



Accessing voluntary assisted dying in Western Australia

What is the Western Australian Voluntary Assisted Dying Statewide Care Navigator Service?

Summary

This information sheet is for people who want to know more about the Western Australian Voluntary Assisted Dying Statewide Care Navigator Service (SWCNS).

Key points include:

- SWCNS has been established to provide information, support, advice and assistance to anyone involved with voluntary assisted dying in WA.
- The service is staffed by Care Navigators who are experienced health professionals.
- SWCNS is based in Perth and is accessible to all Western Australians.
- SWCNS does not charge fees for its services.

What does SWCNS do?

SWCNS has been established to support anyone involved with voluntary assisted dying in WA. This includes patients, the family and carers of patients, members of the community, health professionals and service providers. The service is nurse-led and staffed by Care Navigators who are experienced health professionals. The SWCNS does not charge fees for its services.

The Care Navigators can:

- provide general information about voluntary assisted dying
- provide specific information about voluntary assisted dying in WA
- help to locate a medical practitioner (doctor) or nurse practitioner who is willing and eligible to participate in voluntary assisted dying
- assist people to access regional support packages
- link people to other helpful resources.

Where is SWCNS?

SWCNS is based in Perth and managed by the South Metropolitan Health Service. As a statewide service it is available to patients and practitioners anywhere in Western Australia. This means that the Care Navigators can support all Western Australians who are seeking information about, or access to, voluntary assisted dying, no matter where they live.

Voluntary Assisted Dying Regional Access Support Scheme (RASS)

The Care Navigators also manage the RASS which provides financial support for access to voluntary assisted dying. This means that if you live outside of the metropolitan region and you are not able to access a medical practitioner in your local area, the Care Navigators may be able to assist you through the RASS. This scheme can assist you to travel to a medical practitioner to access voluntary assisted dying or, if you are unable to travel, it can support a medical practitioner to travel to you.

How can I contact SWCNS?

The Care Navigators can be contacted by email and phone during standard work hours (8:30am – 5:00pm).

Email: VADcarenavigator@health.wa.gov.au

Phone: (08) 9431 2755

Glossary of terms

Refer to *Accessing voluntary assisted dying in Western Australia – Glossary of terms* for explanations of key terms used within this information sheet.

Acknowledgement

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