National Disability Insurance Scheme - Information for General Practitioners and other health providers

An Australian Government Initiative
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welcome and Introductions</td>
<td>Alistair Bonsey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overview of the NDIS</td>
<td>Keryn Fox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP Perspective and Practicalities</td>
<td>Ewa Piejko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NDIS in Action – Case Study</td>
<td>Leanne Healey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Pathways</td>
<td>Chris Fishley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questions and Discussion</td>
<td>Alistair Bonsey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overview of the NDIS

Keryn Fox

Director, Stakeholder Engagement

National Disability Insurance Scheme
Role of the General Practitioner

Dr Ewa Piejko
Medical Advisor
MurrayPHN
What does the NDIS Do?

The NDIS is not intended to replace the supports or services provided by other mainstream systems.

NDIS will fund supports which help the participant manage ongoing functional impairment that results from their disability so that they can live their life in the most active, functional way possible.
Social vs medical model
What types of supports are funded?

- daily personal activities
- transport to enable participation in community, social, economic and daily life activities
- workplace help to allow a participant to successfully get or keep employment in the open or supported labour market
- therapeutic supports including behaviour support
- help with household tasks to allow the participant to maintain their home environment
- help to a participant by skilled personnel in aids or equipment assessment, set up and training
- home modification design and construction
- mobility equipment, and
- vehicle modifications.
Determining whether a support is funded by the Scheme or another system

- The Scheme is not intended to replace other mainstream systems.
- If another system is responsible for support, the NDIS cannot fund that support, even if the system responsible does not provide it.
Supports not funded by the Scheme

• the diagnosis and assessment of health conditions
• clinical services and treatment of health conditions – including all medical services such as general practitioners, care while admitted in hospital, surgery, the cost of medical specialists and so on
• medications and pharmaceuticals
• sub-acute care such as palliative care, geriatric and psychogeriatric care
• post-acute care, including nursing care for treating health conditions and wound management
• dental care and all dental treatments
What is the role of the health professional in the NDIS access process?

GPs and other health professionals may be asked to provide evidence to support a request to access the NDIS.

This may involve
• completing the NDIS Supporting Evidence Form or sections of the Access Request Form (ARF);
• documenting that the person has or is likely to have a permanent disability; and
• providing copies of reports or assessments that outline the extent of the functional impact of the disability.
To Document the impact of a person’s physical / intellectual / psychosocial disability

Address the following functional domains

1. Mobility / Motor Skills
2. Communication
3. Social Interaction
4. Learning
5. Self-Care
6. Self-Management

And

7. Impact on Family / Carers
Mobility / Motor Skills

The ability of a person to move around the home (crawling/walking) to undertake ordinary activities of daily living, getting in and out of bed or a chair, leaving the home, moving about in the community and performing other tasks requiring the use of limbs;

Document:

Does the person require assistance to be mobile because of their disability?

Describe the type of assistance required to improve their ability to move about independently
Communication

includes being understood in spoken, written or sign language, understanding others and expressing needs and wants by gesture, speech or context appropriate to age;

Document:

Does the person require assistance to communicate effectively because of their disability?

Describe the type of assistance required to facilitate effective and communication
Social interaction

includes making and keeping friends (or playing with other children), interacting with the community, behaving within limits accepted by others, coping with feelings and emotions in a social context

Document:

Does the person require assistance to socially interact effectively because of their disability?

Describe the type of assistance required to enable and enhance social interaction
Learning

includes understanding and remembering information, learning new things, practicing and using new skills;

Document:

Does the person require assistance to Learn effectively because of their disability?

Describe the type of assistance required to support and facilitate learning
Self-care

means activities related to personal care, hygiene, grooming and feeding oneself, including showering, bathing, dressing, eating, toileting, grooming, caring for own health care needs;

Document:

Does the person require assistance to assist with self care because of their disability?

Describe the type of assistance required to enable the person to be as independent as possible with ADLs or receive support to meet these needs
Self-management

means the cognitive capacity to organise one's life, to plan and make decisions, and to take responsibility for oneself, including completing daily tasks, making decisions, problem solving and managing finances.

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Does the person require assistance to assist with self management because of their disability?

Describe the type of assistance required to ensure the person is able to adequately manage day to day tasks, organise and plan their lives.
Impact on family / carers

means the impact that person’s disability is having on the quality of life of family and carers. In particular, is an adult who may otherwise be able to participate in the workforce, having to forgo that to be caring for the person with the disability, factors that increase risk of burn out of carers, are siblings restricted by the types of activity they can do, opportunities they cannot access.

Document:

Does the persons disability impact on the ability for their family to undertake activities that they would be doing if not for the disability?

Describe the type of assistance required that would allow the family members also live their lives to the fullest
Existing assessments or reports

• Any reports pertaining to the applicants Physical, Intellectual or psychosocial disability
• Diagnostic or assessment information
• Specialist reports / assessments / Diagnosis
• Multi disciplinary assessments / Diagnosis

• Option to refer for further assessment if you are not able to do so
Practical Aspects for Consideration

1. Patient flow – managing the time restrictions
2. Role of the practice nurse – can some of the assessment be built into a GP Management Plan assessment
3. Medicare Item numbers – no specific item number for the assessment
4. Specialist assessments – when you need to refer
5. Knowing what the health provider needs to write to ensure the patient receives the service they need
6. Navigating the system - chasing up documents, assessments, working out the system
Other Roles in the NDIS

Local Area Coordinators (Intereach in Loddon)

- Support people to understand and access the NDIS
- Carry out most NDIS planning conversations
- Do not make final decisions
- Work with community to build inclusiveness of people with disability.
- Offices in Bendigo, Echuca, Kyneton
- T) 1300 488 226
- www.interreach.com.au

Partners in Recovery (Consortium lead by Murray PHN)

- Provide service coordination to people with severe and persistent Mental Health issues in and out of the NDIS
- Assist with NDIS application & process
- Workers in Bendigo, Echuca, Kerang, Swan Hill and Deniliquin
- T) 03 5441 7004
- www.pir.net.au
Murray HealthPathways - National Disability Insurance Scheme

Chris Fishley
Health Systems Co-ordinator
MurrayPHN
NDIS in Practice – a Case Study

Leanne Healey, Occupational Therapist and Director
Everyday Independence
Questions and Discussion ……..
Thank you

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