nursing home in Berwick.

It took 3 days for my mother to die. She was in and out of consciousness but could not talk, drink or eat. She was basically dying of dehydration and it was horrific for my father, sisters and brother to watch. We never left her side over the 3 days.

During that time we had 3 different shifts of nursing staff every 24 hours. The nurses approach to my mother, and administration of morphine differed dramatically. Palliative care were called but never arrived. Apparently they talked to one of the nurses who informed them they were over medicating my mother.

My mother was meant to receive 2.5 milligrams of morphine every hour and a PRN of 2.5 every hour if required. For some reason the standard order of 2.5 was not written down so the PRN was being administered. PRN are up to the discretion of the nurses and how one nurse interpreted pain to another differed immensely. Two of the nurses decided not to give mum the morphine every hour which resulted in day 3 of mum becoming more conscious.

My brother in law who is a doctor had to call palliative care and the doctor who was in charge of my mothers health (who never came in to see mum while she was dying) to get the pain relief she should have had in the first place. We were constantly asking for more morphine for my mother, and we felt like some of the nurses thought we just wanted to kill her.

Have you ever watched someone you love most in the world struggle to breathe as every organ is shutting down. My mother and my family should have had the right to end it a lot quicker than 3 days. There was no dignity in the end and we are still struggling with the trauma of the last 3 days of her life.

Please don't let other people experience this. The RSPCA would charge you with

cruelty to animals if you did this to a cat or dog. This was my mum.

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File1:

File2:

File3: