

Updated Process for: Equipment and Modification Services for People with Challenging Behaviour

11 September 2015

The Ministry of Health (Ministry) has reviewed the process when assessing for and recommending Ministry funded Equipment and Modification Services (EMS) to support people with challenging behaviour.

The review was in response to feedback received from Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists (EMS Assessors), Needs Assessment and Service Coordination organisations, Behavioural Support Services and EMS Providers. All stakeholders have been involved in the development of the revised process and have provided valuable feedback during its design.

The revised process is detailed in the amended; *Practice Guideline: Interface Between Needs Assessment and Service Coordination and Equipment and Modification Service Assessors and Providers September 2015*".

This revised process can be implemented immediately and no later than **1 November 2015** and replaces the September 2010 version.

The key difference with the process is that where the EMS Assessor identifies a solution that will reduce any potential harm and minimise long term risk and where that solution is not used as a restraint, there is now an abbreviated pathway where the EMS Assessor can make an advice request for that EMS solution.

Please note that any EMS Assessor submitting service requests for people with challenging behaviour must have read and understood the Health and Disability Services (Restraint Minimisation and Safe Practice) Standards NZS8134.2:2008.

Thank you to all parties who have contributed to the development of the new document.

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