

THE QUEENSLAND LAWYER

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The withdrawal of extraordinary treatment such as nutrition and hydration is an issue that has social, ethical and legal implications. At one level it is hard to understand how the law could ever condone the starving to death of a patient. However, this sort of emotive language only disguises the true nature of what is happening here. So what is the legal position regarding the removal of nutrition and hydration? This article discusses two recent cases, each based on different statutory provisions, which assist in our understanding of this difficult issue.	135
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 - 5. Austin, n 4, p 56.

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Customer Service and sales inquiries:

Tel: 1800 650 522

Fax: 61 2 8587 7200

Web: www.lawbookco.com.au

Email: service@thomson.com.au

Editorial inquiries:

Tel: (02) 8587 7000

HEAD OFFICE

100 Harris Street PYRMONT NSW 2009

Tel: (02) 8587 7000 Fax: (02) 8587 7100



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