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# ACI INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY HEALTH NETWORK

## Update on Our Current Work – Context Report, Toolkit and Blueprint

**CHANGE OF DATE for THE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY HEALTH NETWORK ANNUAL FORUM.**

**NEW DATE – Thursday 10 September 2015 at Aerial Function Centre,  
University of Technology, Sydney.**

The ID Health Network is in the final stages of its Context Report and Toolkit which brings together the work of the Network and outlines the current environment, with links to many projects, tools and resources the Network has produced or supported. Other useful reports which will complement this work and assist the next stage are a literature review of recent empirical models of health service delivery for people with ID and an economic analysis based on data collected by ACI Health Economics and Analysis Team. These three pieces of work will be on the ACI website for comment and feedback in the first week of June.

Building on this work, the Executive of the Network and key representatives from Local Health Districts and Medicare Locals will join together on June 23<sup>rd</sup> to help shape a "Blueprint", to assist LHDs to deliver health services which meet the needs of people with intellectual disability.

We will also welcome all feedback and comments on this Blueprint. It will be on the ACI website for your comments in July 2015.

**The Annual Forum for the Network is now on Thursday 10 September 2015 at Aerial Function Centre, (University of Technology, Sydney).**

**This will be an important opportunity for Network members and other interested parties to come together to hear about the work of the Network, learn about the latest developments in the health and disability sectors and to launch the Blueprint.**

## Co-Chairs Update: Ms Maria Heaton & Prof. Les White



The Executive Group of the Intellectual Disability (ID) Health Network has been working hard to produce the draft Context Report and Toolkit documents. The members of the Executive are a committed group of people from within NSW Health along with colleagues from Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC), Department of Education and Communities, the NGO and University sector, the Ombudsman's Office and the private sector. Clinician expertise covers paediatric and adult health, The voice of the person with ID is heard through the involvement of Maria (Carer), NSW Carers Support worker and NSW Council for ID advocate. We are thankful for the work of these members and of the subcommittee members who make such valuable contributions. We look forward to seeing you at the planned events and getting your feedback into these important pieces of work.

The three Ministry of Health funded ID Health team "pilots" have received funding until June 2016 while the KPMG evaluation of their work is considered and next steps decided.

### Australian College of Nursing and ID Health Network - Nursing Patients with Intellectual Disability (June 2015 in Newcastle)

The Intellectual Disability Health Network Workforce and Capacity subcommittee is currently working with the Australian College of Nursing to run the second two-day course on *Nursing Patients with Intellectual Disability*. This time it will be run in Newcastle on June 16-17.

### Update of the Network's Catalogue of Current Research in ID in NSW

In 2013 the ID Health Network Research and Development subcommittee surveyed health and disability professionals,

academics and others with an interest in ID to catalogue current research, and to ask about gaps in research and areas of need. They will update this resource this year through an online survey. This will be emailed out to all members with the request to forward it on. You will have access to the results of this work via the ACI website. We would appreciate your involvement in this project.

### New Network videos

In 2014 the Network produced four videos (see our website) about primary health and ID. Each one has been viewed more than 2000 times since they were launched.

This year we have produced three new videos on areas of particular interest: **Mental Health / ID, Respiratory Health and Hospitalisation**. Three experts in the field speak of what they see as important for clinicians to know. These videos are aimed at clinicians from

across all areas of health, who may come into contact with people with ID. They are soon to be uploaded on our website.

### A partnership with an LHD, and NGO and the ID Network.

Through the Access and Equity subcommittee's work a partnership with Lifestart and Koorana and the Children's Hospital Westmead have developed some visual aids to assist with patient preparation for blood taking, dental visits and physical examination. These will be trialled and evaluated in acute clinical environments and will be supported by clinician education.

For more information on the ID Health Network, contact the Network manager, Tracey Szanto [Tracey.szanto@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Tracey.szanto@health.nsw.gov.au) (02 9464 4632).

[www.aci.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.aci.health.nsw.gov.au)