

October 3, 2025
Update to VADSA Supporters

Dementia Insert, Advance Care Directives session and Voices from VAD

There has been a considerable response and interest in the Advance Care Directive (ACD) Dementia Insert circulated last week, which we welcome. We love to hear from you.

Given the feedback, we thought it useful to clarify the use of the Dementia Insert:

1. Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) cannot be requested through an ACD
2. It is essential to refer to the Dementia Insert in the body of your ACD, eg Section 3, a, b or c
3. If you already have an ACD and wish to add the Dementia Insert, you need to complete a new ACD, including having every page signed.

The Dementia Insert is attached [here](#), but it is also available on the [Dementia and VAD](#) page on our website (under Resources). (The link in last week's email no longer works.)

The VADSA AGM is coming up on November 2.

The focus is on Advance Care Directives.

Advance Care Directives: what you should know

Guest speaker is Associate Professor Kate Swetenham PS.M.

Kate is the SA Health Service Director of Southern Adelaide Palliative Services and President of Palliative Care Nurses Australia.

Venue: Box Factory, 59 Regent St South, Adelaide

Time: 2.15pm

Date: Sunday November 2, 2025

Voices from VAD

While we have your attention, many of you will find the podcast series, [Voices from VAD](#), published by Dr Laureen Lawlor-Smith informative and absorbing listening. In this series Laureen talks with friends and relatives of people who have used VAD, other VAD trained doctors, MPs, people with a religious perspective and advocates. There are so far 17 discussions. Recent ones with former Premier Rev Dr Lynn Arnold, Dr Peter Allcroft (Chair of Palliative Care Australia and SA Health VAD co-clinical lead) and Marshall Perron (former Chief Minister of the NT who introduced the first VAD legislation in the world to deliver assisted dying) are absolutely worth the listening time. There is also a [News story](#) on our website about the podcasts.