

Pilots and Targeted Programs

Activity Work Plan

2020 - 2022

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Primary Care Enhancement for People with Intellectual Disability

Aim of Activity

The aim of this activity is to enhance the primary health workforce and coordination of care in the management of people with intellectual disability (ID) through the implementation of co-design approaches, incorporating:

- increased awareness of ID workforce in Tasmania;
- improved knowledge and skills to support and enhance healthcare for people with ID;
- improved transition of children and young people from paediatric to adult services; and
- increased coordination of care at the interface between public hospitals, NDIS and primary care.

Description of Activity

2020 - 2021

Primary Health Tasmania envisage that the scope of the work to be undertaken will develop and will be refined through the co-design process with the sector throughout the contractual period.

Initially the activities are as outlined below.

The implementation will focus on co-design approaches to enhance the primary health workforce and coordination of care in the management of people with intellectual disability (ID), namely:

- establishment of a local reference group,
- development of ID Tasmanian HealthPathways,
- workforce mapping of ID specialists in Tasmania and ensure linkage to primary and secondary care workforce,
- training of primary care services to support and enhance healthcare for people with ID,
- transition of children and young people from paediatric to adult services, and
- facilitate better coordination of care at the interface between public hospitals, NDIS and primary care providers.

Local Reference Group

A local reference group, with representation from people with ID, carers, advocates, disability service providers, NDIA, specialists and GPs will be established to support the co-design and evaluation processes associated with the funding.

Tasmanian HealthPathways

This Primary Care Enhancement Program (PCEP) grant application suggests developing an intellectual disability HealthPathways and review existing HealthPathways related to the main chronic conditions associated with intellectual disability and promote the HealthPathways to general practice and the primary care workforce.

Workforce Mapping - Tasmanian Health Directory

- Service mapping and data collection to compile Tasmanian Health Directory content
- A workforce mapping of ID specialists

This activity will include working with qualified specialist, primary care and allied health providers with a focus on building a community of practice to share knowledge, build experience and ensure latest developments in this field will be adopted.

Training

To provide practice support to primary care providers and services. This includes training, education sessions, updates and access to appropriate resources and ID specific supports. This also includes the Primary Health Tasmania internal understanding of the disability sector.

Transition

To support young people with chronic conditions to transition to adult health services, Primary Health Tasmania codesigned and disseminated the Moving on Up Framework and resources to primary, secondary and tertiary health providers. Chronic conditions affect the everyday lives of approximately 40 per cent of young Australians, which equates to nearly 64,000 Tasmanians.

Many young people who grow up with chronic conditions of childhood fail to successfully transition to adult services. Children and adolescents with ID are prone to chronic conditions and are at increased risk of mental health disorders during the transition to adulthood. Research shows that successful transition results in improved patient outcomes, including reductions in acute and chronic complications and reduced hospital admissions. This PCEP grant application suggests using the Moving on Up framework to co-design, develop and disseminate resources with a focus on supporting young people with ID to seamlessly transition to adult services.

Interface

To enhance the interface with public hospitals, NDIS and primary and secondary care providers a staged approach will be implemented:

- System review and co-design to identify any modifications required to improve the coordination of care for people with ID, and
- Pilot care pathways modifications in liaison with key stakeholders.

2021 - 2022

The activities to be undertaken in 2021-22 will be refined through the co-design process in 2020-21 and will be aimed at enhancing the primary health workforce and coordination of care in the management of people with intellectual disability.

- Primary Health Tasmania will continue to work with the local reference group and expert stakeholders in the development of activities to improve the coordination of care.
- Modification of intellectual disability HealthPathways to ensure that they followed by a series of activities to raise awareness with clinicians.
- Finalisation and socialisation of the Moving on Up Framework with key stakeholder groups to improve the linkage between primary and secondary care.
- Review of the service mapping and workforce mapping to ensure that they are an accurate reflection of the current levels of provision.
- Ongoing liaison with the Council for Intellectual Disability to facilitate the delivery of training of primary care services to support and enhance healthcare for people with intellectual disability.

This will include the distribution of appropriate tools and resources to allow integration in day to day practice.

- Specific activities to be confirmed through the codesign process to facilitate better coordination of care at the interface between public hospitals, NDIS and primary care providers.

The planning of activities for subsequent years will be developed through the co-design process with the local reference group and the expert stakeholders.

COVID Allied Health Package - GP Education

Aim of Activity

The aim of this activity is to ensure that residents in residential aged care facilities (RACFs) have timely appropriate access to allied health professionals. This will be achieved through ensuring:

- increased awareness for GPs of the importance of allied health interventions for residents in aged care providers, and
- increased GP awareness of the new MBS items that are applicable to residential aged care providers.

Description of Activity

2020 - 2022

Ongoing provision of GP education until 30 June 2022, including:

- Provision of awareness raising for GPs of the importance of allied health interventions for residents in RACFs and the new MBS items that may be used in RACFs.
- The training will be via:
 - recorded webinars created as part of the VicTas Primary Health Network Alliance (4 webinars to 30 June 2022) which may be accessed on an ongoing basis by GPs.
 - localised Tasmanian specific webinar based around case based discussions which will be recorded and may be accessed on an ongoing basis by GPs (2 webinars to 30 June 2022).
- MBS item awareness is an integral part of our practice support program and therefore will be raised in all engagement activities.
- Specific MBS item information will be provided to delegates at our clinical updates.
- MBS items information will be incorporated into Tasmanian HealthPathways.

COVID Allied Health Package - Additional Group Physical Therapy

Aim of Activity

The aim of this activity is to ensure increased access to allied health professional for residents in Melaleuca Home For The Aged.

Description of Activity

2020 - 2021

Primary health Tasmania will:

- liaise with the allocated residential aged care facility (Melaleuca Home For The Aged) to determine current allied health service provision,
- engage with current service provider to define contractual approach to facilitate access to allied health services for eligible residents,
- undertake a formal sole source commissioning process to engage the existing provider through a service specification detailing the grant opportunity guidelines and a request for submission of a proposal,
- execute contractual agreement to commence service delivery by 1 May 2021 to deliver the specific exercise program to the residents in Melaleuca Home For The Aged for a six month period, and
- contract management with provider.

2021 - 2022

- Ongoing contract management of the allied health providing the specific exercise program to residents of Melaleuca Home for The Aged ceasing at the end of a six month contractual period,
- Completion of the evaluation of the program.