



SYNOPSIS

UNLOCKING THE POSSIBILITIES: THE PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION'S INQUIRY INTO 'DATA AVAILABILITY AND USE' AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR INJURY AND DISABILITY SCHEMES

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Purpose of your paper: To raise awareness of the new reforms to data collection, storage, use and sharing recommended by the Productivity Commission's report on 'Data Availability and Use' and to invite the reader to explore the opportunities that this new data framework provides to improve outcomes and costs for injury/disability schemes.

Synopsis: The Productivity Commission released its draft report on 'Data Availability and Use' in October 2016. This report documents a number of findings and recommendations that revolutionise the collection, storage, use and sharing of public and private sector data. Unlocking the insights from these data sources can have potentially significant implications for injury/disability schemes.

This paper will start by giving some background on the current landscape of data that is used by injury/disability schemes. It will then outline the relevant findings/recommendations from the report. We will explore the opportunities that can be generated as a result of the implementation of the new data framework, focusing on:

- safety and risk prevention;
- injury management, treatment/recovery, retraining, return to work pathways, reintegration into the community; as well as
- coverage, product design, benefit design, pricing and costs.

Increasing the availability of data may also introduce a number of challenges. The paper will discuss various considerations relating to privacy, security and discrimination and how these challenges may be overcome.