

Ms Katherine Waller  
Project Manager  
Queensland University of Technology  
By email: [katherine.waller@connect.qut.edu.au](mailto:katherine.waller@connect.qut.edu.au)

Dear Katherine

### Re Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) Training Modules 1 and 2

I am writing to thank the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) for offering the Australian College of Nursing (ACN) the opportunity to provide feedback on the *Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) Training Modules 1 and 2*.

I would like to commend QUT for developing these high-quality products that are educationally sound and well written. The content is easy to understand and follow. Making connections between each module should be consistent, ensuring the participant is able to see the trajectory of this mandatory training. More so, it is clear when participants will learn about the various aspects of the VAD process and legislation; and how participants will be assessed. The graphics greatly assist in understanding the content and it is good practice to identify in Module 2 (p9) which forms need to be completed for specific steps in the process.

ACN suggests a few minor changes to the welcome paragraph of Module 1 (p1) as outlined below:

- With reference to the statement: “Welcome to the approved voluntary assisted dying training”, please clarify the individual(s) and/or organisation(s) who approved the VAD training. Consider using a footnote.
- With reference to the statement: “The training has been developed for eligible health practitioners”, please clarify who these eligible practitioners are and what makes them eligible. Consider cross-referencing to section 1.1 (p2) if these are the intended eligible health practitioners.
- Consider identifying a more recent reference for citation (1) on p6: “Jansen-van der Weide, M, Onwuteake-Philipsen, B & van der Wal, G 2004, Implementation of the project ‘Support and Consultation on Euthanasia in the Netherlands’ (SCEN) Health Policy, vol. 69, no. 3, pp. 365–373.”
- It appears ‘Module 1’ is not really a module. Referring to the diagram on page 5, ‘Module 1’ is not listed. ACN suggests naming this simply an introduction and then beginning the numbering of modules so that there would be ten modules in total (rather than eleven).

Regarding the Module 2, ACN has suggested a few points for consideration:

- In the document titled 'VAD Training – QUT module 2', the overview of the modules on page 6 are not consistent with the overview on page 5 of the document titled 'VAD Training – QUT module 1'. To avoid confusion, ACN suggests greater consistency between the two overviews.
- The hyperlinked reference titled 'End of Life Law for Clinicians (website)' does not direct the user to the course material. ACN would like to clarify if this was intended.

ACN believes nurses are vital in the provision of person-centred and high-quality health care to individuals at the end of their lives; ensuring all Australians are afforded respect, autonomy and dignity in making their own end of life care choices.

ACN is the pre-eminent and national leader of the nursing profession. We are committed to our intent of advancing nurse leadership to enhance health care. ACN is committed to ensuring that Australia's health system can meet the future needs of all Australians, particularly through the sustainable growth and development of the nursing workforce.

If you have further enquiries regarding this matter, please contact me, Dr Carolyn Stapleton FACN, Director of Policy, Strategy and Advocacy, at [carolyn.stapleton@acn.edu.au](mailto:carolyn.stapleton@acn.edu.au).

Yours sincerely



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