



CHECKLIST

- ☐ Are you aware of your organisation's current policies and procedures regarding Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD)? Seek out this information and make sure your colleagues are aware of it too.
- ☐ Are you aware of your state's legislation regarding initiating VAD discussions? Familiarise yourself with the legislation for different healthcare professionals.
- ☐ Check what VAD services are available within your hospital or health service. Make sure you know how to contact VAD Care Navigator Services within your state or territory.
- ☐ Do you feel confident distinguishing when a patient is making a clear, unambiguous request for VAD, from a more informal discussion around symptom management or end of life? Review the scenarios within the VAD module and, if still unsure, seek further clarification from the VAD Care Navigator Services within your state or territory.
- ☐ Are you familiar with the rights of a VAD conscientious objector? Make sure you understand the difference between the right to refuse participation in the VAD process, and obstructing the patient from making end-of-life choices. Think about how your personal views around VAD might impact on your professional responsibilities.

HELPFUL LINKS

- End of Life Directions in Aged Care (ELDAC). 2025. [Voluntary assisted dying in aged care: Roles and obligations of registered nurses](#)
- Go Gentle Australia. 2023. [Resources for health professionals](#)
- Palliative Care Australia. 2022. [Voluntary Assisted Dying in Australia: Guiding principles for those providing care to people living with a life-limiting illness](#)

VIDEOS, BLOGS, PODCASTS

- Blandford, M. Palliative Care Australia. [Dr Danielle Ferraro, Dr Frank Brennan and Nicky Stitt: The many nuances of VAD and palliative care](#)
- Close E & Downar J. 2024. The Conversation. [We studied 20 places around the world and found the most common diseases linked with voluntary assisted dying](#)
- Go Gentle Australia. 2026. [VAD & Dementia: Do our laws need to change?](#)
- Russell, H. 2024. End-of-Life Essentials Blog: [How Understanding the Pathways of Grief After VAD Can Help Health Professionals Provide Better Care for Families](#)

FURTHER READING

- Bollen J, Hempton C, Bhatia N, Tibballs J. Feasibility of organ donation following voluntary assisted dying in Australia: lessons from international practice. Med J Aust. 2023 Sep 4;219(5):202-205. [doi: 10.5694/mja2.52016](#)
- Close E, Willmott L, Keogh L, White BP. Institutional Objection to Voluntary Assisted Dying in Victoria, Australia: An Analysis of Publicly Available Policies. J Bioeth Inq. 2023 Sep;20(3):467-484. [doi: 10.1007/s11673-023-10271-6](#)
- Digby R, McDougall R, Gold M, Ko D, O'Driscoll L, Bucknall T. Introducing Voluntary Assisted Dying: Staff Perspectives in an Acute Hospital. Int J Health Policy Manag. 2022 Jun 1;11(6):777-785. [doi: 10.34172/ijhpm.2020.216](#)