



ACCESSING THE NDIS WITH A DIAGNOSIS OF ADHD (BEFORE 30TH JUNE 2021)

As most people are aware ADHD does not appear on the list of disabilities supported by the NDIS, which means that unless there is another disability that could be a primary disability, the ADHD cannot be considered by the NDIS.

In practice, some people with ADHD have gained access relatively easily, others with difficulty and yet more have had their applications refused.

Please Note:

Our understanding is that Access information suggests that if the information provided for someone with a mental health condition is not sufficient, the NDIS should ask for the Evidence of Psychosocial Disability be sent out for the appropriate clinician to fill in.

This advice is for NDIS only, i.e. over 7 years, and not Early Intervention, where diagnosis should not be a significant issue.

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From July 1st 2021, all those wishing to access the NDIS will be offered a free Independent Functional Impairment Assessment. The Participant will have to meet age, residency and permanency of condition requirements, which should not be an issue, we know ADHD is a lifelong condition. By the end of 2021 it is anticipated that all reviews will be by this type of assessment.

This process is designed to be equitable, not everyone has the resources, financial, cognitive, support system, and technical to gather the information required for a successful NDIS application. The criteria for entry is by impairment, not a label.

Tools being used by NDIS

The tools that are being used at each age range are available at www.ndis.gov.au/participants/independent-assessments/independent-assessment-toolkit/assessment-tools-toolkit

More information can easily be accessed via these pages, as to how the process is designed to work.

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Currently, there are 2 available routes to consider in order to apply for access to NDIS support

1. The diagnosis can be placed under "Neurological -Other) on the NDIS list, with a DSM diagnosis of Neurocognitive Dysfunction. However, a Neuropsychology Report and a psychiatrist report that addresses functional impairments, especially in the NDIS domains, as well as giving the diagnosis of neurological etc, should be included.
2. A Psychosocial Disability application does not need a DSM 5 diagnosis. An Evidence of Psychosocial Disability Form needs to be used, it can be filled in by a Psychiatrist, GP or "the most appropriate Clinician".

Our understanding is that:

Participant Information is still going to be crucial for those with ADHD. The guide for adults will be updated to meet changes to fit with purpose.

ADHD Foundation NDIS team will keep working on a detailed list of impairments related to ADHD symptoms in different age groups of children.

This NDIS project is a priority to ADHD Foundation and we will try to have resources available for all age groups by 30th June 202

The ADHD Foundation has some concerns about the availability of Independent Assessors, which could seriously slow down the Access process.

The Team at ADHD Foundation work hard for our community and without the support of our dedicated and passionate volunteers, we would not be able to achieve and strive to provide valuable information to our community.

We run our services on the generous financial support of donations. We do not ask for membership fees and are grateful for any donations we receive as this helps to extend our services to our community.

ADHD Foundation is a "for purpose" not for profit organisation registered and approved by ACNC as a charity with ATO DGR status. Therefore we are very grateful for any donations made to our organisation and donations over \$2,00 are tax-deductible. Donations can be made [here](#)

