



Palliative and end of life care choice

Voluntary Assisted Dying



The **NSW Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2022** allows eligible people the choice to access voluntary assisted dying (VAD) in NSW from 28 November 2023.

Voluntary assisted dying means an eligible person can ask for medical help to end their life. The person must be in the late stages of an advanced disease, illness or medical condition. They must also be experiencing suffering they find unbearable.

There are 2 main types of VAD:

- **self-administered** — when a person takes VAD medicine that an eligible healthcare practitioner has prescribed for them.
- **practitioner-administered** — when an eligible healthcare practitioner administers VAD medicine to a person.

'Voluntary' means the choice must be the person's own. The person must have decision making capacity throughout the entire process to access VAD.

VAD will be embedded in **end of life care pathways** across the region and patients must be informed about all options available to them, including palliative care and other treatment options, in line with their goals of care.

NSW legislation has safeguards in place to make sure the person is protected. A person's decision to seek information about, or access to, VAD has no impact on the person's access to high-quality palliative care.

HealthPathways

Visit HealthPathways for information on palliative care and end of life care pathways including VAD.



Username: connected
Password: 2pathways



Username: together
Password: forhealth

Information on VAD

[Overview of VAD](#)

[Information for health practitioners](#)

[Information for the community](#)

[Becoming an authorised practitioner](#)

Webinars

[Palliative care and VAD - Go Gentle Australia](#)

[My professional experience as a rural palliative care physician.](#)

Information on palliative care

[Advanced care planning](#)

[Palliative Care Australia](#)