Caregiver Checklist: Day of the MAiD Procedure

This resource is designed to help a support person or caregiver structure the logistics, comfort measures, and practical steps on the day of a Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) procedure in British Columbia. Keep this guide accessible to maintain a peaceful, organized environment.

1. Morning Preparation & Logistics

[ ] Confirm Legal Paperwork	Ensure the finalized Form HLTH 1632 (Patient Request) and any required representation documentation are physically printed and easily accessible for the provider.
[ ] Coordinate with Funeral Home	Re-verify the name and direct phone number of the chosen funeral home. They will need to be called a few hours after the procedure.
[ ] Manage Visitors & Flow	Establish a clear plan for who will be in the room, who will wait outside, and if any phone calls or notifications should be silenced during the window.
[ ] Prepare Personal Items	Gather any specific clothing, mementos, or symbolic objects the person wishes to have close to them during the procedure.

2. Creating the Environment

[ ] Seating Arrangements	Set up comfortable chairs surrounding the bed or seating area for family and friends. Ensure the MAiD practitioner has clear physical access to the bedside.
[ ] Lighting & Temperature	Adjust the window shades and lighting according to their preference. Keep extra layers or light blankets nearby, as circulation changes can alter body temperature.
[ ] Audio & Sensory Elements	Queue specific music playlists, readings, or quiet background audio as requested. Minimize unexpected external household noises.
[ ] Hydration & Mouth Care	If the person is still taking oral fluids, keep small sips of water or mouth swabs handy to manage dry mouth symptoms.

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3. The Clinical Window

[ ] Final Practitioner Check	The clinician will arrive, confirm identification, and carry out a final required check of explicit verbal or written consent before initiating any medication.
[ ] IV Line Placement	The clinician will typically place two separate intravenous (IV) lines to ensure reliable medication access. A small local numbing cream or spray may be used.
[ ] The Medication Timeline	Understand the sequence: typically, a series of medications are administered sequentially (a sedative to induce deep sleep, followed by medications that stop breathing). This occurs peacefully over several minutes.
[ ] Final Moments & Passing	Once the final medication takes effect, the clinician will listen to the chest and formally confirm that passing has occurred.

4. Immediate Post-Procedure Tasks

[ ] Time with the Individual	There is absolutely no rush. Allow loved ones all the uninterrupted time they need to sit, speak, grieve, and say final goodbyes at the bedside.
[ ] Contacting the Funeral Home	When the family feels ready (usually 1 to 3 hours following the passing), call the pre-arranged funeral home to coordinate transportation.
[ ] Clinician Paperwork	The practitioner will complete the necessary medical certification of death documentation before they depart the home or facility.
[ ] Caregiver Support Check	Take a step back to drink water, eat, and check in with your primary support person. Give yourself grace during an emotionally exhausting day.

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