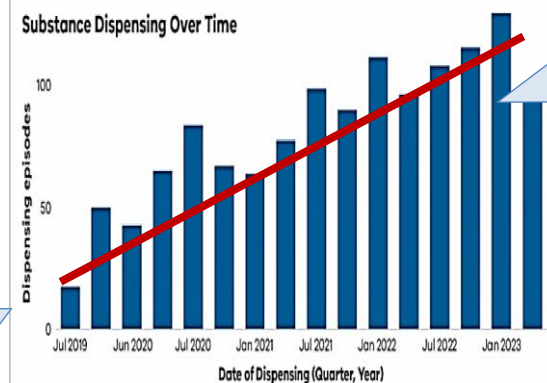


## The reality of medically assisted dying in Australia

v1



Assisted dying prescriptions in Victoria have more than doubled in 4 years<sup>1</sup>

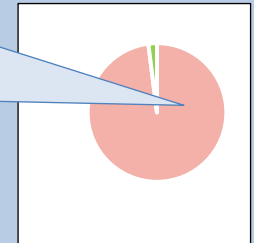


In 2022/33 in Victoria<sup>1</sup>

- 30% did not use their prescriptions<sup>1</sup>.
- Drugs were dispensed a median of 34 days after the first request
- diagnoses included diabetes and 73% had less than 12 months of palliative care (not defined)<sup>1</sup>

Less than 1% of Australian doctors prescribe assisted dying drugs

Australian doctors struggle with distress and insufficient time for assisted deaths



From 2015 to 2021, Australia has dropped from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> place in world end-of-life care rankings<sup>3, 4</sup>



In Queensland those administering the drugs, most only see a few patients each year (5 or less)<sup>1</sup>



Palliative care funding has dropped in some states and 25% cannot access specialist palliative care<sup>7, 8</sup>

Data on complications is missing in reports



Assisted dying has not reduced suicide rates in Australia<sup>6</sup>

### References

1. Victoria assisted dying report 2022/23.
2. Queensland assisted dying report 2023/4
3. Finkelstein EA, et al.. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 2021; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpainsymman.2021.12.015>
4. The 2015 Quality of Death Index: ranking palliative care across the world. London: Economist Intelligence Unit, 2015.
5. Kirchhoffer DG, et al. *BMJ Open* 2023; 13: e065964
6. Jones DA. Analysis of Australian suicide rates.
7. [ABC Report](#)
8. [Victoria report](#)