



ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Occupational therapists through Aidaway OT are able to assist clients with an array of assistive technology needs. Our team is experienced, adaptable, and are open-minded about unique requirements – the market is constantly evolving!

How is Occupational therapy relevant to assistive technology?

Assistive technology is designed for individuals with the intent of optimising safety and function. NDIS (and other schemes) also considers technology in context of cost-saving in many cases.

Examples of assistive technology can include:

- Powered and manual wheelchairs
- Mobility aids
- Transfer aids
- Electric beds
- Scooters
- Adaptive cutlery
- Shower and toilet aids e.g. commodes.

Occupational therapists become involved with these solutions due to:

- Risk management
- Clinical oversight

What can I expect from undertaking an assessment?

Our service will be tailored to the situation.

Typically, in NDIS, for low cost items (typically under \$1500) or those already identified as reasonable and necessary in a client's plan, these items will be readily streamlined and accessible. For items that are of high cost, high risk or not stated in someone's plan, the items will require a longer critique.

Equipment needs typically align with the following process:

- 1) In-home consultation, which typically aligns with a consultation alongside collaboration with any other supports where relevant, whereby functional needs and the environment are reviewed.
 - 2) Equipment trials are completed.
 - 3) Outcomes are collaborated. As equipment can be elaborate in context of daily life and on a funding approval level, there are variable discussions and quotes which can become complex in nature.
 - 4) Report facilitation, which outlines findings and proposals. The report will be sent to anyone of whom the client consents.
-

External to NDIS, a similar process is undertaken which aligns holistically to equipment trials then proposals/documentation.

What funding is available to support this assessment?

NDIS funding aligns with plan and self-managed clients. Billing is undertaken as per the NDIS rate. Specific hours are unique to the circumstance hence can be discussed transparently.

In other schemes, a similar process is taken in context of hourly billing – rates are typically aligned with those proposed by the scheme.

Aidaway OT aligns equipment funding typically to:

- NDIS
- Home care packages
- Private funding
- SWEPP (state wide equipment program)

How long does the process take?

The process will vary as dependent on equipment availability for trials, OT timeframes regarding report facilitation, and review timeframes depending on the scheme.

In circumstances whereby equipment requires immediate access and this is unable to occur, hire equipment or report escalation is able to be facilitated to the best that is able to occur within the market – it is best to make contact with the OT/supports involved where this matter becomes associated.

Who can I contact to discuss this matter further?

Please feel free to liaise with our admin staff on 03 9069 2106 for further details.

Via email, this is best directed to admin@aidawayot.com.au. For specific OT queries, these will be further streamlined as required.
