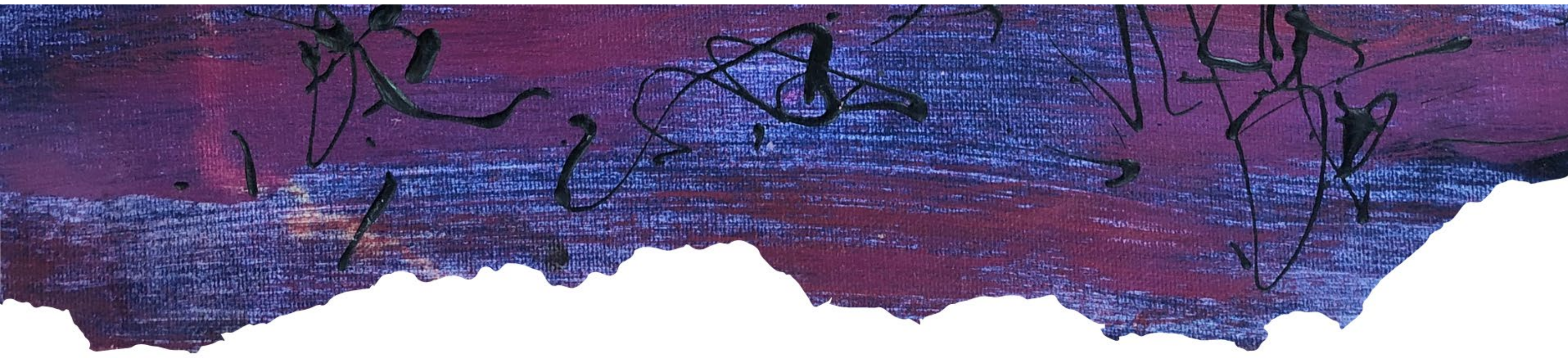


Building effective system-wide disability research in Australia

What does it look like and how do we get there?

Easy Read Version
October 2022

About this Easy Read document

This document is written for the **National Disability Research Partnership.**

We are also called the NDRP.

When we say we, we mean the people working with the NDRP in 2022.

This document is a shorter Easy Read version of part of a longer document.

We have left out some parts from the longer document.

Some heading numbers are not in this shorter version.

You might not know some words.

The first time we use those words they are **blue**.

These words and their meanings are in a list at the back of this document.

Cover artwork by Julie Coutts.

Easy Read images by Next Level Inclusion or through Creative Commons including Pixabay, Shutterstock, Freepik and Pexels.

Easy Read written by Jacqueline Gibb and Karen Hedley, Next Level Inclusion for the NDRP.

Executive Summary

The **National Disability Research Partnership** asked for this **research** to be done.

Research is when people study a topic to:

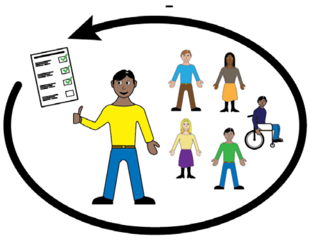
- learn a lot about it
- find out new information about it
- A person who does research is called a researcher.

Our research looked for strategies to **build capacity** in disability research.

Capacity building is helping people to learn new skills.

They learn how to do new things.

We talked to 43 **stakeholders** about this.



A stakeholder is a person who has an interest in an organisation.

Stakeholders took part in the work and planning of this research.

We found that Researchers need to change:

- how they think about people with disability
- who they work with
- how they do things
- how they share information.

The changes that we think should happen:

1. The research should be inclusive.

Inclusive research is research that is:

- is done with the **disability community**
- is done by the disability community
- is on topics agreed on by the disability community

The disability community is people with disability and people connected to them.

This includes:

- people with disability
- families of people with disability
- **carers**
- **disability support workers**
- **disability service providers**
- **advocates**

Someone who cares for or supports someone with a disability without being paid is a carer.

They are often family or friends.

Someone who cares for or supports someone with a disability and is paid for their work is a disability support worker.

I ndis
REGISTERED
NDIS
PROVIDER

An organisation who provides services to people with a disability is called a disability service provider.

An advocate is someone who helps you speak up.

2. There should be a Disability Research Agenda

We need a research **agenda.**

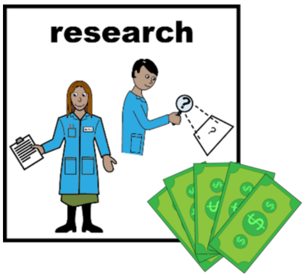
An agenda is a list of things to do or talk about.

The disability community should help write the agenda.

The agenda would tell us what:

- to spend money on
- programs to do
- who would do these programs

3. Funding disability research



We need to fund more disability research.

The research should be high quality.

People’s lived experience should be valued.

We should do research that answers questions

the disability community has.

4. Make ethical research more inclusive

Ethics tells us what is right and wrong.

It tells us what we should and should not do.

Ethics committees are groups of people who decide if a project is safe to do.

Ethics committees will stop research if they think:

- people will be hurt or feel bad
- it is a waste of people's time.

Sometimes ethics committees do not fully understand about the lives of people with disability.

This can make research less inclusive.

We think there should be more inclusive ethics rules for doing research with people with a disability.

5. Develop research knowledge and skills

People should be helped to learn how to do disability research well.

There should be a plan for how researchers will get more research skills.

Working with other researchers can help.

6. Changes to university

People told us that they experience **barriers** at university.

They had barriers when they are:

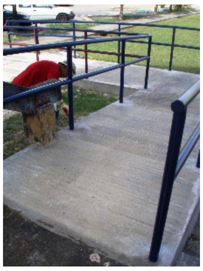
- working
- studying
- researching.

A barrier is something that stops you from doing things.

Universities should make changes to make it easier for people with a disability to:

- work, study and research at university

- get into leadership positions



- **access** the physical buildings and IT systems.

Access means everyone should be able to use, read and understand something.

7. Work together with the disability community

Partnerships with the disability community should last a long time.

A partnership is when 2 or more people work together to reach 1 goal.

8. Better ways to connect and share information

We want to bring together and share information with:

- people who do research
- people who need to know about the research to make good decisions

We might do this through conferences, podcasts or **communities of practice.**

Communities of practice are a group of people who:

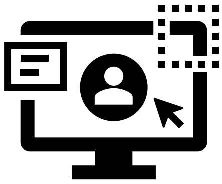
- all do the same work
- want to learn more about that work
- want to work with each other.

Information should be accessible to the disability to community.

10. Share research and data

It is important to keep a list of disability research.

It makes information easier to find.



Everyone should be able to see and use this list of disability research.

It is important that the research is:

- research done well
- research that is useful.

Researchers need to know about the list so they can use it

Word List

Access

Access means everyone should be able to use, read and understand something.

Advocate

Someone who helps you speak up.

Agenda

A list of things to do or talk about.

A research agenda lists what things we are most interested in finding about.

Barriers

Barriers are what stop you doing things.

Capacity Building

Capacity building is helping people to learn new skills.

Carers

Is a person who cares for or supports someone with a disability. This includes family or friends.

They are not paid money for their work.

Community of practice

A group of people who:

- all do the same work
- want to learn more about that work
- want to work with each other.

Disability community

The disability community is people with disability and people connected to them.

This includes:

- people with disability
- families of people with disability
- carers
- disability support workers
- disability service providers

Disability Support Worker

Is a person who cares for or supports someone with a disability.

They are paid money for their work.

Disability service provider

Is an organisation that provides services or supports to people with a disability.

Ethics

Ethics tells us what is right and wrong.

It tells us what we should and should not do.

Ethics committees decide if research is ethical.

Inclusive

To include is to make sure everyone can be part of something.

Inclusive research is done by, and with, people with disability.

NDRP

We are the National Disability Research Partnership.

We are also called the NDRP.

Partnership

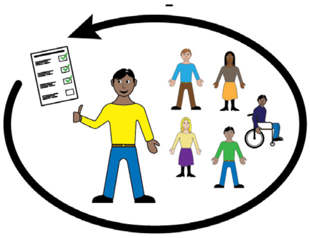
To partner is to work together with others.

A **partnership** is an agreement to work together toward the same goal.

Research

Is when people study a topic to:

- learn a lot about it
- find out new information about it
- A person who does research is called a **researcher**.



Stakeholder

A stakeholder is a person who has an interest in an organisation.


NDRP