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To: [LA VAD](#)
Subject: VAD Submission
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VAD SHOULD be legal in the Northern Territory.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

1 The person seeking VAD should be capable of making the decision independently.

2a The person seeking VAD:

a. should have a terminal illness with an estimated 12 months to live

b. is suffering illness(s) which causes chronic physical pain or mental anguish which is unlikely to be cured

2b A person should be able to request access to VAD in their Advanced Personal Plan in the event they are diagnosed with dementia

VAD ACCESS

I would think the person seeking access to VAD should have 2 (at least) doctors who *independently* agree that the person meets the criteria. A psychologist may also be required in the case of 2b (mental anguish). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people may need an *independent* interpreter during assessment interviews with medical professionals. In **all** cases family or supporters of the person seeking VAD should not be able to coach the person during assessment interviews. Medical, other professionals and interpreters should not be philosophically opposed to VAD.

AS TO '4. How could the NT monitor the process to ensure VAD is delivered safely and effectively?'

I'm not sure how this could be achieved but any monitoring should be continuous so any problems can be detected and addressed promptly.

Regards

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