



Disability Health Strategy

First Action Plan

Progress Report

June 2025



Acknowledgement of Country



Acknowledgement means we understand that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples belong to this land.

We thank the Ngunnawal people.

They are the traditional owners in the ACT.



We also recognise other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have a connection to this land and people.

We respect their living culture.

We respect what they bring to this city and this region.

Hard words



Hard words are words that some people might not know.

The first time we write a hard word it is in **bold**.

We write what the hard word means after the first time we use it.

You can get help with this paper



You can get someone to help you

- read this paper
- know what this paper is about
- find more information.

More information about help with this paper



If English is not your first language and you need help

- you can use the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)
- you can call the TIS on 13 14 50.



If you are deaf or have hearing or speech needs

- you can use the National Relay Service (NRS)
- you can call the NRS on 1800 555 660.

About this paper



This paper is from the ACT Government.

This paper will say we and us a lot.

When the paper says we and us this means the ACT Government.



This paper is about the Disability Health Strategy Action Plan.

We call it the plan.

The plan says how we will have health care that is **accessible** and **inclusive**.

Accessible means easy for everyone to

- use
- understand.

Inclusive means everyone is able to be part of things.



You can read the plan on our website at
act.gov.au/open/act-disability-health-strategy.



This paper is about what has been done on the plan
from January 2024 to June 2025.

How we will have better health information



145 people who work in health care and disability services had training about learning how to write in Easy English.

This will make health information easier to read and understand.



We made the information on our website easy to find.

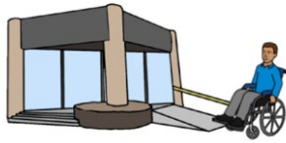


We have looked at the **health literacy** needs of people with disability.

Health literacy is when you can

- get information about health
- know about health
- use information about health
- we are making this better.

How we will have better access and choice



We are working with people with disability on how to make our buildings more accessible.



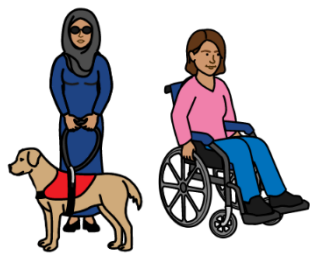
We have done **research** and talked to **stakeholders** about how we can make sure healthcare services talk to each other.



Research is learning more about things to know more about them.

Stakeholders are the people we talk to when we do research.

We will keep working with stakeholders and do more research to finish this.



We have done research and talked to stakeholders about a **sexual health** service for women with disability.

Sexual health is about being healthy and safe in sexual relationships.

We will call it the service.

We are working out how to make the service happen.



The service will make sure women with disability can learn about how to keep their body healthy by having

- safe sex
- cervical screening
- regular tests for sexual health issues
- healthy relationships.



We have written a report on **mental health** for people with intellectual disability.



Mental health means the way you

- feel in your body
- think
- get along with others.

The report we have written makes it easier for people with intellectual disability to get help when they need support with their mental health.



We have done research and talked to stakeholders about making homes more accessible for people when they leave hospital.



They might need help with things like

- handrails
- ramps.

We are working out how to make homes more accessible when people leave hospital.

We will have a plan for when there is an emergency



We have done research and talked to stakeholders about a plan called the **Emergency** Preparedness and Management Plan.



An **emergency** is when there is danger around for a lot of people, like a bushfire or a flood.

This plan will make sure people with disability can get healthcare when there is an emergency.

We are teaching health care workers about people with disability



Disability Access and Inclusion Plans help make sure healthcare is accessible and inclusive.

We will call this a disability plan.



Canberra Health Services has a disability plan for public hospitals.



You can read the disability plan on our website at canberrahealthservices.act.gov.au/.



We have done research and talked to stakeholders to help us know how to teach healthcare workers like doctors and nurses.

We are doing research about people with disability



We are working on how we can get better information about the health of people with disability.



We have given some hospital information about people with disability to the Australian Government.

It is important for you to know we have not told anyone your name.



This will help us to

- know more about what healthcare people with disability need
- make healthcare services better for people with disability.

We are making sure we listen to people with intellectual disability



Intellectual disability affects how well you can

- learn new things
- solve problems
- communicate
- do things on your own
- understand information.



We have a person with intellectual disability on the Disability Health Reference Group.

We will call this the group.

The group shares information with us about disability and health.



We have an Easy Read Tester Panel.

We will call this the panel.

The panel helps us to make sure people with intellectual disability can understand our information.

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