Reviewer’s report

Title: What Passive Euthanasia Is

Version: 0 Date: 24 Mar 2020

Reviewer: Isra Black

Reviewer's report:

While I still have some misgivings as to whether some instances of letting die that involve foresight of death could amount to PE too, I think Dr Brassington has made his case well enough for anyone with such misgivings to respond in print in the future. (I suspect there is mileage in thinking about what an agent accepts when embarking on a course of conduct, in further unpacking the notion of foreseen consequences in light of the probability that they obtain, and in considering the extent to which intentions may be mutually exclusive/exclude the acceptance of foreseen consequences. But I think all these things would be unfair to insist on for the purposes of this paper.)

Some discretionary revisions:
Abstract: 'appear to be is some'. Typo.
p 2: Abstract typo reproduced.
p 3: 'The first thing is shall argue... but I shall argue here that what makes this worse'. Should more clearly set out the pattern of arguments, ie first and second.
p 4: 'I shall assume a positive desire to remain alive is trumps... "involuntary euthanasia" is an oxymoron'. Maybe it isn't necessary to make this claim here? I'd leave it open. cf Glover in CDSL who gives a plausible example of IE.
p 5: 'getting a definition straight does not depend on how likely it is that any putative instance of euthanasia really is properly so called'. Can you say something less strong here/is the second clause necessary? It seems that a definition's applicability/workability in the real world is a live issue to its viability.
p 8: 'Though there is a few...' Though there *are*.
p 21: para 'The other flaw is that Rachels's account...'. This is not as clear as it could be.
p 24: 'First, it tracks the important moral distinction between withholding treatment so that the patient dies, and withholding treatment even though the patient dies. (Again, and for the sake of clarity, this moral distinction is qualitative, not evaluative.)'. I am not sure you need the 'moral' in these sentences. All you need to say is that there is a distinction b/w so that and even though and that this distinction is qualitative, not necessarily evaluative?

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?  
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review? 
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

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