

**From:** [Robert Batey](#)  
**To:** [LA VAD](#)  
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VAD

I write as a physician, a Christian and a concerned observer of our society to suggest that our current debate and commitment to providing voluntary assisted dying is full of misquoted truths and missing data.

I wish to make a few simple points.

1. The cost of providing one person VAD is wildly higher than the cost of managing a person in palliative care unit, adequately staffed. To take money from pall care to set up VAD units is totally inappropriate.
2. Once a person has been granted the possibility of VAD the majority do not access it. This says much and it isn't discussed much.
3. VAD demands that individuals have to assist a person to die and at a time when death may not seem inevitable. This places a huge emotional and spiritual load on that individual or team. This is not well discussed in the public sphere.

We need more honest, open and less emotive discussion before we move further down tracks that diminish the incredible complexity and beauty of life. And before we accept terminating lives into " everyday care"

Yours

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