

Disability Support Link Referral Guidelines

March 2016 version 1.0

NB: Incomplete information on referrals may lead to delays in assessment and coordination of services

Section 1: ELIGIBILITY FOR NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Ministry of Health define a disability as "...having an identified physical, intellectual, sensory or age-related disability (or combination of these) which is likely to continue for a minimum of six months and result in a reduction of independent function to the extent that ongoing support is required."

Clients in their last six weeks of life should be referred on the "Application for end-of-life residential care and support" form (A3480HWF).

Clients **65 and older** with a long-term disability lasting longer than six months

Clients aged **50-64** and have a geriatrician or psycho-geriatrician document their needs are "like in age and interest"

Clients aged **under 65** with a sensory, intellectual, physical disability or Autistic Spectrum Disorder

Clients aged **under 65** with one or more chronic health conditions requiring **at least daily** hands-on physical assistance to remain safe at home

All adult clients must **consent** to the referral and all children must have consent by their parent or guardian

Services are coordinated according to identified support needs and in collaboration with the client and/or representative.
Consideration is given to availability of natural supports

Section 2: NEGOTIATED ACCEPTANCE

Aged residential care for non-New Zealand superannuation recipients

Clients awaiting surgery or other investigation that is planned to occur within the next six months

Clients who self-harm / have moderate to severe mental health issues / suicidal tendencies

Clients with severe/significant psychological issues or disturbed behaviour

Medication supervision for clients 65 and older where **administration** of medication is required

Aged residential care for clients with diagnosed dementia, formally assessed as incompetent/diminished capacity and no enduring power of attorney in place

Further reports from healthcare professionals may be required to support decision making

Section 3: EXCLUSIONS

Clients who are acutely unwell

Clients with a short-term need

People not eligible to receive New Zealand publically funded services

Does not meet the criteria for services

Section 4: DISABILITY SUPPORT LINK DOES NOT PROVIDE

Continence nurse, occupational therapist or physiotherapist assessment for products, equipment or housing modifications (this does not include occupational therapy referrals for reports to support enable funding)

Refer through Community Referral Centre

Gardening, window cleaning or other WINZ supports

Refer to WINZ

Meals on wheels

Refer to White/Yellow Pages

Application or removal of TED stockings, compression stockings or compression bandaging

Refer to District Nursing Services