



The Hon Mark Butler MP
Minister for Health and Aged Care

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Mr Jim Simpson AO
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Dear Mr Simpson

Thank you for your correspondence of 10 April 2025 regarding the health of people with intellectual disability.

The Albanese Labor Government acknowledges the serious health inequities that people with intellectual disability face.

People with intellectual disability deserve respectful, high quality and timely health care.

To address these serious health inequalities our Government provided funding for the National Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health, and continues to support the implementation of the *National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability* (the Roadmap). To date, the Government has invested \$47 million to date to implement priority actions under the Roadmap.

Several key priorities under the Roadmap have been delivered through collaboration between the Government and stakeholders from across the disability and health sectors, including the Council for Intellectual Disability. This includes:

- Establishment of a Roadmap Implementation Governance Group as a formal mechanism to ensure implementation of the Roadmap is overseen by a diverse group of health and disability stakeholders, including the Council for Intellectual Disability.
- Establishment of the National Centre for Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health, which provides national leadership in intellectual disability health; lifts the capability of health services to meet the needs of people with intellectual disability through training and development of best practice models of care; provides providing online support, including an online portal to help connect people with intellectual disability to appropriate health services; and serves as a repository of expertise, resources and research on intellectual disability health.
- Publication of the Intellectual Disability Health Capability Framework, which sets out clear capabilities, learning outcomes and guides for universities and accreditation authorities to support inclusion of intellectual disability content in the training of health care professionals. Additional education resources and tools are being developed to support implementation of the framework.

- Completion of a four-year pilot of the Primary Care Enhancement Program for People with Intellectual Disability (PCEP), with an evaluation report published in September 2024. The PCEP pilot has been extended for a further two years (to June 2026) to facilitate the collection and evaluation of additional data to inform a policy decision about future expansion.
- Publication of updated versions of both Adult and Young Person versions of the Comprehensive Health Assessment Program (CHAP) and launch of a campaign to promote uptake of annual health assessments and the CHAP. Work is also underway to support the integration of both versions of the CHAP into GP software.
- Ongoing collaboration with the sector to support people with intellectual disability to be health ambassadors, to promote awareness of health and intellectual disability to health professionals, disability service providers and support workers, families, carers and other people with intellectual disability.
- The continuation of MBS telehealth access for general practice, allied health and specialist care that will promote continuity of care for people with intellectual disability.
- Voluntary patient registration integrated as part of the MyMedicare initiative, with inclusion of specific questions to enable people to identify to their general practice that they have intellectual disability.
- Enhanced collaboration and engagement across the health and disability sectors.
- Publication of annual reports to provide updates about implementation of the Roadmap.

The voices of people with intellectual disability are crucial to improving health outcomes, which is why we have also increased the funding for Inclusion Australia, through the Disability Representative Organisation program.

We remain committed to working with the intellectual disability community to identify and support solutions to critical health issues, and to implement actions in the Roadmap.

Thank you for writing on this matter.

Yours sincerely



Mark Butler

29/04/2025