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September-October 2014 Volume 8, Issue 47

Disability support services: services provided under the National Disability Agreement 2012-13

In 2012-13, Australian governments spent \$7.2 billion on disability support services under the National Disability Agreement. This has risen in recent years-by 4% between 2011-12 and 2012-13, and by 23% since 2008-09, after adjusting for inflation.

In 2012-13, an estimated 312,539 Australians accessed disability support services, according to a report released today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

The report, **Disability support services: services provided under the National Disability Agreement 2012-13**, presents information on the use of community support services (45% of service users), employment services (41%), community access services (18%), accommodation support services (14%) and respite services (12%).

'The report provides important contextual and baseline information as the disability policy and service delivery environment continues to evolve, particularly with the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in 2013-14,' said AIHW spokesperson Dr Pamela Kinnear.

The number of service users generally increased over the 5 years to 2012-13-by 12% between 2008-09 and 2012-13. Users of disability support services are diverse. In 2012-13, 59% were male, 87% were Australian-born, 6% were Indigenous Australians, and 54% lived with their families. The most commonly reported disability groups continued to be intellectual (32%), physical (30%) and psychiatric (27%), though the proportion of service users with an intellectual disability dropped slightly over the 5 years to 2012-13.

AIHW catalogue number (AUS 182). View the [media release](#) and download the [full report](#) for free online.

Disability News

Disability Inclusion Legislation passed by NSW Parliament

NSW Minister for Disability Services John Ajaka welcomed the passage of the Disability Inclusion Bill through the NSW Parliament, which sets in place a legacy of inclusion and protection for people with disability during and following the transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

The legislation will replace the *Disability Services Act 1993* that has been in place for the past 21 years.

"This legislation was shaped by feedback received during an extensive state-wide consultation process conducted over the past few years involving thousands of people across NSW," Mr Ajaka said.

"The outcome of this legislation passing both houses will be a positive and significant impact on the lives of people with disability, their families and carers." "I am thrilled that Parliament has supported this landmark legislation which includes a definition of disability that is based on that in the United Nations Convention – it was designed to put

people with disability at the centre of decision-making, giving them greater choice and control over the supports they receive.

“Although the *Disability Services Act* was progressive when it was introduced in 1993, it does not reflect our new approach to disability services which focuses on helping people with disability live more independently. “While the new legislation isn’t part of the NDIS it will help support the smooth transition of disability services in NSW to the NDIS. “The legislation will also amend the *Ombudsman’s Act 1974* to ensure serious incidents involving the abuse or neglect of people with disability living in government funded or operated disability accommodation services are reported to the NSW Ombudsman.”

For more information on the Disability Inclusion Bill go to: www.facs.nsw.gov.au/dia

The Act will be available on the NSW legislation website when the Bill is assented to by the Governor. View a copy of the Bill as it was passed by both Houses of Parliament. - <http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/bills/info/aaf4bfa6-2a38-46d3-8c1a-732e9ba12cc2>

A set of five fact sheets has been developed to help you understand the Disability Inclusion Legislation 2014:

1. [DIA fact sheet 1 - overview of the Act \(August 2014\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Overview of the Act - Easy Read version \(PDF\)](#)
2. [DIA fact sheet 2 - disability planning \(August 2014\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Disability planning - Easy Read version \(PDF\)](#)
3. [DIA fact sheet 3 - supports, services and funding \(August 2014\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Supports, services and funding - Easy Read version \(PDF\)](#)
4. [DIA fact sheet 4 - employment screening \(August 2014\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Employment screening - Easy Read version \(PDF\)](#)
5. [DIA fact sheet 5 - reporting abuse and neglect \(August 2014\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Reporting abuse and neglect - Easy Read version \(PDF\)](#)

Disability News

NDS Joint pricing project delivers a price increase

From 1 July, National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) prices for 'assistance in self-care' and 'community support' will increase. These prices will apply in Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania (South Australia will receive an indexation increase of 2.6%). This represents a 13.5% increase on the price paid for standard one-to-one support in Victoria; 11.9% in NSW; and 8.1% in Tasmania. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/document/839>

Disability News

NDIS Evaluation

The National Institute of Labour Studies (NILS), of Flinders University, is leading a consortium that has been commissioned to evaluate the trial of the new National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). The five initial NDIS trial sites, which are covered by this evaluation, will include the whole eligible population of the Australian Capital Territory, eligible children in South Australia up to 14 years, eligible 15-24 year olds in Tasmania, and the eligible populations of the Barwon area of Victoria and the Hunter region of New South Wales. The NDIS will be trialled in the Australian Capital Territory in July 2014, and commenced in July 2013 in the other four initial trial sites.

The NILS-led team will monitor and evaluate the experience of participants, and their families and carers, service providers and their workforces in these sites over the next three years. The evaluation team thank our Australian Government partner, the Department of Social Services, for funding the evaluation and their state and territory government counterparts for their in-kind support.

NDIS Evaluation web site <http://ndisevaluation.net.au/>

For information about the NDIS, see www.ndis.gov.au

For information about the Department of Social Services, see www.dss.gov.au

Featured Conference

15 - 16 October 2014

25th PANDDA 2014 Conference,

Professional Association of Nurses in Developmental Disability Australia.

Novotel Hotel, Parramatta, NSW.

*Proudly sponsored by **Global Disability & Health Care Services.***

www.pandda.net

7 November 2014

Developmental Disabilities, Challenging Behaviour and Mental Health Conference.

Footbridge Theatre, University of Sydney.

*Proudly sponsored by **Global Disability & Health Care Services.***

<http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/cdrp/events/current-events.shtml>

Disability News

New guidelines on scooter use

The Australian Human Rights Commission today released an Advisory Note which provides advice on how people with disabilities who use mobility scooters can do so in clubs throughout NSW.

The Advisory Note, released under the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act, deals with use of scooters in clubs - speed, safety, and the arrangements of furniture and fittings in club premises. "This Advisory Note sets out how scooters might be used in clubs, and clarifies the situation for both clubs and patrons. It should reduce disputes, and provide clubs and patrons with some immediate answers to questions which might otherwise have been resolved in discrimination complaints," said Disability Discrimination Commissioner Graeme Innes. "It should facilitate scooter use, and assist clubs to know how to best proceed," he said.

The Advisory Note was produced in consultation with clubs and the disability sector and is supported by the RSL & Services Clubs Association, ClubsNSW, Leagues Clubs Australia, Bowls NSW and RSL Victoria. "A better understanding of club responsibilities in this area can only be of benefit to clubs and club patrons. There is a growing use of mobility scooters in clubs and the Advisory Note will help venues better understand their needs and balance that against the needs of other patrons so their visit to the club is more enjoyable", said Graeme Carroll, Chief Executive Officer RSL & Services Clubs Association.

The CEO of ClubsNSW, Anthony Ball expressed support for the initiative. "Mobility Scooters are used by some people in clubs around the State, and this advisory note will help those club patrons enjoy a better club experience," he said.

The Advisory Note can be found at <http://www.humanrights.gov.au/mobility-scooters-registered-clubs>.

Disability News

Beyond doubt: the experiences of people with disabilities reporting crime

The Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, Victoria. People with disabilities are being routinely denied the basic human right of access to justice, this report finds.

The Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (the Commission) is an independent statutory body. We have functions under:

- the Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)
- the Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2001 (Vic)
- the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities (the Charter).

This research was conducted under section 157 of the Equal Opportunity Act. It was initiated because of concerns raised by our Disability Reference Group that people with disabilities face significant and complex barriers when seeking justice as victims of crime.

Issues around equality in policing are of particular concern to the Commission because:

- people with disabilities may be more likely to experience violent and sexual crime than other people
- barriers to reporting crime can prevent victims from accessing other stages of the criminal justice system
- crimes against victims with disabilities are less likely to be successfully prosecuted.

These issues raise a number of rights protected in the Equal Opportunity Act, the Charter and in other domestic and international law.

Specifically, Victoria Police, the courts and Victorian service systems all have legal obligations to uphold the rights of people with disabilities under the Equal Opportunity Act and the Charter.

[Beyond doubt: the experiences of people with disabilities reporting crime](#)

Disability News

National review of legal services

A review commends current achievements while acknowledging that more funding is needed to address unmet legal needs.

Commonwealth funding to Legal Aid NSW is governed by the National Partnership Agreement on Legal Assistance Services (NPA) 2010–2014.

ACIL Allen Consulting has reviewed the partnership agreement. The review covered all Commonwealth-funded legal assistance services – legal aid commissions, community legal centres, Aboriginal legal services, and family violence prevention legal services. The *NPA Report* stated that there is a significant level of unmet legal need and that this need cannot be addressed at the current funding levels.

The Review found that nationally there was scope for:

- improved coordination of legal and related support services for people with complex needs.
- greater local planning and a coordinated approach to make the best use of available resources and expertise.

The findings of the review are presented in two reports and three working papers, which are now available from the ACIL [Allen Consulting website](#).

Disability Issues In The Media

Dutch model offers new approach to home care

It is the fastest growing organisation in the Netherlands and for three years running has been named the country's top employer. Not-for-profit organisation Buurtzorg Nederland, founded and developed by community nurses, is transforming home care in the Netherlands and is quickly garnering attention worldwide, including in Australia. Since its development in 2006, the [Buurtzorg](#) or "neighbourhood care" model has attracted the interest of more than 25 countries including the National Health Service in England. Sweden, Japan and the US state of Minnesota have already begun introducing Buurtzorg nurse-led teams in their jurisdictions. **Read the [Australian Ageing Agenda](#) article** at <http://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/2014/07/30/dutch-model-offers-alternative-approach-home-care/>

Featured Organisation

PANDDA

Professional Association of Nurses in Developmental Disability Australia

A national professional body for nurses in the sector and membership is open to Registered, Enrolled and Assistants in Nursing. Members receive a newsletter and discounts at the annual conference.

www.pandda.net

15 - 16 October 2014

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Disability News

People using both Disability Services and Home and Community Care in 2010-11

This report examines the characteristics and service use of people who accessed both Disability Services and Home and Community Care programs. In 2010, 11 around 54,800 people were known to have used both programs, and the majority of these people were aged under 65 (89%). The report found that people using both programs required higher, more complex and diverse supports, and relied on a wide range of complementary services from both programs to support their distinct support needs. AIHW catalogue number (DIS 64). Download the [full report](#) for free online.

People using both Disability Services and Home and Community Care in 2010-11: technical report

This report describes the linkage process used to identify the extent of joint use of Disability Services and the Home and Community Care program. The methods used to derive analysis variables are also described. Under one-fifth of Disability Service users also used HACC in 2010-11. The analysis of joint program use is presented in the companion report People using both Disability Services and Home and Community Care 2010-11. AIHW catalogue number (CSI 19). Download the [full report](#) for free online.

Disability News

Susan Ryan appointed Acting Disability Commissioner

Age Discrimination Commissioner, Susan Ryan, has added Disability Discrimination to her portfolio and will focus on improving dignity, respect and equal opportunities for people with disability.

“As I commence my term as Acting Disability Discrimination Commissioner, I want to reinvigorate a national discussion about how we create opportunities for people with disabilities to enter the workplace,” said Commissioner Ryan.

Commissioner Ryan also announced that she will convene a National Disability Forum in September to meet with people with disabilities and their representative bodies.

In preparation for the forum, the Australian Human Rights Commission will shortly release a survey asking people with disabilities to identify the key issues that they face, especially in relation to access to jobs. This will be used to inform discussion at the National Disability Forum and to guide the development of the Commission’s future work priorities in advancing the rights of people with disabilities. “I look forward to continuing the Commission’s work under the Disability Discrimination Act,” said Commissioner Ryan. “Initially, I will do so by focusing on the area where there has been inadequate progress over the past twenty years – creating employment opportunities.”

Lions Nurses Scholarships (NSW/ACT)

Lions Nurses Scholarships are open for 2015

Disability, Rehabilitation, Aged Care and Mental health Nurses are welcome to apply.

These Scholarships are available to eligible enrolled nurses and registered nurses and midwives.

Applications close 31 October 2014

- **Category A:** Scholarships for a study tour or conference, either in Australia or overseas, not necessarily leading to an award or an additional formal qualification.
- **Category B:** Scholarships for extended study leading to the award of a formal qualification at a recognised tertiary institution in Australia or overseas.

For more information go to <http://www.nswnma.asn.au/the-lions-nurses-scholarship-information/> or call the NSWNMA on 1300367962.

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http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/work_with_global.html

Disability News

Resolving long-term homelessness

Guy Johnson, Daniel Kuehnle, Sharon Parkinson, Sandra Sesa, Yi-Ping Tseng | Centre for Applied Social Research | Melbourne Institute for Applied Economic and Social Research. Evaluating an intensive intervention designed to end long-term homelessness, this report covers the 36 months outcomes of a pilot program to assist people who were long-term homeless to receive the range of services they need. The Journey to Social Inclusion pilot program was designed to break the cycle of long-term homelessness. The pilot provided intensive support for three years to assist people who were long-term homeless to receive the range of services they need. This report presents the social and economic outcomes after the completion of the pilot. The evaluation used a randomised controlled trial to track and compare the outcomes of the J2SI participants (Group J) with those of an equivalent group of chronically homeless people (Group E) who were supported by existing services. After three years 80% of the original participants remained involved in the trial.

Disability News

Future housing and support needs of people with dementia

Michelle Gabriel, Christine Stirling, Debbie Faulkner, Barbara Lloyd | Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute.

This research project will provide policy-makers and housing practitioners with new knowledge into the future housing and support needs of people with dementia. It will advance strategies to support tenants, extend their capacity to age-in-place and improve service coordination in this area. In an ageing society such as Australia, there is growing recognition of the importance of planning for the future care of older people with dementia (PwD). Dementia is predicted to become the leading cause of disability by 2016, with the number of cases in Australia expected to increase to close to 1 million by 2050 (AIHW 2007, p.52). While there is a growing literature around managing dementia, to date, insight into the role of housing in supporting PwD and the planning and coordination of health and housing services has been limited. This project on the Future housing and support needs of people with dementia aims to address this gap.

[Future housing and support needs of people with dementia](#)

(Source Australian Policy Online <http://apo.org.au/node/39817>)

National Disability Strategy

The National Disability Strategy 2010-2020 sets out a ten year national policy framework for improving life for Australians with disability, their families and carers. It represents a commitment by all levels of government, industry and the community to a unified, national approach to policy and program development. This new approach will assist in addressing the challenges faced by people with disability, both now and into the future.

The Strategy is the result of a large nation-wide public consultation process, involving more than 2,500 people and reported in *Shut Out: The Experience of People with Disabilities and their Families in Australia*, and was formally endorsed by COAG on 13 February 2011.

- [Shut Out Report](#)

The Strategy is a ten year national policy framework that sets out six priority areas for action to improve the lives of people with disability, their families and carers. These are:

- Inclusive and accessible communities—the physical environment including public transport; parks, buildings and housing; digital information and communications technologies; civic life including social, sporting, recreational and cultural life.
- Rights protection, justice and legislation—statutory protections such as anti-discrimination measures, complaints mechanisms, advocacy, the electoral and justice systems.
- Economic security—jobs, business opportunities, financial independence, adequate income support for those not able to work, and housing.
- Personal and community support—inclusion and participation in the community, person-centred care and support provided by specialist disability services and mainstream services; informal care and support.
- Learning and skills—early childhood education and care, schools, further education, vocational education; transitions from education to employment; life-long learning.
- Health and wellbeing—health services, health promotion and the interaction between health and disability systems; wellbeing and enjoyment of life.

The National Disability Strategy will guide public policy across governments and aims to bring about change in all mainstream services and programs as well as community infrastructure. It is the first time the Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments have agreed to such a wide ranging set of directions for disability.

Copies of the National Disability Strategy, including accessible formats, are available at the below links:

- [National Disability Strategy 2010-2020](#)
- [National Disability Strategy Summary 2010-2020](#)
- [National Disability Strategy 2010-2020 Fact Sheet](#)

The National Disability Strategy is also available on the [COAG website](#).

Medication Safety in Health Care

The **Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care** has identified improving the safety and quality of medication usage in Australia as one of its priorities and as a NSQHS Standard. Reducing error and harm from medicines through safe and quality use is an important element of our work and is helping us to achieve our objective of leading and coordinating national safety and quality improvements in health care. The Medication Safety Program is advised by a number of [standing and advisory committees](#).

Improving Medication Safety

The Commission works to improve the safety and quality of medicines systems and use through a number of initiatives including:

- [Medication charts](#)
- [Medication reconciliation](#)
- [Medication administration](#)
- [Medication safety and quality education and training](#)
- [High risk medicines](#)

- [Safer naming, labelling and packaging of medicines](#)
- [VTE prevention](#)

NSQHS Standard 4 Medication Safety

The Commission provides resources to assist with the implementation of NSQHS Standard 4.

- [National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards](#)
- [Safety and quality improvement guides](#)
- [Standard 4 resources](#)
- [Fact sheet](#)

A new system for employment and social outcomes

Reference Group on Welfare Reform to the Minister for Social Services. This report argues that fundamental reform of the architecture of Australia's welfare system is needed to better capture evolving labour market and social changes, and proposes pillars of reform. This report proposes four pillars of reform:

- Simpler and sustainable income support system
- Strengthening individual and family capability
- Engaging with employers
- Building community capacity

Source [Australian Policy Online](#) for Executive Summary

Report [A new system for better employment and social outcomes](#)

Directories Online

Many Minds Link (MMLink): Community Directory

A community directory for people with a disability and their carers that is also researched and compiled by people who have a disability for mobile devices (mobile phones and tablets).

Project auspiced by the **Differently Abled People Association Inc. (DAPA)**

Search online <http://www.mmlink.com.au/Search.aspx>

Available as a mobile phone/ tablet application

iPhones App Store <https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/manymindslink/id556813006?mt=8>

Android <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.mmlink.android>

Alive 90.5 fm Australian Spectrum Show with Ross (Your Editor of the Global Gazette)

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Tuesday night 9 to 12 pm for all Australian blues, roots, jazz, folk and contemporary music. Weekly studio guests. Blues, Folk and Jazz Gig Guide and music.

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Over 150 Australian artistes have been featured studio guests on the Alive 90.5 fm Australian Spectrum Show.

The studio guests coming up include: = 8 Ball Aitken, The Radiators, Cap In Hand, Ian Macintosh, Los Skeltone Blues, Sam Newton, Ross Ward's Xpress, Johnny Cass Band, Simon Morel, Jasmin Jones, Rob Grosser, The Hot Shots, Elephant In The Room, Hoochie Coochie Men, Sydney Blues & Roots Festival, Frank Dengate's Blues Circus and many more in 2014.

Join our 5,000+ Facebook friends or follow our studio guest announcements at AustralianSpectrum Alive90.5

Intellectual Disability and Dementia: Research into Practice

Edited by Karen Watchman. An essential text for practitioners and students wishing to stay abreast of the latest developments in the field, this book brings together the latest international research and evidence-based practice in the field of dementia and intellectual disabilities, describing clearly the relevance and implications for support and services. 2014, Paperback. ISBN: 978-1-84905-422-5, [Read more](#)

Australia's health 2014

Australia's health 2014 is the 14th biennial health report of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. AIHW catalogue number (AUS 178 and AUS 181). This edition combines analytical feature articles on highly topical health issues with short statistical snapshots in the following areas:

- Understanding health and illness
- The Australian health system
- How healthy are we?
- Leading types of ill health
- Health behaviours and risks
- Health through your life
- Indigenous health
- Preventing and treating ill health
- Indicators of Australia's health.

View the [full report](#), ['in brief' version](#), [media release](#), and [online version](#).

Parenting ASD Teens: A Guide to Making it Up As You Go

By Andrew Schlegelmilch. This straight-talking and accessible guide for parents of teenagers on the autism spectrum provides down-to-earth advice on coping with the more difficult issues that can arise at home and school during the adolescent years. 2014 ISBN: 978-1-84905-975-6, [Read more](#)

Hospitalised injuries in older Australians: 2011-12

This report focuses on the most frequent causes of hospitalisations due to injury sustained by Australians, aged 65 years or older, during the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012. Whilst the vast majority of hospitalisations were due to falls, the report focuses on other injuries (such as unintentional poisoning by medications) and it may be useful for guiding and improving policy aimed at reducing those other injuries and for targeting investment in injury prevention strategies. AIHW catalogue number (INJCAT 166). View the [media release](#) and download the [full report](#) for free online.

Cognitive Analytic Therapy for People with Intellectual Disabilities and their Carers

Julie Lloyd and Philip Clayton. Cognitive Analytic Therapy (CAT) is increasingly used by those providing services for people with intellectual disabilities. This book introduces CAT in practical, user-friendly language and guides readers on how to use the approach to inform their work and encourage positive change through the therapeutic relationship. 2013, Paperback. ISBN: 978-1-84905-409-6, [more »](#)

Asthma snapshot

The AIHW's Asthma Snapshot is a web-based product summarising the latest available data on asthma prevalence, use of medicines, service utilisation and how it affects individuals and society. View the [updated snapshot](#) for free online.

Continence Aids Payment Scheme

The CAPS is an Australian Government Scheme that provides a payment to assist eligible people who have permanent and severe incontinence to meet some of the costs of their incontinence products. The payment is made by Medicare directly into a clients nominated bank account. For further information about CAPS please choose one of the pages below:

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Payment](#)
- [Eligibility](#)
- [How to apply](#)
- [Purchasing information](#)
- [Where can I get help?](#)

You can also download:

- [CAPS Application Form and Guidelines](#)
- [CAPS Eligible Neurological Conditions](#)
- [CAPS Eligible 'Other' Conditions](#)

If you have any questions about completing your CAPS application form, please contact Medicare on **132 011** and select the general enquiries option.

Research & Demographic Reports

Research on Psychiatric Disorders Targets Inflammation

M. J. Friedrich. *JAMA*. Published online July 23, 2014. doi:10.1001/jama.2014.8276. "Psychiatric and neurodevelopmental disorders are being thought of more and more as systemic illnesses in which inflammation is involved," noted Eric Hollander, MD, of Montefiore Medical Center and Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York City. The cause of increased inflammation in these conditions isn't always clear, but it has become a hot topic of investigation. Hollander, who spoke at the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association held here in May, was among several investigators who discussed how immune-inflammatory mechanisms can go awry and contribute to the development of depression, schizophrenia, and autism, insights that are leading to novel experimental approaches for these and other disorders. [Read the Journal of the American Medical Association.](#)

Health expenditure Australia 2011-12: analysis by sector

This report extends the analysis presented in Health expenditure Australia 2011-12 to further explore expenditure on particular categories of health goods and services, including hospitals, primary health care, other recurrent health expenditure and capital expenditure. In 2011-12, a total of \$132.4 billion was spent on recurrent health expenditure where 40.4% (\$53.5 billion) was spent on hospitals, 38.2% (\$50.6 billion) was spent on primary health care and the remaining 21.3% (\$28.3 billion) was spent on other areas of health spending. Capital expenditure accounted for a further \$7.9 billion bringing the total expenditure on health goods and services in 2011-12 to \$140.2 billion. AIHW catalogue number (**HWE 60**). View the [media release](#) and download the [full report](#) for free online.

[Effectiveness of Antiepileptic Drug Combination Therapy for Partial-Onset Seizures Based on Mechanisms of Action](#)

Jay M. Margolis, PharmD, Bong-Chul Chu, PhD, Zhixiao J. Wang, PhD, et al. *JAMA Neurol*. Published online June 09, 2014. doi:10.1001/jamaneurol.2014.808 Partial-onset seizures (POS) occur in about two-thirds of patients with epilepsy. The findings suggest that Anti Epileptic Drug (AED) combinations with different Mechanism Of Actions (MOA) have greater effectiveness as measured by treatment persistence and lower risks for hospitalization and emergency department visits. Further research is needed to more fully understand the role of the MOA in achieving optimal outcomes. Read abstract [here](#).

Australia's hospital statistics 2012-13

Australian hospital statistics 2012-13 presents a detailed overview of Australia's public and private hospitals. In 2012-13, there were about 9.4 million separations from hospitals, including:

- 5.2 million same-day acute separations
- 3.7 million overnight acute separations
- about 450,000 sub-acute and non-acute separations.

There were also 7.9 million non-admitted patient emergency services and more than 46 million outpatient services provided by public hospitals.

View the [media release](#) and download the [full report](#) for free online.

View the summary report, [Australia's hospitals at a glance 2012-13](#) and its [online version](#).

Your Input Matters

People With Disability Survey - Cost of Disability – how does it affect you?

We know it costs people with disability more than other people to do almost anything – work, study, travel, eat, relax etc and this week we want to hear your examples and experiences how 'cost of disability' affects you.

Some questions are: How important is it that the Government recognise the “cost of disability”? How important is it that Government provide the support you need to participate in society like other people? How would it affect you if you had no access to any income support at all? We want to share your comments and stories with the Australian Government in our work.

You can also complete this short survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KN5YC6Y> to give your feedback on the budget measures and the welfare reform or email Kate Finch, Advocacy Projects Manager at katef@pwd.org.au

Featured Course

Master of Health Science (Developmental Disability) for 2015

The Master of Health Science (Developmental Disability) is designed for practitioners from diverse backgrounds in disability services, including medical, nursing, dental, allied health therapies, social work, behavioural science and educational professions to develop specialist knowledge in the field of developmental disability.

The Master of Health Science (Developmental Disability) is taught by world-class leaders in the field who are committed to advancing health and social policy and practice solutions to enable affected individuals and their families to participate fully in society.

Semester 1 commences March 2015.

Closing date for application for Semester 1 2015 is 31 January 2015.

<http://sydney.edu.au/courses/programs/development-disability/Master-of-Health-Science-Developmental-Disability>

ONLINE EDUCATION DIRECTORY

Online professional development is an easy way to access further education – especially valuable for shift workers – so we have researched some options and put them on our web site at

http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/online_education.html

Education Resources

Food and nutrition

Food is fundamental to our health and wellbeing, so it is important we have a good understanding of where our food comes from, what we eat, where we eat and what factors affect our food choices. *Australia's food and nutrition 2012* looks at how our food gets from paddock to plate and how our food choices affect our health and our environment.

- The full report [Australia's food & nutrition 2012](#)
- A 32-page booklet providing highlights [Australia's food & nutrition 2012: in brief](#)
- Online version of [Australia's food & nutrition 2012: in brief](#)

Health Thesaurus

The 7th edition of the Health Thesaurus has been developed by the Departmental Library for use in all areas of the Department of Health.

The Health Thesaurus is a living working tool which assists consistency and subject retrieval of health concepts. By standardising concepts to one single subject heading, the Thesaurus forms the basis for a common terminology within the Department.

MeSH (medical Subject Headings) produced by the US National Library of Medicine has been used as the basis of the medical terms and the corresponding hierarchical schedules in the Health Thesaurus. We are very grateful for their permission to use MeSH in this way. For this edition 2004 MeSH has been used.

An [online version of the Health Thesaurus](#) is available, alternatively for ease of downloading, the thesaurus is available here in several PDF parts:

- [PDF version of the Introduction - PDF 110 KB](#)
- [PDF version of the Alphabetical listing A-I - PDF 866 KB](#)
- [PDF version of the Alphabetical listing J-Z - PDF 698 KB](#)
Non-preferred terms include synonyms and/or broader and narrower terms
- [PDF version of the Non-preferred terms A-I - PDF 646 KB](#)
- [PDF version of the Non-preferred terms J-Z - PDF 640 KB](#)
Classification scheme grouping similar concepts in 21 different schedules
- [PDF version of the Heirarchy - PDF 664 KB](#)

Positions Vacant

Residential Care Workers - Disability & /or Mental Health Care (Agency Casual Work)

Email: Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com **Free phone: 1800 009 292**

We are a leading casual staff agency offering a variety of shifts to care workers throughout the greater Sydney region, Hunter, Central Coast, Illawarra, Southern Highlands and Blue Mountains. Currently we are seeking experienced care workers to work with people who have a disability. Plenty of shifts available. Weekly pay. Choose your own days & shift availability. Must have previous experience in a similar role. Drivers License and First Aid Certificate required. Ability to communicate effectively with people who have a disability is essential. Must be able to work as part of a team. For more information call 1800 009 292 or forward your resume along with contact details of two referees to: Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com

Registered Nurses & Endorsed Enrolled Nurses specialised in disability, mental health and general (casual agency work)

Email: Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com **Free phone: 1800 009 292**

One of the market leaders in the public, private mental health, disability, and general health fields. Global can offer you plenty of shifts in private and public hospitals, disability, mental health services, dual diagnosis and disability special care areas. An agency founded and run by Registered Nurses, we can assist you in finding work in a variety of locations. Choose the hours and shifts to suit your lifestyle. Must be registered to practice in Australia. **Excellent pay rates. Weekly pays.** Why not forward your resume to Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com or phone to speak to one of our friendly consultants who can help you make that great career move. Free phone: 1800 009 292.

See Current Positions Vacant at <http://www.globalcaresstaff.com/plugins/job.cgi>

Conference Calendar

See a more comprehensive listing of conferences at our web site

http://www.globalcaresstaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

4 - 5 September 2014

Alcohol and Other Drug Nursing. Cambridge Hotel, Sydney. Ausmed. <http://www.ausmed.com.au/course/alcohol-and-other-drugs#nswseminar>

5 September 2014

NSW DANA Drug and Alcohol Nurses Forum. Sydney. Darren.smyth@justicehealth.nsw.gov.au

7 - 10 September 2014

ACSA National Conference. Adelaide Convention Centre, South Australia. Aged & Community Services Australia. http://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/ai1ec_event/20948/?instance_id=106

8 - 9 September 2014

Person Centredness in Employment Settings for People With A Disability Workshop. Centre for Disability Studies. University of Sydney. Camperdown. flyer and registration form <http://bit.ly/1kqfHOq>

10 - 11 September 2014

Australian Community Workers Association (ACWA) Conference & Exhibition. Etihad Stadium, Melbourne. <http://www.informa.com.au/conferences/health-care-conference/australian-community-workers-conference>

12 - 13 September 2014

Nepean Disability Expo. Penrith Panthers Exhibition Marquee. <http://disabilityexpo.org.au/>

14 - 18 September 2014

XVI World Congress of Psychiatry. Madrid, Spain. <http://www.wpamadrid2014.com/>

18 - 19 September 2014

ASID NSWACT & CDS Annual Conference. Waterview at Bicentennial Park, Homebush. Australian Society for Intellectual Disability & Centre for Disability Studies, University of Sydney. <https://www.asid.asn.au/Regions/NewSouthWales.aspx>

18 - 19 September 2014

Better Practice Conference: Aged Care. Stamford Plaza, Brisbane. <http://www.accreditation.org.au/education/better-practice-2013/>

18 - 20 September 2014

Diversional Therapy Australia National Conference. Grand Chifley Hotel Adelaide, South Australia. <http://www.diversionaltherapy.org.au/Events/tabid/59/Default.aspx>

18 – 20 September 2014

International League Against Epilepsy British Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting. Nottingham Conference Centre, UK. <http://www.ilae-ukconf.org.uk/>

21 September 2014

World Alzheimer's Day. Alzheimer's Australia. <http://www.alzheimers.org.au/>

1 October 2014

World Cerebral Palsy Day. <http://www.worldcpday.org/>

1 – 31 October 2014

Mental Health Awareness Month. Mental Health Association NSW. <http://www.mentalhealth.asn.au/well-being/campaigns/mental-health-month-nsw.html>

1 – 2 October 2014

Living My Way: Being Prepared Conference for Disability Services. Western Suburbs Leagues Club, Hobart Rd, New Lambton, NSW. Organisers – Aboriginal Disability Network NSW. Inquiries Carol Vale, Murawin carol@murawin.com.au

2 – 4 October 2014

AAIMHI National Conference. Brisbane, Queensland. Australian Association for Infant Mental Health. <http://www.infancy2014.com.au/>

7 – 9 October 2014

40th Annual Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Conference. Sofitel, Melbourne. <http://www.acmhn2014.com/>

8 – 11 October 2014

Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Bi-national Conference. Gold Coast, Queensland. <http://www.child2014.com/>

9 October 2014

World Sight Day. Vision 20/20 Australia. <http://www.vision2020australia.org.au/index.cfm>

10 October 2014

World Mental Health Day. United Nations. <http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/un/world-mental-health-day>

15 - 16 October 2014

25th PANDDA 2014 Conference,

Professional Association of Nurses in Developmental Disability Australia.

Novotel Hotel, Parramatta, NSW.

Proudly sponsored by Global Disability & Health Care Services.

www.pandda.net

16 - 17 October 2014

Better Practice Conference: Aged Care. Pan Pacific, Perth. <http://www.accreditation.org.au/education/better-practice-2013/>

20 – 22 October 2014

LASA National Congress. Adelaide Convention Centre, South Australia. <http://www.lasacongress.asn.au/>

20 – 24 October 2014

Special Olympics Australia National Game. Melbourne, Victoria.

<http://www.specialolympics.com.au/nationalgames2014>

23 – 24 October 2014

National Respite & Community Care Conference. Novotel Parramatta, 350 Church St, Parramatta, NSW.

<https://www.etches.com/ehome/index.php?eventid=93514&>

25 October 2014

World Polio Day. Polio Network Victoria. <http://www.independenceaustralia.com/polio/>

28– 29 October 2014

Arts Activated Conference. Chatswood, NSW. Arts Activated. <http://www.aarts.net.au/arts-activated-conference-2/>

5 – 6 November 2014

Towards a Better Life: Introduction to Social Role Valorisation framework. Burwood, NSW. Foundations Forum.

[Register online](#)

5 – 7 November 2014

Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability Annual Conference. Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, Western

Australia. <http://www.asid.asn.au/>

7 November 2014

Developmental Disabilities, Challenging Behaviour and Mental Health Conference.

Footbridge Theatre, University of Sydney.

Proudly sponsored by Global Disability & Health Care Services.

<http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/cdrp/events/current-events.shtml>

More events for this period listed on our web site at

http://www.globalcaresstaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

To list your conferences on our Global Conference Calendar

http://www.globalcaresstaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

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