Figure 1. PRISMA flow-chart

Articles identified through database searching (n = 2234)

Additional articles identified through personal collection (n = 1)

Articles after duplicates removed (n = 1703)

Articles screened (n = 1703)

Full-text articles assessed for eligibility (n = 321)

Articles included after manual search of reference lists (n = 6)

Articles included in qualitative synthesis (n = 27)

Articles excluded for title/abstract (n = 1382)

Full-text articles excluded (n = 300)
- Reasons underlying motivation not reported (n = 112)
- Reviews, editorials, comments, books (n = 92)
- Not voluntary euthanasia (n = 39)
- Students, pharmacists, social workers (n = 9)
- Qualitative studies (n = 9)
- Patients with dementia or mental illness (n = 7)
- Results based on the same study sample (n = 6)
- Articles unavailable online and through interlibrary loan, and with no contact information available (n = 26)