

POLICY NUMBER: SER DEL 36

INTENT

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Participants with an immediate need for a Behaviour Support Plan receive an Interim Behaviour Support Plan based on evidence-based practice, which minimises the risk to participants and others and focuses on the mitigation of risks for the Participant and others around them.

DEFINITION

Behaviour Support - Behaviour support is about creating individualised strategies for people with a disability that are responsive to the person's needs, in a way that reduces or eliminates the need for the use of regulated restrictive practices.

Restrictive Practices - are defined in the NDIS Act 2013 as 'any practice or intervention that has the effect of restricting the rights of freedom of movement of a person with a disability'.

POLICY STATEMENTS

- An Interim Behaviour Support Plan must focus on mitigating risks for a Participant and the people around them.
- Any use of a restrictive practise requires a Short-Term Approval obtained from the Queensland State Government. A Short-Term Approval provides authority to use a restrictive practice for a maximum of six months while assessments are undertaken and a Behaviour Support Plan is developed.
- An existing Short-Term Approval will be accepted as an Interim Behaviour Support Plan under the NDIS Commission. Real Living Options Association Inc will provide the Short-Term Approval to the NDIS Commission via their online portal and commence fortnightly reporting via the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission Portal.
- Real Living Options Association Inc will work with the Specialist Behaviour Support Provider to develop the Interim Behaviour Support Plan and facilitate all necessary employee training sessions.
- Real Living Options Association Inc. will collaborate with all relevant mainstream service providers (e.g. police, emergency services, mental health practitioners, emergency departments, treating medical practitioners and other allied health clinicians) in contributing to an Interim Behaviour Support Plan developed by a Specialist Behaviour Support Provider.

PROCEDURES

- Where appropriate, the Specialist Behaviour Support Provider will develop an Interim Plan for behaviour supports (including regulated restrictive practices) that prescribes the following:
 - Strategies to prevent the onset of the behaviour of concern.
 - Strategies to intervene during the escalation of the behaviour of concern.

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- Strategies to manage during the occurrence (i.e. Incident) of the behaviour of concern to de-escalate and conclude the incident as quickly and safely as possible.
- Information recording, including that prescribed for reporting the use of the restrictive practice.
- For each participant, the following must be undertaken within one month:
 - Consent should be obtained.
 - The Support Manager and/or Senior Support Facilitator will consider the content of the interim plan for behaviour supports.
 - Interim authorisation sought from the Support Manager and Senior Support Facilitator.
 - The Support Manager and/or Senior Support Facilitator must be satisfied that the strategies outlined represent the least restrictive options which have an adequate evidence base for managing the risk.
 - The Support Manager and/or Senior Support Facilitator will specify the interim authorisation duration, which should be the shortest duration required to manage the risk and not be longer than five months.
 - The Support Manager and/or Senior Support Facilitator must report fortnightly to the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission on any use of restrictive practices for interim authorisation duration.
- For each Participant, the following must be undertaken within six months:
 - Authorisation obtained for their Behaviour Support Plan
 - Restrictive practice is discontinued if it is not approved or contained in the Behaviour Support Plan.
- Where approval for the short-term use of the regulated restrictive practices has been obtained, Real Living Options Association Inc. must submit reports to the NDIS Commission every two weeks or as negotiated while the approval is in force.

DELEGATIONS

Management Committee

The Management Committee is responsible for ensuring as far as practicable that:

- The Organisation adheres to all relevant legislation.
- The Organisation has the resources to meet its legislative requirements in relation to Regulated Restrictive Practices.

General Manager

The General Manager is responsible for ensuring as far as practicable that:

- The Organisation adheres to all reporting requirements in relation to the use of restrictive practices.
- All employees have training to understand what restrictive practices are.
- Relevant employees are provided with training specific to a Participants Behaviour Support Plan.

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- The use of any restrictive practices have been reported to the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission and the Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors.
- Reports the use of any restrictive practices to the Management Committee.

Support Manager

The Support Manager is responsible for ensuring as far as practicable that:

- All employees are provided training to understand what restrictive practices are.
- Relevant employees are provided with training specific to a Participants Behaviour Support Plan.
- The use of any restrictive practices are reported to the Quality and Safeguards Commission and the Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors.
- Reports the use of any restrictive practices to the General Manager.
- The use of any restrictive practices is reported to the Management Committee.

Senior Support Facilitator

The Senior Support Facilitator is responsible for ensuring as far as practicable that:

- A registered Behaviour Support Practitioner has been engaged to work with a Participant to develop a Behaviour Support Plan.
- The Lifestyle Assistants who support the Participants are engaged in the process of data collection as required by the Behaviour Support Practitioner.
- Team meetings and training is provided to the relevant Lifestyle Assistants.
- Information and feedback is provided to the Positive Behaviour Support Practitioner as requested.
- The use of any restrictive practice is reported to the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission and the Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors.
- The use of any restrictive practices is reported to the General Manager.

Relevant Employees

- Attend training and team meetings as required.
- Report the use of any restrictive practices to the Senior Support Facilitator or Support Manager.
- Follow the Participants Behaviour Support Plan when providing support and assistance.

RELATED DOCUMENTATION

OPG Short-Term-Approval-Form (QLD)

Interim Behaviour Support Plan

Behaviour Support Plan and Functional Behaviour Assessment

REFERENCES

Disability Services Act 2006

Guardianship and Administration Act 2000

NDIS (Provider Registration and Practice Standards) Rules 2018

NDIS (Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support) Rules 2018

NDIS (Incident Management and Reportable Incidents) Rules 2018

NDIS Practice Standards and Quality Indicators

AMENDMENTS/REVIEWS

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