



Injury Schemes Seminar*

Balancing Outcomes

10–12 November 2013
Sheraton Mirage Gold Coast

* Formerly the Accident Compensation Seminar



**Actuaries
Institute**

**Call for Papers
and Presentations**

SYNOPSIS

NDIS – SECTOR READINESS AND IMPLICATIONS

Lorraine Mackin, Mark Bagshaw

Key words: National Disability Insurance Scheme, sector readiness assessment, improving participation rates.

Purpose of your paper: The success of the NDIS rests on the readiness of NGOs and the care/health sector for the implementation of the scheme. This paper will explore these factors as well as the wider benefits of the NDIS.

Synopsis: The National Disability Insurance Scheme will commence in July 2013 through a staged roll out. The NDIS aims to provide outcomes focused support for people with permanent disability through individualised funding.

The NDIS will be successful if it provides people with disability with the right support and care package to enable them to fully participate in work, education and communities.

The capabilities, growth and capacity of NGOs and the care/health sector are crucial to the success of the NDIS. This paper will outline the key elements to assess the readiness of these sectors for the implementation of the NDIS. Government funding for the NDIS will be significant, but reform of sector capability demands other elements as well e.g. effective governance, cash flow management skills.

We will discuss the consequences of poor readiness. While the NDIS is framed as a move from a fragmented and rationed based welfare system to an individual needs-based model of support, unless there is appropriate preparation, implementation and forward planning there is a risk that the NDIS will not improve community and workforce participation in the long run.

We discuss the use of the Hunter area as a micro site for the first launch in NSW. The staged roll out provides scheme monitors with a chance to assess and test the readiness of the care and health sectors before taking the lessons learned to a national scale.

The NDIS also has wider benefits for persons covered by injury schemes. The NDIS aims to facilitate a change in the culture of support and care, to empower people with disability. The significant funding supporting the NDIS has the potential to drive such reform in the care and health sectors, in contrast to the smaller size of the individual injury schemes. Such reform and improved models of care will assist these persons to participate in communities and improve return to work. We also discuss the potential for overlaps in support schemes and cross agency development.