

**Supplementary
Submission
No 1a**

**INQUIRY INTO PROVISIONS OF THE VOLUNTARY
ASSISTED DYING BILL 2021**

Organisation: Christians Supporting Choice for Voluntary Assisted Dying

Date Received: 10 November 2021

Additional Submission to the NSW Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Law and Justice

Dear Committee,

Since I made my quite detailed Submission on behalf of the group *Christians Supporting Choice for Voluntary Assisted Dying*, to the Inquiry into the Provisions of the VAD Bill 2021, I have become aware of this very recently published Study on MAiD (Medical Assistance in Dying) in Canada. I ask that this additional Submission please also be accepted by the Committee.

The very positive Conclusions reached in this Study are also very relevant to NSW VAD legislation.

Abstract Conclusion:

While being involved in the medical assistance in dying process is complex and challenging, this study sheds light on the positive aspects of medical assistance in dying legalization from the hospice palliative care provider's perspectives. Medical Assistance in Dying legalization has resulted in improved end-of-life conversations between hospice palliative care providers, patients, and their families. Improved communication leads to a better understanding of patients' end-of-life care plans and bridges some of the existing gaps between hospice palliative care and medical assistance in dying.

Study Conclusion:

This is the first article to focus specifically on the positive aspects of MAID legalization from the perspectives of multi-disciplinary HPCPs in Canada. Our study illuminates the positive aspects of MAID on three levels: the individual level, the team level, and the institutional level. Participants acknowledge that while being involved in MAID conversations referrals, assessments, and provisions can be challenging and complex, there are also positive aspects of engaging in these processes that provide satisfaction. These positive experiences include having more open conversations with patients and family members about EOL care planning, exploring various EOL options including MAID, and having the ability to ameliorate the suffering of patients who choose MAID as an EOL option.

Ref:

https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/09697330211012049?fbclid=IwAR0f0v4KAp4eMt7_9Wmx_4b9uP89gnleiz_Kqds0nAHuk9qy0xry2D_KaM&

I respectfully ask that the Committee read the entire Study and not just these Conclusions, as evidence in support of the provisions of the VAD Bill now before the NSW Parliament, and then recommend the passing of this Bill without Amendment.

Authorised and submitted by Ian Wood, 10.11.2021
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Our Belief: *"We believe that as a demonstration of love and compassion, those with a terminal or hopeless illness should have the option of a pain-free, peaceful and dignified death with legal voluntary assisted dying."*