

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2015 - 2016 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome:** National Disability Insurance Agency

**Question No:** NDIA SQ16-000019

**Topic:** Prosthetics funding - State and Commonwealth variation

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Carr** asked:

Is it the case that, for some people, the assistance available in prosthetics – artificial limbs – is broader and more extensive than that available under the existing Aged Care system and existing state-based programs?

**Answer:**

The General Principles within the *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013* (NDIS Act) – in particular Section 4, Item 11 – have a focus on assisting participants to pursue their individual goals and to maximise independence. It also aims to develop participant capacity to undertake activities that enable participation in the community and employment.

The assistance available for prosthetic supports under the NDIS will be generally broader and more extensive than that available under the existing Aged Care system and existing state-based programmes. The NDIS Act also provides guidance on what constitutes reasonable and necessary supports to be funded by the NDIS. The National Disability Insurance Agency will assist eligible participants with advice on the most appropriate prosthetic support(s) suitable for achieving their planned goals and outcomes. The NDIS assists participants across a wide range of life domains, including goals that may encompass supports for recreation purposes which may not currently be considered by existing Aged Care and state-based systems.