



Roadmap Implementation Governance Group

Short Term Actions Communique – November 2024

The Australian Government released the National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability ([the ID Roadmap](#)) in August 2021. The ID Roadmap identifies short-term, medium-term, and long-term actions against six key objectives. Short-term actions were identified for completion within 1-3 years.

As the ID Roadmap concludes its third year, the Roadmap Implementation Governance Group (RIGG) has developed this communique to provide an update on implementation of the short-term actions to date.

Key Achievements

Several key priorities under the ID Roadmap have been delivered through collaboration between the Australian Government, the Roadmap Implementation Governance Group, and stakeholders from across the sector. Some of the highlights achieved during the first three years of the ID Roadmap are outlined below.

- **Establishment of the RIGG** as a formal mechanism to ensure implementation of the ID Roadmap is overseen by a diverse group of health and disability stakeholders. Through inclusive meeting practices, the RIGG has sought to maximise the influence of members who have intellectual disability.
- **Establishment of the National Centre for Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health (NCoE).** The NCoE was launched in October 2023. The core functions of the National Centre include:
 - providing national leadership in intellectual disability health
 - lifting the capability of health services to meet the needs of people with intellectual disability through training and development of best practice models of care.
 - providing online support, including an online portal to help connect people with intellectual disability to appropriate health services
 - serving as a repository of expertise, resources and research on intellectual disability health
- Publication of the **Intellectual Disability Health Capability Framework** in April 2024. The [Intellectual Disability Health Capability Framework](#) sets out clear capabilities, learning outcomes and guides for universities and accreditation authorities to support inclusion of intellectual disability content in the training of health care professionals. Additional education resources and tools are being developed to support implementation of the Framework.
- Completion of a four-year pilot of the **Primary Care Enhancement Program for People with Intellectual Disability (PCEP)**, with an [evaluation report](#) published in September 2024. The PCEP pilot has been extended for a further two years (to June 2026) to facilitate the collection and evaluation of additional data to inform a policy decision about future expansion.
- Publication of updated versions of both Adult and Young Person versions of the **Comprehensive Health Assessment Program (CHAP)** and launch of a campaign to

promote uptake of **annual health assessments** (AHAs) and the CHAP. Work is also underway to support the integration of both versions of the CHAP into GP software.

- Ongoing collaboration with the sector to support people with intellectual disability to be **health ambassadors**, to promote awareness of health and intellectual disability to health professionals, disability service providers and support workers, families, carers and other people with intellectual disability.
- **The continuation of MBS telehealth access** for general practice, allied health and specialist care that will promote continuity of care for people with intellectual disability.
- **Voluntary patient registration** integrated as part of the MyMedicare initiative, with inclusion of specific questions to enable people to identify to their general practice that they have intellectual disability.
- **Enhanced collaboration and engagement** across the health and disability sectors.
- Publication of **Annual Reports** to provide updates about implementation of the ID Roadmap.

Implementation Status

The RIGG acknowledges that of the 116 actions outlined by the ID Roadmap, 72 were short-term. While there has been significant progress in the first three years, there have also been implementation delays. As a result, many short-term actions have commenced but are not yet complete. Delays and uncertainty created by the COVID-19 pandemic created barriers to implementation in the first instance. Additional delays have been due to challenges collaborating across sectors, noting that policy levers for some short-term actions are complex and span across different levels of government and the health and disability sectors.

Despite these barriers, some valuable short-term actions have been delivered, as listed previously, which is a testament to the sector's commitment to the ID Roadmap. Of the 72 short-term actions, 56 actions have been commenced, with 9 actions now completed. The remaining actions are yet to commence. Some of the completed actions are key foundational activities that will support further actions under the ID Roadmap.

The RIGG has worked closely with the Department of Health and Aged Care (the Department) to prioritise the outstanding short-term actions that are yet to be complete. A plan has been agreed by the Department to implement these actions to deliver the objectives and outcomes identified in the ID Roadmap. During this process, the RIGG noted that some short-term actions are more appropriate for completion within the medium-term timeframe of 6 years where there are complex levers in the disability sector, a requirement for multi-sector collaboration, or alignment with other reform timeframes. There is also an expectation that several of the actions will be ongoing, rather than having a completion point.

Next Steps

The RIGG and the Department will continue to work on priority short-term actions over the next 12-18 months. Noting the challenges with delivery outlined above, the Department and members of the RIGG remain committed to progressing delivery of the short-term actions beyond the initial 3-year period. Work will also commence to implement the medium-term actions in the ID Roadmap, identified for completion within 4-6 years of its commencement.

Both the RIGG and the Department remain committed to working with the health and disability sectors to implement actions identified in the ID Roadmap - working together to improve the health of people with intellectual disability.

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