

PoI_018	Specialist Behaviour Support
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To ensure each participant has access to behaviour support needs:

- that are appropriate to meet their individual requirements
- improve the quality of life outcomes for all individuals with disabilities
- reduce and/or eliminate any restrictive practices that may be in place.

Life Choice:

- will strive to provide positive behaviour support, working with the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission Behaviour Support team and implementing behaviour support practitioners to implement the behaviour support plan designed to meet the participant's needs
- understands participant behaviours of concern and how they can negatively impact an individual, family members, support services and the community. It's our role to ensure behaviour support needs are being appropriately implemented and managed.
- acknowledges that to be a behaviour support provider we must be registered by the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission.

Record of policy development		
Version	Date approved	Date for review
2020/1	November 2022	November 2024

Responsibilities and delegations	
This policy applies to	All Staff
Policy approval	Quality & Risk Committee

Policy context – this policy relates to:	
Standards	<u>National Disability Insurance Scheme (Provider Registration and Practice Standards) Rules 2018</u> <u>National Disability Insurance Scheme (Quality Indicators) Guidelines 2018</u> <u>NDIS Practice Standards and Quality Indicators July 2018, Version 1</u>
Legislation	<u>National Disability Insurance Scheme (Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support) Rule 2018</u>

	<p>Notice of Regulated Restrictive Practice that does not require authorisation under a state process. Section 28(3)(a) of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support) Rules 2018. To view go to:</p> <p>https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2018-07/Behaviour%20support%20-%20s28%20form.pdf</p> <p><u>National Disability Insurance Scheme (Incident Management and Reportable Incidents) Rules 2018</u></p> <p><u>Disability Services Regulation 2017 amended the Disability Act 2006 (QLD)</u></p>
References	<u>National Disability Services</u>
Organisation policies	<p>Behaviour Support Plan Monitoring and Review Policy</p> <p>Implementing Behaviour Support Policy</p> <p>Supporting the Implementation of the Behaviour Support Plan</p>
Forms, record keeping, other documents	Behaviour Tracking chart

Policy

As a behaviour support plan provider, we will register with the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission as required under NDIS (Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support) Rules 2018 and the *Disability Services Regulation 2017* amended the *Disability Act 2006 (QLD)*.

Life Choice must seek Queensland Government approval for the use of restrictive practices via the Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Online Data Collection (ODC) Restrictive Practices Approval system.

Life Choice:

- will ensure their practices meet and comply with all relevant legislation and policy framework, including suitable delivery of specialised positive behaviour support, assessment, development and ongoing professional development for all practitioners.
- must work with providers who use, or are likely to use, restrictive practices, who implement behaviour support plans that are registered with the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission and who meet supplementary requirements of the NDIS Practice Standards. The NDIS Commission approves of behaviour support practitioners using a competency framework.
- must lodge behaviour support plans with the NDIS Commission and notify it of the use of restrictive practices

- is committed to ensuring that participants with an intellectual or cognitive disability, who exhibit behaviour that causes harm, are supported appropriately in a safe environment, whilst recognising their individual rights and needs.

Life Choice is committed to providing services that:

- Ensure transparency and accountability in the use of restrictive practices
- Recognise restrictive practices shouldn't be used to punish a participant or in response to behaviour that does not cause harm to the participant or others
- Focus on reducing the intensity, frequency and duration of the participant's behaviour that causes harm, either to the participant or others
- Endeavour to reduce or eliminate the need for restrictive practice.

Procedure

Requirements

Restrictive practice	Approver	Approval
Containment and seclusion	Queensland Office of the Public Guardian	Application form available on The Public Guardian website.
Chemical restraint Mechanical restraint Physical restraint Restricting access to objects	Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partnerships	Application form (DOCX, 22 KB) Application form (RTF, 235 KB) available on DCDSS website. Complete and submit to your regional contact in the Positive Behaviour Support & Restrictive Practices team.

Organisation

To provide behaviour support plans, Life Choice must be registered with the NDIS as a specialist behaviour support provider. Life Choice must notify the NDIS Commissioner within one (1) month, unless a longer period has been agreed, of the names and details of all behaviour support practitioners they employ or engage to undertake behaviour assessments and develop behaviour support plans.

Specialist behaviour support provider

- Behaviour support practitioners must be deemed suitable by the NDIS Commission.

- Time frames: one (1) month - interim plan; six (6) months - comprehensive plan; at least every twelve (12) months - review plan
- All plans developed must meet NDIS Commission requirements.
- Plans will be developed in consultation with the participant, their support network and the implementing provider.
- Plans are based on a comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment, including a functional behavioural assessment.
- Behaviour support plans must contain contemporary, evidence-based, behavioural strategies, including environmental adjustments to constructively reduce behaviours of concern.
- The specialist behaviour support provider must work towards reducing and eliminating restrictive practices.
- All behaviour support plans must be developed in a form approved by the Commissioner and lodged with the NDIS Commission.

Responsibilities

Behaviour support plans and the use of restrictive practices require Life Choice to have transparent responsibilities and ensure that all clinicians are aware of their responsibilities.

Life Choice will:

- Register with the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission for the requisite registration group
- Obtain proper consent for all use of restrictive practices
- Ensure all staff developing and delivering behaviour support are appropriately trained, qualified and supported
- Ensure all behaviour support practitioners undertake professional development to maintain an understanding of practices considered restrictive and the risks associated with those practices
- Confirm that all NDIS behaviour support practitioners have been assessed as suitable to deliver specialised positive behaviour support, including assessments and development of behaviour support plans
- Ensure that a specialist behaviour support clinical supervisor provides clinical supervision of each work practice of the NDIS behaviour support practitioner
- Report any unauthorised use of restrictive practices to the NDIS Quality & Safeguards Commission, as required
- Support participants to make and resolve complaints
- Support other providers implementing a Behaviour Support Plan in delivering services
- Implement strategies in the plan

- Evaluate the effectiveness of current approaches aimed at reducing and eliminating restrictive practices
- Monitor the use of restrictive practices, including regularly reporting the use of the restrictive practices to the NDIS Quality and Safety Commission
- Notify the behaviour support practitioner if changes in circumstances require the behaviour support plan to be reviewed
- Record all use of restrictive practices (see Restrictive Practices Policy and Procedure
- Demonstrate a commitment to reducing and eliminating restrictive practices through policies, procedures and practices (see Restrictive Practices Policy and Procedure - Record Keeping and Reporting)
- Ensure compliance with the Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partnerships requirements.

Behaviour support practitioners

Behaviour support practitioners will:

- Be assessed as suitable to deliver specialised positive behaviour support, including assessments and development of behaviour support plans
 - Meet behaviour support requirements, including lodging behaviour support plans that include restrictive practices with the NDIS Commission which includes:
 - Assessing the participant's behaviours
 - Developing a behaviour support plan
 - Keeping records of the development and implementation of restrictive practices.
- Ensure compliance with the state procedures issued by the Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors
- Undertake ongoing professional development to remain current with evidence-informed practice and approaches to behaviour support, including positive behavior support.

Collaborating with providers

When collaborating with other providers, behaviour support practitioners will provide support in the implementation of a behaviour support plan to:

- Deliver services
- Implement strategies

- Evaluate the effectiveness of current approaches aimed at reducing and eliminating restrictive practices
- Consider the interface between 'reasonable and necessary supports' under a participant's plan and any other supports or services, under a comprehensive system of service delivery, that the participant receives and then develop strategies and protocols to integrate supports/services as practicable
- Develop behaviour support plans for each participant in consultation with the providers implementing behaviour support plans
- Provide the behaviour support plan to providers for their consideration and acceptance
- Facilitate or deliver person-focused training, coaching and mentoring to each of the providers implementing behaviour support plans; and, with the consent of the participant, their support network (where applicable) training covers the strategies required to implement a participant's behaviour support plan, including positive behaviour support strategies
- Provide oversight - where the specialist behaviour support provider recommends that workers implementing a behaviour support plan receive training on the safe use of a restrictive practice included in a plan - to ensure training addresses the strategies contained within a participant's behaviour support plan
- Offer ongoing support and advice to providers implementing behaviour support plans and, with the participant's consent, their support network (where applicable) to address barriers to implementation
- Provide support to the provider/s implementing each participant's behaviour support plan in responding to a reportable incident involving the use of restrictive practices
- Notify, and work with, the NDIS Commissioner to address situations:
 - Where effective engagement with providers implementing behaviour support plans is not possible for any reason
 - Where supports and services are not being implemented in accordance with the behaviour support plan.