

Senate Community Affairs References Committee
Barriers to consistent, timely and best practice assessment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and support services for people with ADHD

Public Hearing – 29 June 2023
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE
National Disability Insurance Agency

Topic: NDIA Staff Training

Question reference number: IQ23-000035

Question asked by: Jordon Steele-John

Type of Question: Spoken. Hansard Pages: 43-44

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 20 July 2023

Question:

Senator Steele-John: Yes. That would be great. Are you able to step us through any particular training that is provided to NDIS employees, specifically planners, around making determinations in relation to access requests, or indeed determinations, around reasonable and necessary supports that are specific to ADHD?

Mr McNaughton: There are two groups of staff who are involved in access decisions. Our access team receive a whole range of training around not only the legislation but a range of disability types, through our disability acumen series. Their role is to work with all the information and evidence available from the person's treating clinicians and practitioners, to make a determination around access to the scheme. If a person meets access requirements for the scheme then there are planners who will work with the participant around what are reasonable supports. Again, we haven't done specific training in ADHD. We do a broad range of disability awareness training. We have a series of disability snapshot work that we do around different types of more common disabilities within the scheme itself—autism, MND, physical disabilities and various others—through our acumen series, but I'm not aware of any specific ADHD training we do for planners. I'll take that on notice, but I'm not aware of any.

Answer:

There is no specific Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) training for planners. All National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) staff have access to a Disability Navigator and Disability Snapshots, which aim to promote a positive and supportive culture and improve staff awareness and understanding of the lived experience of all people with disability.

In addition, the current NDIA mandatory learning suite creates a baseline level of knowledge and understanding for all people working at the NDIA, regardless of the role and functions they perform. All new starters complete mandatory learning which includes training on contemporary disability rights, disability awareness and diversity, and includes refresher training annually.