

# Health vs NDIS

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Understanding the responsibilities between NDIS and the Health system can be hard to understand.

The Council of Australian Government (COAG) outlines an Intergovernmental Agreement which dictates and outlines how government departments (both federal and state) are to work together and who is responsible for what. It also outlines which departments are responsible for certain things. e.g. NDIS or Health

This is extremely detailed legislation which you can find here

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/governance/intergovernmental-agreements>

However we understand this can be rather overwhelming, so we have put together some information to help you decide what falls under NDIS, and what falls under Health.

## NDIS RESPONSIBILITY –

**The NDIS is responsible for funding supports required due to the impact of a person's impairment on their functional capacity.**

- Supports needed due to the impact of their impairment on their **functional capacity** and their ability to undertake **activities of daily living**
- **Maintenance supports** delivered or supervised by clinically trained or qualified health professional
- Supports for activities of daily living for **people whose impairment has reached a point of stability**
- Supports to **manage a health condition** if a person is unable to do it independently **because of their disability**.

**Here are some examples of what this might look like –**

- Aids and equipment to enhance independent functioning in the home and community
- Early intervention for children aimed at enhancing functioning
- Nursing to support participation in community, education & employment e.g. PEG feeding, catheter care, skin integrity checks, tracheostomy care
- Training of NDIS workers by an Allied Health worker in how best to support a participant
- Assessment for NDIS planning & review
- Nutrition and dysphagia supports including PEG and HEN consumables, thickeners, and allied health consultations.
- Epilepsy supports, including monitoring with assistive technology
- Respiratory supports-such as tracheostomy changes, portable suction machines and more



## HEALTH RESPONSIBILITY –

**Health is responsible for diagnosis and treatment of health conditions including recovery oriented services and rehabilitation.**

The key types of responsibilities of the Health Department involve:

- **Diagnosis** of health conditions and disabilities
- **Early intervention and treatment** of health conditions, including ongoing or chronic health conditions
- **Medically prescribed care, treatment or surgery** for acute illness or injury
- Treatments or supports **delivered by a doctor or medical specialist**
- **Time limited, recovery-oriented services** and therapies (i.e. rehabilitation) aimed primarily at restoring health or improving functioning after a recent medical or surgical treatment intervention
- **Palliative care**, with the exception of supports that assist in daily living for people with life ending conditions
- Anything covered by the **Medicare Benefits Scheme (MBS) or Pharmaceuticals Benefits Scheme (PBS)**.

**Here are some examples of what this might look like –**

- Acute and emergency services
- Sub-acute services e.g. palliative care, geriatric evaluation & management, psycho-geriatric care
- Support for preliminary assessment of NDIS eligibility
- General hearing and vision services unrelated to the person's disability e.g. prescription glasses
- Preventative health and primary health care
- Intensive case coordination where a significant component is related to health supports

## HOW DOES IT ALL FIT? –

The NDIS does not replace the responsibility Health has to make its services accessible to people with disabilities.

The Scheme is not designed to mitigate problems with accessibility in other services or fill gaps where existing funding is insufficient.

**NDIS does not replace Medicare.**

**There are a range of disability-related health supports funded by NDIS. These include:**

- **Allied health** assessment, planning and the provision of, or training of disability support workers in the provision of, disability-related health support.
- Disability-related health supports delivered by disability support workers after appropriate training. This includes **three different price limits** for disability support workers (standard, high and very high intensity).
- Assessment, planning and the provision of disability-related health **support by nurses or training of support workers** to deliver these services. This includes five new classifications of nurses.
- **Consumables** related to disability-related health supports. This includes options for high cost consumables (price is not set) and for low cost consumables (maximum price applies).
- Two additional support items are for **delivery** of equipment and consumables and for the **set up** and training in the use equipment and consumables.
- **Assistive technology (AT)** related to disability-related health supports including high cost and low cost AT.

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## Resources

in addition to our above general information the NDIS have a detailed operational guideline that outlines what health supports the NDIS will fund, see the link for more information

<https://ourguidelines.ndis.gov.au/supports-you-can-access-menu/disability-related-health-supports>