



Australian Government  
Department of Health and Aged Care

# The Intellectual Disability Health Capability Framework



**Easy Read**

[www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)

# About this information



People with intellectual disability should get the same health care as everyone else.



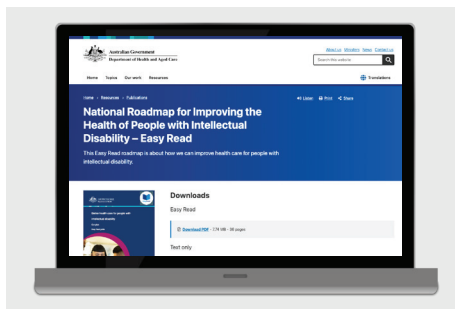
To make health care better for people with intellectual disability we made a plan.



The Department of Health and Aged Care made the plan with people with intellectual disability.



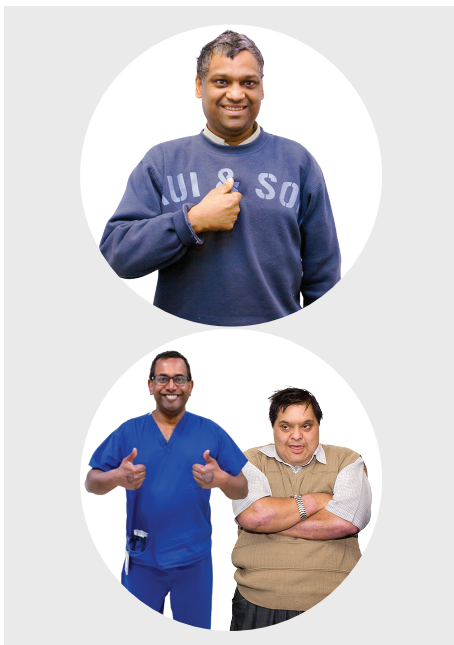
We called the plan the **Roadmap**.



To read the Easy Read Roadmap go to  
**[bit.ly/ER-Roadmap](https://bit.ly/ER-Roadmap)**

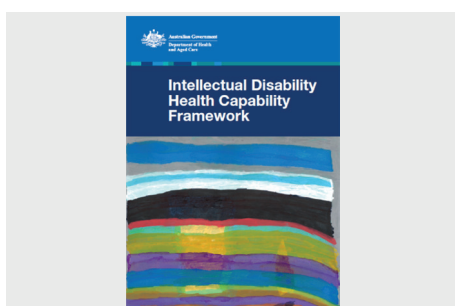


The Roadmap said we should make a guide  
for health students.



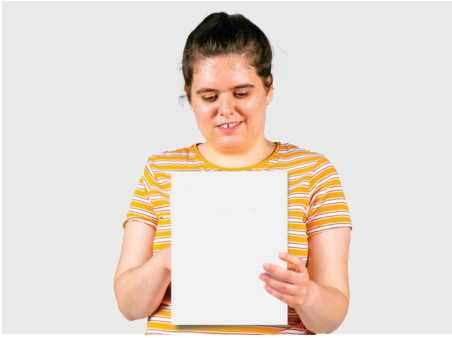
The guide will help health students learn about

- Intellectual disability
- How to support people with intellectual disability well.

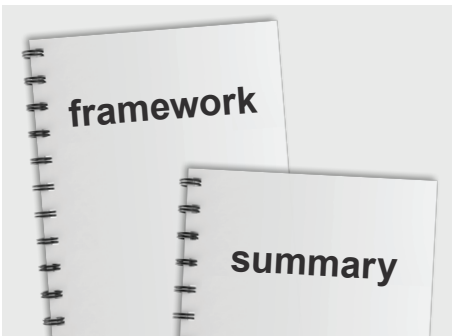


We called this guide the Intellectual Disability  
Health Capability Framework.

We will say **framework** for short.



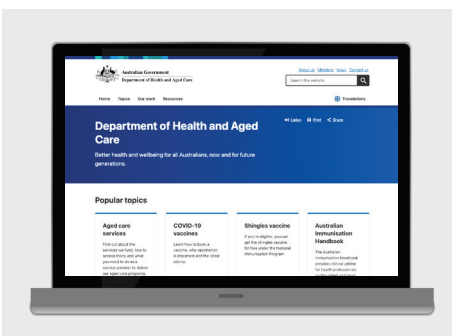
This information will tell you all about the framework.



This information is a **summary** of the framework.



**Summary** means we only talk about the most important things from the framework.



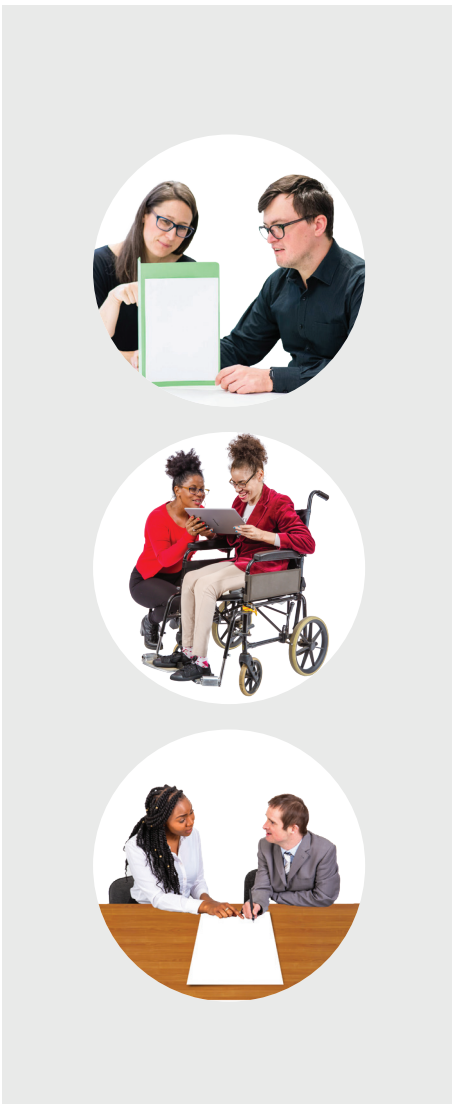
To read the whole framework go to our website at

**[www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)**





Some of this information might be hard to understand.



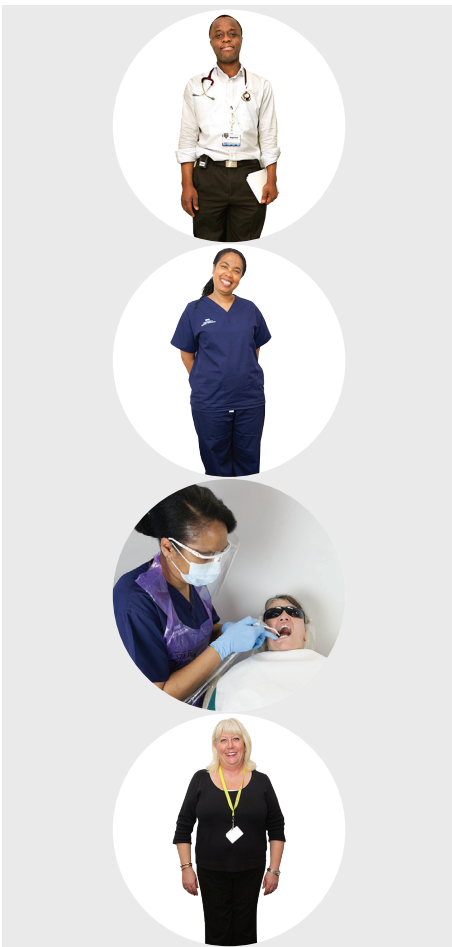
You can ask someone for support to read it like a

- Friend
- Family member
- Support person.

# About the framework



Some **health workers** do not learn about how to care for people with intellectual disability.

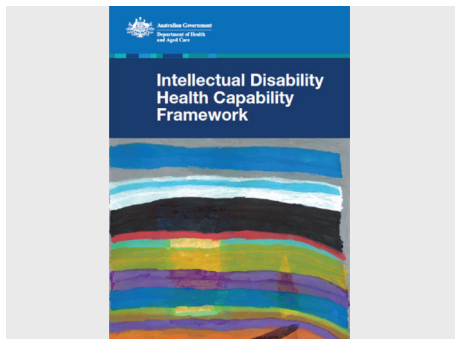


**Health workers** are people who help you look after your health like

- Doctors
- Nurses
- Dentists
- Social workers.



Health workers should learn about intellectual disability while they study.



The framework says what **health care students** should learn about intellectual disability.



**Health care students** become health workers when they have finished studying.

# Capabilities



The framework has a list of things that health care students need to learn.



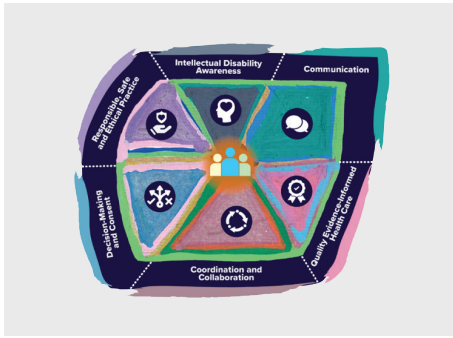
These things will help them later to support people with intellectual disability in a good way.



We call this list the **capabilities**.



**Capabilities** are the skills that will help a health worker do a good job.



There are 6 groups of capabilities that health care students should know about.

## 1. Intellectual disability awareness



**Intellectual disability awareness** means to know about intellectual disability.



This capability is about teaching health care students about intellectual disability.



It will help them understand people with intellectual disability better and what they need.

## 2. Communication

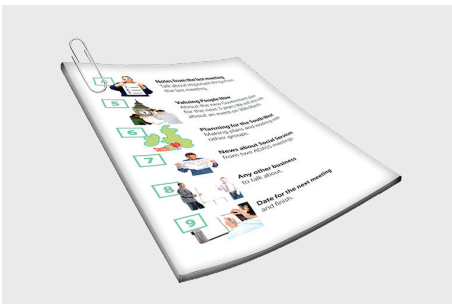


**Communication** means how we let other people know what we want and think.



This capability is about how health workers should communicate to people with intellectual disability.

### 3. Use evidence to make health care better



We want to use **evidence** to make health care better.



**Evidence** means we use all the information we have to make choices about health care.





This capability is about using information to give the best health care to people with intellectual disability.

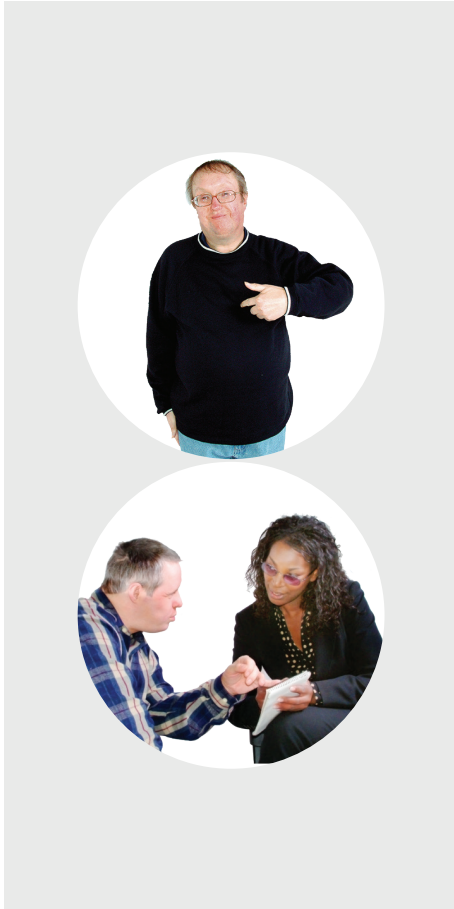
## 4. Working together



This capability is about how health workers should work together with

- People with intellectual disability
- Their families
- Support people
- Other health workers.

## 5. Making decisions and consent



This capability is about how health workers can support people with intellectual disability to

- Make decisions about their health
- Give consent.



**Consent** means you say it is ok for someone to do something.

## 6. Responsible, safe and ethical health care



This capability is about health care that is

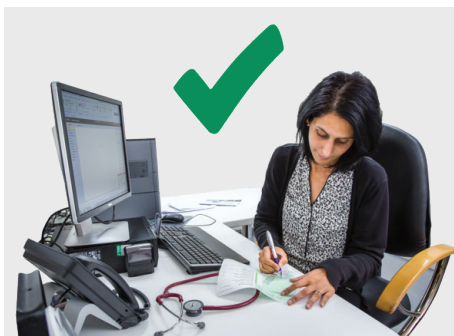
- **Responsible**

- **Safe**

- **Ethical.**



**Responsible** means health workers make good choices when they give health care to people with intellectual disability.

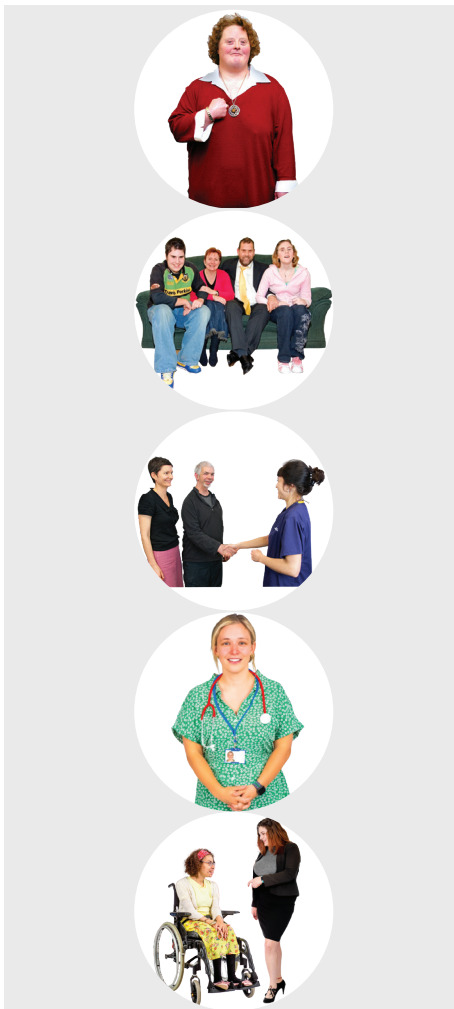


**Ethical** means that health workers do the right thing.

# Who helped make the framework



We talked to lots of different people to make the framework.



We talked to

- People with intellectual disability
- Their families
- Support people
- Health workers
- People who know a lot about the health of people with intellectual disability.



We listened to what they said to help us write the framework.

# Who can use the framework



Many people can use the framework and for lots of different reasons.



This might be

- Universities
- People with intellectual disability
- Support people
- **Accreditation authorities.**



**Accreditation authorities** make sure universities teach health care students well.



Universities can use the framework to help teach health care students.



They can use it to teach them

- About intellectual disability
- How to give good care to people with intellectual disability.



People with intellectual disability and their support people can also use the framework.



This might help you ask your health worker for care that is best for you.



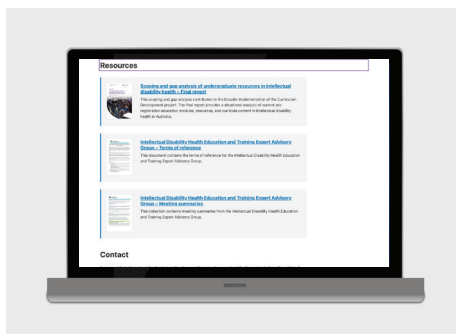
## More information



For more information you can email us at  
**[intellectual.disability@health.gov.au](mailto:intellectual.disability@health.gov.au)**



We made a booklet to help people with  
intellectual disability use the framework.



To read the booklet go to  
**[www.bit.ly/ERFrameworkActivity](http://www.bit.ly/ERFrameworkActivity)**

Council for Intellectual Disability made this document Easy Read. **CID** for short.  
You need to ask CID if you want to use any pictures in this document.  
You can contact CID at **[business@cid.org.au](mailto:business@cid.org.au)**.