

The RN Delegation of Care Program Information for parents and guardians

The Registered Nurse Delegation of Care Program - or RNDCP for short - is run by the Women's and Children's Health Network Disability Services Team. It is a community based service, that supports children and teens aged 0-18 years with complex health needs and/or a disability, to safely access community services such as preschool, school, out of school hours care, child care, in home support and respite.

Examples of invasive health needs include if your child needs feeding and medication support via a feeding tube, if they need elimination support such as catheters, colostomy care, or if they need respiratory support, such as oxygen, CPAP or BiPAP.

The RNDCP also supports young people over the age of 18 in particular circumstances, for example, during transitions.

How the RNDCP works

Through the RNDCP, a Registered Nurse (RN) will meet with you and your child, to complete a health assessment, before completing a health plan in collaboration with other health professionals involved in your child's care. The health plan is an important document that your child's Health Support Workers will use, to guide them in providing care for your child.

The RN will decide the type of care that your child needs, and the best person to provide that care. It might be a Health Support Worker, an Enrolled Nurse (EN), or a Registered Nurse (RN). The RN will also do what's called an environmental assessment of the community service your child will use, for example, their new preschool or school. This is to make sure the community service environment is safe for your child and meets their needs.

If your child's care will be provided by a Health Support Worker, they will be trained and assessed by the RN once the health plan has been completed. It's important to keep in mind that how long this takes will vary, depending on the complexity of your child's needs. The RN provides ongoing indirect supervision to the Health Support Worker, and can offer support by phone.

The health plan will need to accompany your child when attending all of the services listed on the plan. It is important to inform the RN of any changes to your child's health status so that the health plan can be updated. Any changes may require the RN to arrange further training and assessment of the Health Support Workers so that your child can continue to be supported. Any variations to your child's health will be documented on the health plan by the RN.



How to access the RNDCP

The Women's and Children's Health Network is now a registered disability service provider under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). This means you can now access the RNDCP through your NDIS plan and funding.

If your child is eligible for the NDIS, you will need to tell your NDIS planner that you want RNDCP added to your child's NDIS plan. Your planner could be an Early Childhood Early Intervention Coordinator, a Local Area Coordinator, a Support Coordinator, or yourself if you are self-managing your child's plan.

You will need to include the relevant NDIS details on the RNDCP referral form, including the RNDCP line item, your NDIS number, planner name and plan dates. You, or your planner, can also request advice about the level of support you require by submitting a referral. It will take a minimum of four weeks to implement your child's support once we receive the referral.

Contact us

For more information, contact us on the details below, visit www.wch.sa.gov.au/disabilityservices or email us at Health.WCHNDisabilityServices@sa.gov.au



For more information

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