

Voluntary Assisted Dying Laws

The Department of Health and Human Services



Easy English



Hard words

This fact sheet has some hard words.

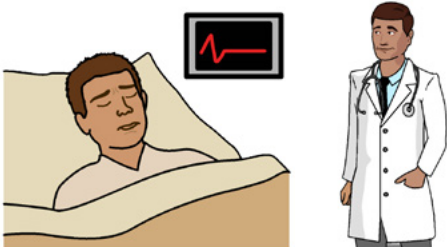
The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**
- we will write what the hard word means.

About this fact sheet

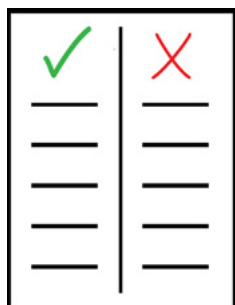
June 2019						
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Voluntary assisted dying will be legal in Victoria from 19 June 2019.



Voluntary assisted dying means some people can ask for help to end their life.

Who can get voluntary assisted dying?



There are rules about who can get voluntary assisted dying.



You **must**

- have a sickness that will **not** stop



- have a sickness that causes a lot of pain



- have a sickness that will make you die in less than 6 months **or** less than 12 months for some sicknesses



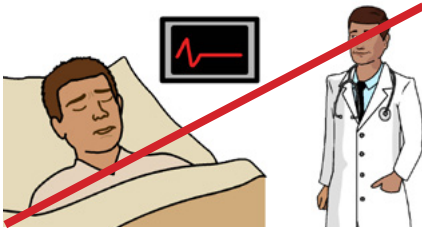
- be over 18 years old



- live in Victoria



- be able to make your own choices.

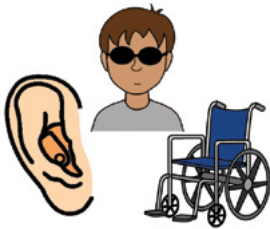


Who cannot get voluntary assisted dying?

You **cannot** get voluntary assisted dying if you



- have a mental illness only



- have a disability only



- **cannot** make your own choices.

How will voluntary assisted dying work?



When you ask for voluntary assisted dying

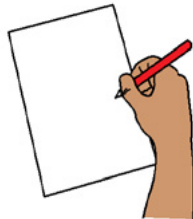
- you need to see 2 doctors



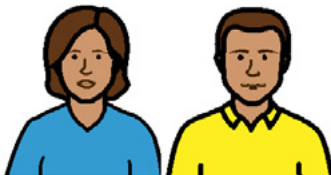
- the doctors **must** give you all the facts you need to make a choice



- both doctors **must** say you can get voluntary assisted dying



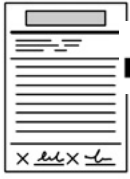
- you **must** ask for voluntary assisted dying on a written form



- 2 people **must**
 - watch you write the form
 - sign the form.



If you can **not** write or sign the form, someone else can write for you.



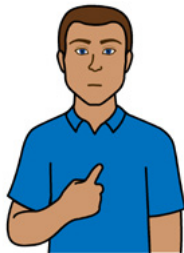
When you finish the form

- the doctor must get a **permit** to let them give you voluntary assisted dying medicine.

A permit is a letter that says a person is allowed to do something.



- you can then take medicine from the doctor to end your life.



You **must** ask for your own voluntary assisted dying.

No one can make you ask for voluntary assisted dying.



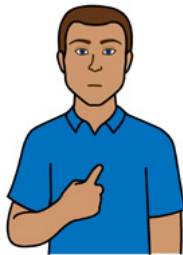
Doctors do **not** have to do voluntary assisted dying.

Is voluntary assisted dying safe?



The law will make sure

- voluntary assisted dying is safe



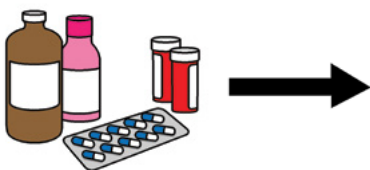
- you only do voluntary assisted dying if you want to.



There is a **Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board**.



It is their job to make sure everyone follows the law.



You will choose a person to give back medicine you do **not** use.

This will make sure **no** one else uses it.

Where to get help



If this fact sheet has made you upset
you can call

- **Lifeline** on 13 11 14
- **Australian Centre for Grief
and Bereavement** on 1800 642 066



More information

For more information about voluntary assisted dying contact **the Department of Health and Human Services**



Website

<https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/hospitals-and-health-services/patient-care/end-of-life-care/%20voluntary-assisted-dying>



Email

endoflifecare@dhhs.vic.gov.au

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Scope's Communication and Inclusion Resource Centre wrote the Easy English in July, 2018. www.scopeaust.org.au
To see the original contact The Department of Health and Human Services.

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