



Decriminalisation of the possession of Euthanasia drugs urged

Exit International has urged State and Federal politicians to consider changing legislation that criminalises elderly Australians who seek to import small quantities of the euthanasia drug Nembutal for possible future use.

Exit director, Dr Nitschke said that in the past week euthanasia workshops had run in 4 states, and over 500 elderly people has attended seeking information on the acquisition, storage and use of the premier euthanasia drug Nembutal.

Speaking from Adelaide Dr Nitschke said that the fear of legal action was a concern that was constantly raised.

"Many of those attending had imported the drug illegally, and now wanted to have the purity of the drug to be tested. They were fearful though, that if this were known they could lose the drug and be subject to criminal charges"

"The decriminalising of the possession of a small amount of this drug (<15 gm) would allow for the open testing of the purity of the product and alleviate a great deal of unnecessary anxiety".

Dr Nitschke said that there would be a large number of elderly Victorians attending the Melbourne workshop on Sunday who would be seeking information about drug testing.

"Decriminalising possession fits neatly into the modern medical concept of 'harm minimisation' and should be supported. I have written to politicians in State and Federal parliaments sympathetic to drug law reform to urge them to consider this option."

Euthanasia Drug Testing Workshops will be held in
Melbourne Sunday 13th @ 2pm Sth Yarra Library
Perth Tuesday 15th @ 10am Wembley Community Ctr

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11th Dec, 2015