

Living hell

Sir, Further to Dr Carol Davis's letter (Jul 3), a dignified death in the present system is not always possible. Our father has a living will clearly stating that he wishes to die when life becomes unbearable. As we write he lies in bed with a seeping open wound. The palliative care, the GP and district nurses are unable to communicate and work together. We spend hours chasing support to get timely supplies of morphine. Promised prescriptions are either not written or go missing, and even essential wound dressings are not supplied. For the past three days we have been unable to get a doctor to visit despite living four minutes' walk from the surgery. We are left totally unsupported by the system. This is not dignified. This is horrific.

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