

What's the difference between **PALLIATIVE & TERMINAL SEDATION?**

PALLIATIVE SEDATION	TERMINAL SEDATION
Only applied if necessary to alleviate suffering, which is rare.	Applied even if unconsciousness is not needed to alleviate suffering.
Purpose: To relieve suffering.	Purpose: To end life.
Death is caused by the disease or injury	Death is usually caused by dehydration or starvation.
The level of consciousness may vary, with focus on allowing as much awareness as possible.	The patient is rendered unconscious.

Why is it important to know the difference?
Because confusion causes death!

Source: Wesley J. Smith, "France Debates Slow-Motion Euthanasia," <http://www.nationalreview.com/human-exceptionalism/419841/france-debates-slow-motion-euthanasia-wesley-j-smith> ; for more, see "Palliative Sedation Not Equal to Terminal Sedation/Euthanasia," <http://www.firstthings.com/blogs/firstthoughts/2012/05/palliative-sedation-not-to-terminal-sedationeuthanasia>.

Chart created by Life Matters Worldwide, www.lifemattersww.org.