

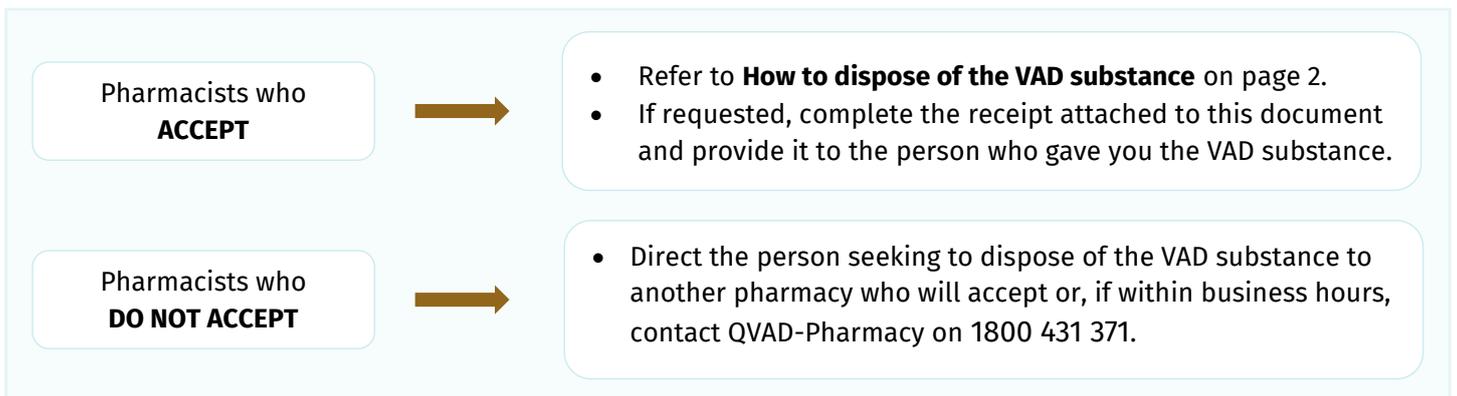
DISPOSING OF THE VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING SUBSTANCE

Fact Sheet for Pharmacists

Voluntary assisted dying (VAD) is the legal process that enables the prescription, supply and administration of substance intended to cause death. There may be times when a VAD substance is unused and will need to be disposed of.

WHO CAN DISPOSE OF THE VAD SUBSTANCE?

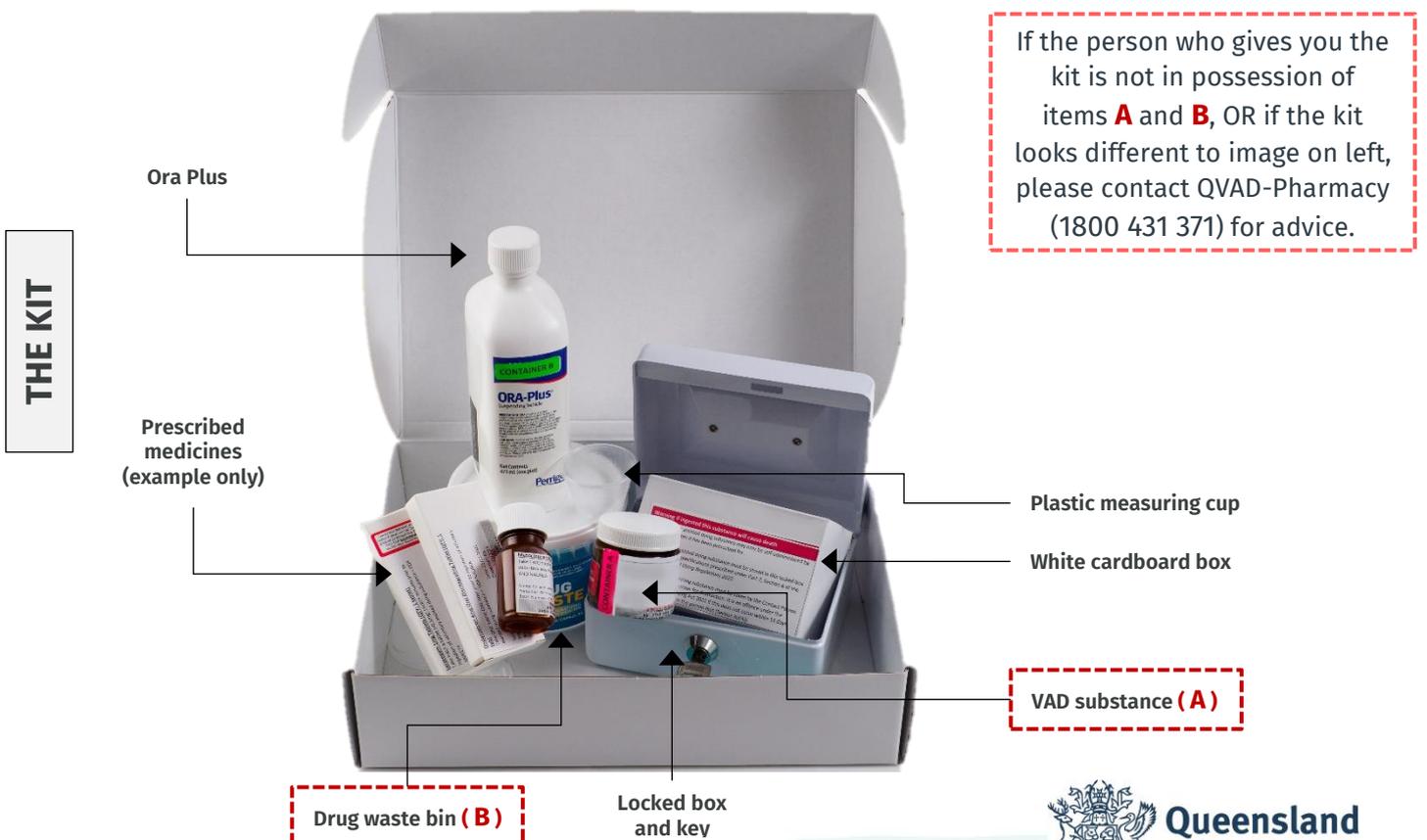
Pharmacists who work in a hospital or in the community can legally dispose of the VAD substance. However, pharmacists are not obligated to accept a VAD substance for disposal.



WHAT DOES THE VAD SUBSTANCE KIT LOOK LIKE?

Pharmacists will be handed a kit (pictured below) and the following items are needed to complete the disposal:

- A.** The **unused VAD substance** requiring disposal
- B.** **Drug waste bin** (denatures the VAD substance).



HOW TO DISPOSE OF THE VAD SUBSTANCE

1 Accept the VAD substance and **document** contact details

The pharmacist **must obtain** the following information from the person that gave them the substance:



CONTACT DETAILS

NAME:
ADDRESS:
EMAIL:
PHONE:

NOTE: This information is required to complete the mandatory legal form: *Form 14- Authorised Disposal Form*, detailed in step 3.

Some of this information is located **on the underside of the locked box**. However, if information obtained from the person who gave the substance was insufficient, please contact QVAD-Pharmacy for advice.

2 Dispose of the VAD substance

The pharmacist must personally dispose of the unused VAD substance **as soon as practicable** after receiving it.



DRUG WASTE BIN

- **Remove and destroy all labelling** from the packaging to make it unidentifiable.
- **Decant the substance** into the drug waste container and follow the directions on the *drug waste bin* to denature and render the substance unusable.
- Once denatured, **dispose of the drug waste bin** by your usual means e.g. place in Return of Unused Medicines (RUM) bin.
- All other items and packaging (e.g. locked box, key, ORA-Plus, etc.) can be discarded in the general waste bin.

3 Report the disposal within two business days

After disposing, the pharmacist **must** complete **Form 14 - Authorised Disposal Form** and submit the form to the Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board within **two business days** of disposing of the VAD substance.



Access guidance on **How to Submit an Form 14 - Authorised Disposal Form** at: https://www.health.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0036/1198548/QRG-How-to-submit-an-authorized-disposal-form.pdf or by scanning this QR code.

NOTE: Completion of Form 14 - Authorised Disposal Form is a legislative requirement and ensures accountability for the VAD substance. Failure to submit the completed form may result in a maximum penalty of 100 penalty units. For current penalty unit value, please visit: <https://www.qld.gov.au/law/fines-and-penalties/types-of-fines/sentencing-fines-and-penalties->

For more information:

- [Queensland Voluntary Assisted Dying Handbook](#)
- [Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2021](#)
- [Voluntary Assisted Dying Regulation 2022](#)
- Queensland Health website: www.health.qld.gov.au/vad

Queensland Voluntary Assisted Dying Pharmacy Service (QVAD-Pharmacy)

Phone: 1800 431 371

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Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.00pm (excluding public holidays)