



NDIS Disability Related Health Supports

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A vertical strip of artwork on the left side of the slide, featuring a blue circle at the top, followed by a red dotted area with green lines, a dark grey dotted area with yellow and green lines, and a yellow dotted area with green lines at the bottom.

**We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and
Custodians of the country on which we meet
today and their continuing connection to land,
waters and community.**

**I pay my respects to their Elders – past, present
and emerging.**

**I would like to extend that acknowledgement and
respect to any Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander peoples here today**



Disability Reform Council (DRC) announce policy reform

In June 2019, the COAG DRC meeting endorsed a major NDIS reform.

From 1 October 2019, the NDIS will fund a range of disability-related health supports that are:

part of the participant's daily life

and

result directly from the participant's disability



Why are these changes needed?

The NDIA, Federal and State Governments have learnt a lot since the NDIS started.

As members of the Disability Reform Council (DRC) they have endorsed changes to the NDIS to improve the experience of NDIS Participants.

From 1 October 2019, additional disability-related health supports will be available to purchase using NDIS funding.

The typical types of support available can be grouped into eight 'support type' categories (but this is not an exhaustive list).



Guiding principles for disability-related health supports

1	Participant experience at the centre and provide for choice and control
2	Identify the nature of a participant's disability and the functional impacts as key determinants of supports
3	Wrap supports around the participant's needs so they receive seamless support from multiple service systems
4	Provide these supports in the context of appropriate quality and safeguarding frameworks
5	Enable NDIS participants to choose the most appropriately qualified person to provide their supports, within the funding available in their NDIS plan
6	Ensure the support is provided by the most appropriate and cost effective service provider

New NDIS disability-related health supports

From 1 October 2019 NDIS will fund disability-related health supports that are part of the participant's daily life and result directly from the participant's disability.

Disability-related health supports	Description
Dysphagia	For participants who have trouble eating, drinking or swallowing
Respiratory	For participants requiring help with their breathing
Nutrition	For participants requiring help with the way they eat or understanding the food they need
Diabetes	For participants who have problems with how much sugar is in their blood
Continence	For participants who need assistance with toileting (bladder and bowel)
Wound & Pressure Care	For participants who need wound and pressure care (resulting from pressure wounds or swollen limbs)
Podiatry	For participants who require help looking after their feet, ankles and lower limbs
Epilepsy	For participants who need daily help managing the way epilepsy affects the way their brain and nerves work



Timeframes

From 1 October 2019, additional disability-related health supports will be available to purchase using NDIS funding.

The NDIA is working closely with the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments to ensure participants who may be eligible for these supports have them included in their plan.

Access to disability-related health supports will not stop during this period.

Depending on your situation, the way you can access disability-related health supports may differ.

Some participants will require urgent attention due to the complex nature of their needs.





How to access disability health supports:

Existing Participants – urgent cases

A small number of participants require urgent attention due to the complex nature of their needs.

State and Territory health services will ensure critical services are maintained for clients in the short term as funding is transferred to the NDIS.

State and Territory governments are supporting the NDIA to identify priority participants to schedule an early plan review.



How to access disability health supports:

Existing Participants

1. NDIS participants who are **already receiving disability-related health supports** in their plans do not need to take any action.
2. NDIS participant who **now need to add these supports into their plans** do not need to request an unscheduled plan review. You have two options:
 - Use your NDIS plan core support budget flexibly or
 - Continue to receive support from your State and Territory health service
State and Territory Health services may ask participants, family or carers if they are an NDIS participant.

NDIA is contacting participants who may be eligible for these supports to explain options to include disability-related health supports in their next plan.



How to access disability health supports:

New Participants

New participants may need disability-related health supports to be included in their plan. This should be discussed with their LAC or planner.

Once a plan is in place, new participants will be able to purchase these supports like any other item you have in their NDIS plan.





Commitment to smooth transition

Commonwealth, State and Territory governments:

- Support participants until they can receive disability-related health supports through their NDIS plan.
- During transition to NDIS funding, some people may continue to receive disability-related health supports funded through their State or Territory health service.

State and Territory health services should:

- Ask clients, family or carers if they are an NDIS participant and make them aware of DRC policy change.
 - Ask if they have been contacted by the NDIA, if they haven't, offer support to the participant to contact the NDIA to discuss their plan funding.
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Purchasing Supports

The NDIS 2019-20 Price Guide and Support Catalogue is a key reference with helpful policy information and guidance for participants and providers.

Providers and participants must develop service agreements and service bookings

Updated step-by-step guides on processing payments will be available soon.

A list of providers registered is available on the NDIS website.

Participants who already receive disability-related health supports may be able to use their existing provider to deliver them.



NDIS will contact participants

Participants with a plan review due within 3 months:

- NDIS will SMS, call, email or send letter with more information
- Can purchase disability-related health supports using unspent funds from current core support budget without the need for an unscheduled review
- Can continue to receive support from the State and Territory Health service, informing them they are an NDIS participant.

Participants without a Plan review due in the next 3 months:

- The NDIS will contact participants in coming months only if they don't have enough funds in their current plan. If needed, participants may receive top-up funding before their next scheduled plan review.
- For some supports – such as Assistive Technology equipment that costs more than \$1500 – participants won't be able to use unspent funds.



NDIS Price Guide funding categories

Categories of disability-related health supports funded by the NDIS:

1. **Consumables** – from existing Core Support Category budget
 2. **Assistance (support workers and nurses or allied health professionals)**
 3. **Assistive Technology**
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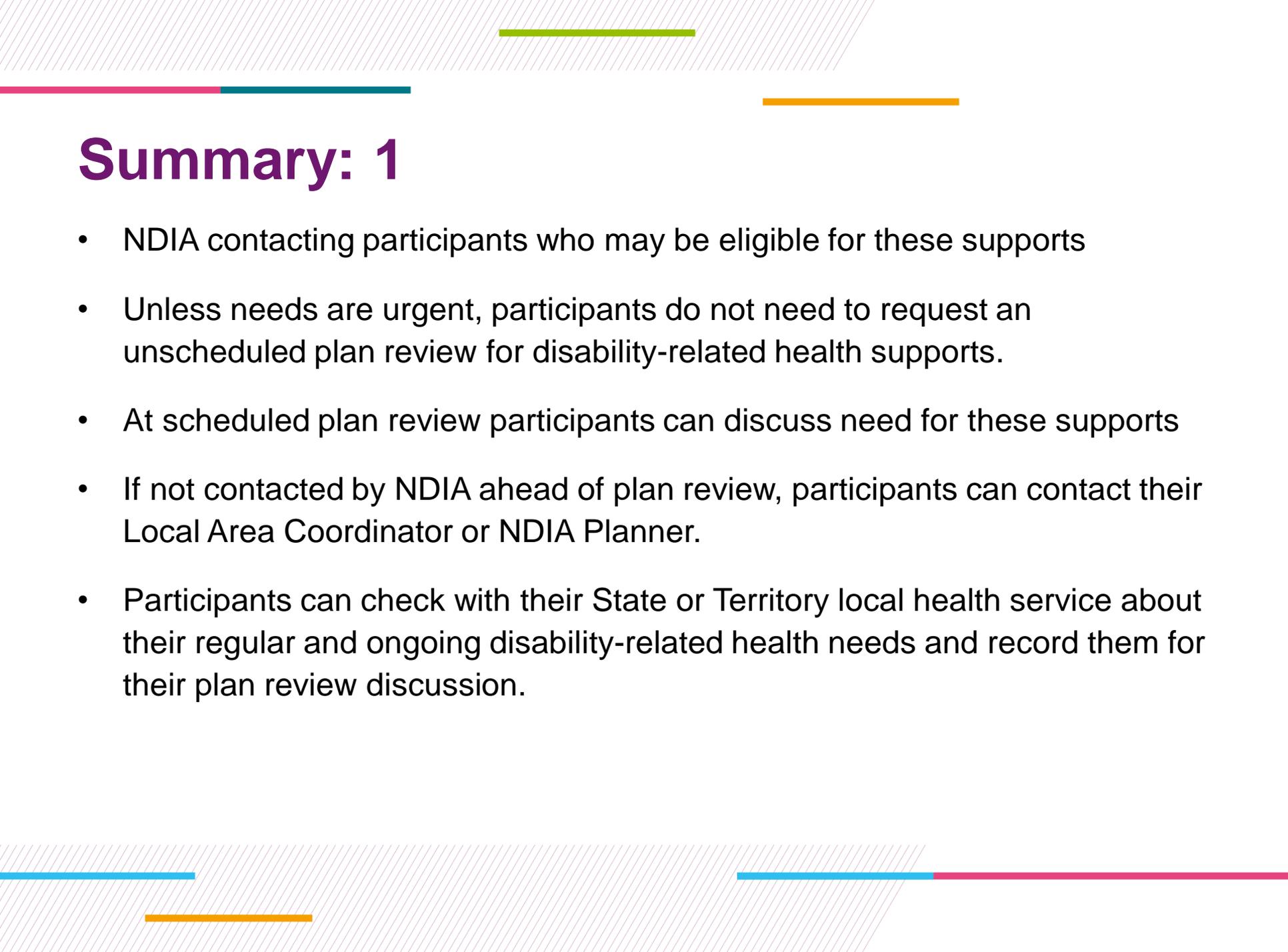
Clinical Governance

The NDIA is developing a comprehensive understanding of the scope of practice of health professional and disability support workers

This work is being informed by a clinical governance working group

This group will help guide the clinical governance for the delivery of disability-related health supports through the NDIS.





Summary: 1

- NDIA contacting participants who may be eligible for these supports
- Unless needs are urgent, participants do not need to request an unscheduled plan review for disability-related health supports.
- At scheduled plan review participants can discuss need for these supports
- If not contacted by NDIA ahead of plan review, participants can contact their Local Area Coordinator or NDIA Planner.
- Participants can check with their State or Territory local health service about their regular and ongoing disability-related health needs and record them for their plan review discussion.

Summary: 2

- During transition to NDIS, some disability-related health supports may continue to be delivered by the State and Territory health departments.
- Prior to a plan review, participants will be able to purchase most disability-health related supports flexibly within their existing NDIS budget.
- Specific pricing arrangements and service levels are being developed to guide funding of disability-related health supports
- A participant or their nominee can explain to provider what supports are funded and at what level.
- Providers should create a service agreement and service booking in the NDIS myplace portal prior to delivering services.



Summary 3: priority participants

- NDIS participants will continue to receive government funded disability related health supports while the funding arrangements transfer to the NDIS.
 - Access to disability-related health supports will not stop during this period.
 - Some participants will require urgent attention due to the complex nature of their needs.
 - States and Territories are working with NDIS to identify and prioritise participants requiring early plan review to ensure provision of disability related health supports in their plans
 - Clinicians through the State and Territory Health service may ask participants, family or carers if they are an NDIS participant to help participants get supports included in their plans quicker
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Meet Phillipa

Phillipa lives in Central Australia and lives at home with her grandparents; Rose and Dave and her 10 year old sister

Phillipa is 13 years old and was born with cerebral palsy. She receives support and care from her family

Phillipa joined the NDIS three years ago and currently receives funding for a variety of supports including her walking aids and splints, and receives regular physiotherapy and occupational therapy

Phillipa has recently had difficulty in managing her foot care

Phillipa has developed thick skin callouses on her feet due to her walking pattern, that are unable to be managed by her or her grandparents





Meet Alec

Alec is 31 years old and lives with his older brother named Brodie.

Alec was very active through university and represented his State in National Basketball.

Alec acquired a spinal cord injury two years ago and now uses a wheelchair for mobility.

Alec is independent in a manual wheelchair, but is now finding it difficult to manage his weight. Alec has no other health or disability conditions.





Meet Thomas

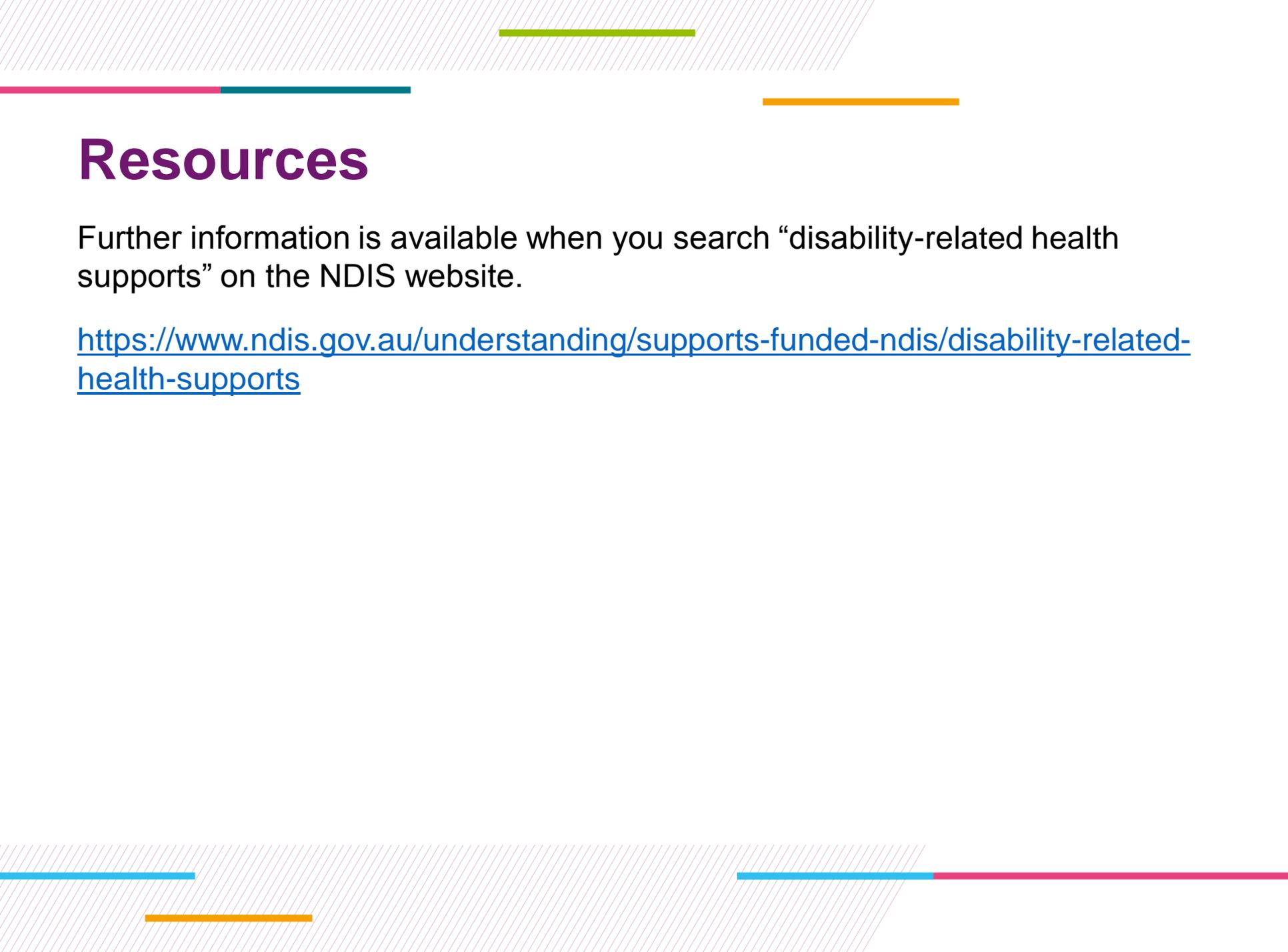
Thomas is 47 years old and lives with his three teenage children, who are 12, 14 and 17 years old. Thomas receives support from his family.

He was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) four years ago. Thomas has noticed a gradual decline in his function with weakness in his arms and legs.

He also has bladder incontinence which is now being managed with use of a catheter.

Thomas does not have any other disabilities or health conditions and has come to NDIA to discuss what is available to him.





Resources

Further information is available when you search “disability-related health supports” on the NDIS website.

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/understanding/supports-funded-ndis/disability-related-health-supports>

Disability-related health supports

For more information, please contact:

 1800 800 110

 www.ndis.gov.au

 community.mainstream.engagement@ndis.gov.au

For people who need help with English:

 TTY: 1800 555 677

For people with hearing or speech loss:

 TTY: 1800 555 677

 Speak and Listen: 1800 555 727

