

# PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

## Information for Prospective Participants

### Enhancing end-of-life decision-making: Optimal regulation of voluntary assisted dying

#### **Research team contacts**

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#### ***What is the purpose of the research?***

The purpose of this research is to better understand how people make decisions about voluntary assisted dying (VAD) in Australia. Specifically, we are interested in how those involved in VAD perceive the effect of "regulation" (factors including laws and policies) and what affects individuals' experiences.

#### ***Are you looking for people like me?***

You are invited to participate in this research project if you are a:

- Person with a diagnosis of terminal illness; or
- Family member of such a person.

Because the study is about VAD, to be eligible to participate, you must have sought VAD or are in the process of doing this (or you are or have supported a family member through this process). You can participate whether or not your request (or that of your family member) for VAD was approved.

#### ***What will you ask me to do?***

To participate in this research, you will take part in an interview in person, by private Zoom meeting, or telephone that will take up to 60 minutes. In the interview we will ask you questions like:

- What was your experience of the VAD process?
- What was your biggest challenge in navigating the VAD process?

#### ***Are there any risks for me in taking part?***

There is a risk that the interview may be distressing for you given your direct involvement in decision-making about VAD. You may feel that some of the questions we ask are stressful or upsetting. If you do not wish to answer a question, you may skip it and go to the next question, or you may stop the interview. You can also withdraw from the study. If you experience distress because you participate in the study we will provide you information about support services you can access.

***Are there any benefits for me in taking part?***

This research may benefit you by giving you an opportunity to reflect on your experiences seeking VAD and to express your views on how regulation could be improved in an interview. The research could also have wider benefits. VAD is a new health service in Australia. This research could benefit other patients, families and health professionals by providing evidence to improve laws, policies and other supports for VAD. However, decisions about any changes flowing from findings of this research rest with others.

***Will I be compensated for my time?***

You will not be paid for participating in the study, but we will provide you with vouchers for taxi fares or cover parking fees if travel to the interview location is required.

***Who is funding this research?***

The research project is funded by the Australian Research Council via its Future Fellowship Scheme and they will not have access to the data obtained during the project.

***I am interested – what should I do next?***

If you are interested in participating in this study, please contact:

Ben White

bp.white@qut.edu.au

07 3138 4066

You will be provided with further information to ensure that your decision and consent to participate is fully informed.

***Thank You!*****QUT Ethics Approval Number: 2000000270**