



Roadmap Implementation Governance Group (RIGG)

Meeting Summary – 20 March 2023

Introduction

The Chair welcomed all members to the fifth Roadmap Implementation Governance Group (RIGG) meeting and gave an Acknowledgement of Country and an acknowledgement of intellectual disability self-advocates.

The Chair gave a verbal declaration about confidentiality and conflicts of interest. Members were asked to declare any conflicts of interest that were not declared at the previous meeting. No new conflicts of interest were declared.

The Chair proposed that the Terms of Reference for the RIGG be amended so that the term of membership be extended from two years to three years to ensure continuity. No objections were raised. The Terms of Reference will be circulated to members to raise any other changes.

Previous meeting

The previous meeting summary was endorsed by members with no change.

Following up on action items

The two action items from the previous meeting were marked as completed. No action items from previous meetings remain open.

Update from the Intellectual Disability Focus Group

A member of the Intellectual Disability Focus Group (Focus Group) provided a summary of discussion from a Focus Group meeting held in March. At this meeting, members were consulted about annual health assessments for people with intellectual disability, with a focus on the Comprehensive Health Assessment Program (CHAP).

The Focus Group:

- thought the CHAP would help to build relationships between GPs and patients, and assist GPs monitoring patients from year to year, and uncover and enable earlier treatment of health issues
- raised some concerns about privacy if they need to complete the CHAP form with a family member or support worker
- wanted more accessible ways to complete the CHAP, including an Easy Read version of it

- queried whether Medicare would cover the length of time needed for the GP to complete the assessment, and
- highlighted the need for tailored communications to promote the CHAP to people with intellectual disability, GPs, allied health professionals, carers, disability support workers and service providers.

The Department of Health and Aged Care (the Department) confirmed that it would develop an Easy Read version of the CHAP.

Engagement of health professionals in the Primary Care Enhancement Program for people with intellectual disability

The Department gave an update on the Primary Care Enhancement Program for people with intellectual disability (PCEP) and presented data and initial findings from the evaluation that is under way. It was noted that, while a good number of participants had undertaken the PCEP training, the uptake by GPs was lower than expected.

The CEO of the Central and Eastern Sydney PHN gave a presentation about PCEP training, and its successes and challenges so far.

Members discussed the issue of low uptake of the training and the need to find ways to encourage and support GPs, practice staff, nurses and other health professionals to participate in the training.

Sedation to facilitate access for people with intellectual disability to medical procedures

Representatives from the South Australia Department for Health and Wellbeing gave a presentation on procedural sedation for people with intellectual disability. They highlighted the unmet need for sedation pathways for people with intellectual disability to access the health care they need. They proposed development of a 3-tiered sedation pathway using universal design. They also emphasised the need to develop and use procedure plans that inform patients about the procedure they will undergo, including information about desensitisation and access to sedation where relevant.

State and territory representatives at the meeting voiced their support for development of pathways for procedural sedation for people with intellectual disability.

Members discussed the proposal and noted that, while there was a need for clear pathways to access sedation, it is important that sedation does not become the first option to use for people with intellectual disability undergoing medical procedures. Consideration should be given to minimising the need for sedation using methods like procedure desensitisation, accessing behaviour support and making reasonable adjustments.

Roadmap Annual Progress Report

The Department gave an update on the first Annual Report on progress to implement the National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability. RIGG members will be asked to provide input about any suggested changes out-of-session.

Members were also asked to identify priority actions from the Roadmap to be discussed in the next two meetings.

Other business

No other business was raised.

Meeting close

The next meeting will be on **Monday 17 July 2023**.

Next steps

- Secretariat to circulate updated Terms of Reference prior to the next meeting.
- The Department of Health and Aged Care to collate a summary of suggestions from the RIGG to better engage health professionals and other staff in the PCEP training and work with PHNs to take suggestions forward, where appropriate.
- The Department of Health and Aged Care to prepare a paper about procedural sedation pathways and work with a working group of RIGG members and others to identify short- and medium-term actions, that can then be presented back to the RIGG at a future meeting.
- Secretariat to circulate the Draft Roadmap Annual Progress Report and Easy Read version for comment.
- Secretariat to circulate final version of recommendations on implementation of oral health priority actions for comment, before publishing on the Department's website.