2024 State Conference

VAD: Year 1 Reflection

	VAD: Year 1 Reflection *Concurrent Session*: *Saturday 2nd November*
10:30am **(Poster Pitch)**	*To be announced*
10:35am	**VAD One Year On – A Reflection from a Community Palliative Care Nursing Team (35)** Stacey Diana, Nicole Witt and Nicole Rankin, Hunter New England Local Health District *Voluntary Assisted Dying was introduced to NSW legislation in November 2023. Palliative care services were told to expect an increase in referrals to their service and enquiries about accessing Voluntary Assisted Dying. This reflection describes how a service managed the introduction of legislation and incorporated VAD as part of everyday Palliative Care. Nurses reflect on their own views and feelings and the case of a client as an example of some of the issues highlighted here.*
11:00am	**Two Worlds Collide – VAD and Palliative Care Co-Existing (40)** Teresa Gillies, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District *This case study highlights a collaborative approach between specialist palliative care and a rural generalist hospital as we navigated the VAD process with our patients and their families. Palliative care can be seen by some as the opposite of the VAD process. It does not affirm life but is about patient choice and autonomy in decision making. Many of us working in the palliative care space have somewhat struggled with our patients desire to pursue the process feeling we should be able to provide supportive care and symptom management for our patients until the end of their lives. The case study will highlight the opportunities encountered to learn from our patients, to advocate and support them in their choices.*
11:25am	**Navigating Challenges and Complexity in Provision of Voluntary Assisted Dying in a Palliative Care Unit (45)** Holly Pitt and Katie Bray, Parkville Integrated Palliative Care Service - Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre *To reflect on the successes and challenges of VAD implementation in our palliative care unit, assess need for targeted support and professional development and highlight key areas for improvement.*

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Palliative Care
New South Wales