



ACCESS Clinic

POSTURAL MANAGEMENT ADVISORY SERVICE: SLEEP SYSTEMS / LYING SUPPORTS SYSTEMS

Introduction:

The Ministry of Health has provided funding throughout New Zealand for an Advisory service to support the new funding initiative for lying support systems. In the Auckland and Northland region **accessible** has been given a small budget from the Ministry of Health to provide an Advisory Service via the ACCESS clinics through to September 2009.

Postural Management Advisory Service:

This service is yet to be defined and developed, however it is envisaged that it will provide advice and support to Assessors who are completing assessments, equipment trials or follow up for their client's for Ministry of Health funded lying support systems.

It is important to recognise that it is not an assessment service, but rather an advisory support role for Assessors.

accessible is keen to find out what Assessors would find useful and how the service could be utilised, for example;

- Guidance and advice during the trial process. Emailed photographs of trial set-ups can easily be discussed over the phone /email if you are not sure you have achieved the best outcome.
- Information on equipment options.
- Resources – assessment forms, sleep diary, postural care summary – what sort of information is needed to be included in the Complex Equipment application.
- Information on training workshops required for “Lying” accreditation.
- Education / training e.g. carer/service education on the rationale behind 24 hr postural management
- Facilitate sharing of knowledge between services
- Trial clinics - where equipment options are available for therapists to bring clients to problem solve potential solutions before arranging full trial
- Assisted assessments if the Assessor has limited Clinical Supervision supports within their work setting or they have been through the whole process and continue to have issues, the Advisory Service could provide specialist knowledge and support. This could involve telephone / email consultation, a clinic visit or face-to-face assisted assessment with the primary therapist and client in their home.
- Discussions on how follow ups are managed., for example could links be made with Mobility Solutions follow up register for Paediatric clients.

In all circumstances the Assessor remains the primary therapist responsible for following through with any planned intervention or trials identified from the Advisory Service.

It is difficult to anticipate the demand, and **accessible** is keen to look at how we can maximise use of the existing ACCESS clinic network as a cost effective way of delivering the advisory service. **accessible** is keeping strong links with Seating To Go and Enable New Zealand Outreach Services to develop a nationally consistent approach.

We welcome any ideas or suggestions you may have that would assist you or your service in providing advice and equipment to your clients as they relate to lying supports systems.

Referrals:

Requests for Postural Management Advice can be made to the ACCESS clinic, directly by email to Wendy Mauer, ACCESS Clinic Administrator wmauer@accessible.co.nz or telephone 620 1700 extension 831.

Contacts:

Penny Bavage & Sue Fairhall, ACCESS Clinic Specialists pbavage@accessible.co.nz or 620 1700 extension 831

Wendy Mauer, ACCESS Clinic Administrator, wmauer@accessible.co.nz or 620 1700 extension 831.

Wynne Donovan, Professional Advisory Team Manager advisor@accessible.co.nz or 620 1706 or 021 728 140