

# Interim response - debriefing, dignity and risk

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# Learning Outcomes from today

1. Interim Response = quick, brief, clear, safe
2. Strategies
3. Restrictive Practices
  - Dignity and inherent human rights
4. Reduction and Elimination:
  - Decision points
  - Debriefing
5. Process

# Interim response = quick, brief, clear, safe

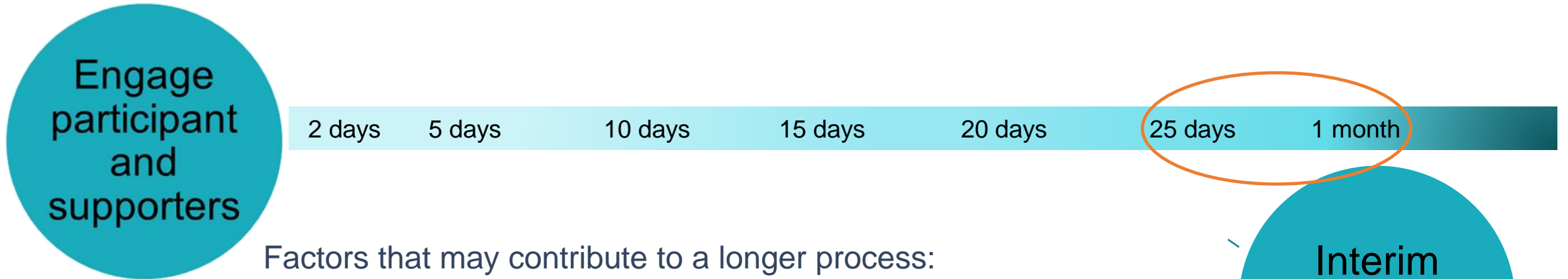
## Core

1.2 Know high risk behaviours need to be managed safely and effectively using least restrictive options

## Proficient

1.4 Develop an individualised immediate response plan

# Interim Response = quick, brief



Factors that may contribute to a longer process:

1. Data not available/consent to release data delayed.
2. Outcome of medical reviews no known.
3. Stakeholder(s) unsure if restrictive practice is necessary for safety.
4. Practitioner unsure if restrictive practice is the least restrictive option.
5. Challenging system dynamics.
6. Funding.
7. Others factors?

# Interim Response = clear, safe

## Samira

Is an 8 year old girl.

She enjoys one-on-one activities.

Samira can find noises, lights and crowds distressing

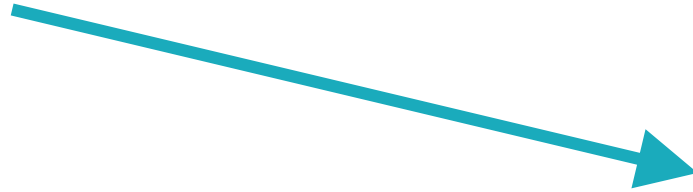
Samira has recently started banging her head on walls and other hard surfaces.

Helmet is used to address the behaviours of concern

A protocol to use the helmet when Samira is banging her head was developed in the Interim Plan.

# Interim Response = quick, brief, clear, safe

Keep Samira safe



## **Interim behaviour support plan**

Interim behaviour support plan, which included the restrictive practice for the use of a helmet with a detailed protocol for its use

Begin additional assessments



recommended that an occupational therapist assess and recommend the right type of helmet.

Be clear about what is needed to be safe



Staff and family trained in the interim behaviour support plan

Involve Samira from the beginning



the helmet protocol was explained to Samira using visual support.

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# Protocols

**Description of the restrictive practice:** What is it?

**Rationale:** Why is it being used? Explain why positive strategies alone were not effective. For example, what strategies were tried before the restrictive practice was considered?

**Frequency?** PRN (on an 'as needed' basis) or routine (i.e. at a set time in the day).

**Procedure:** Include detailed instructions of how, where, when the restrictive practice will be used, and for how long.

**Reviews:** How will the use of the restrictive practice be monitored, and how often will it be reviewed?

**Data recording and monitoring:** How will incidents be recorded and reviewed? How will you monitor the effectiveness of the positive behaviour support strategies in reducing the restrictive practice? How will you monitor side effects of the restrictive practice?

**The plan to reduce and eliminate the restrictive practice:** What strategies are in place to reduce the restrictive practice? Details can be included in the protocol or other sections of the behaviour support plan (i.e. under preventative or skill building strategies that target the function of the behaviour). How will you measure the fade out of a restrictive practice?

**Training:** How will training occur? For example, a 'train the trainer' approach might be used, staff may be trained at the registered NDIS provider's team meeting, or a video training resource is developed.





# Interim Response = clear, safe

## The helmet is used to address the behaviours of concern for Samira

A protocol to use the helmet when Samira is banging her head was developed in the Interim Plan:

1. What aspects of the Protocol suggests it is least restrictive?
2. What else has occurred that suggests this is a least restrictive response?

## Appendix G: Mechanical restraint protocol example

This resource is to help guide behaviour support practitioners detail the use of a restrictive practice in a behaviour support plan. Also see [Appendix A](#).

### Rationale

Samira repeatedly bangs her head on walls and hard surfaces. A helmet is used to protect Samira from sustaining injuries to her head. In some circumstances, positive strategies alone are not always effective in addressing this behaviour safely.

**Mechanical device:** The helmet as recommended by the occupational therapist. No other helmet should be used.

### Frequency of use

PRN (as needed). Only to be used as a last resort.

### Procedure

- The primary way for ensuring the ongoing safety of Samira and others is by following the positive strategies listed in the behaviour support plan.
- Identify potential triggers and remove if possible.
- Attempt to problem solve reasons Samira may be feeling distressed. Look for environmental and physical factors, and offer reassurance. Has there been a change in her environment?
- Attempt to redirect Samira to an activity she enjoys (**follow the de-escalation strategies in this behaviour support plan**).
- The decision to use mechanical restraint needs to be based on a risk assessment and characterised by respect and empathic decision-making.
- If Samira cannot be redirected and continues to bang her head, mechanical restraint may need to be used, if so follow the below instructions.
  - Inform Samira that you will be placing the helmet on her head by showing Samira the helmet and saying “Samira putting helmet on”.
  - Attempt to put the helmet on her head if it is safe to do so (securing the clip under

# Comprehensive PBSP after FBA

Training about the purpose of the behaviour

Remove trigger

Support coping

Teach replacement behaviour

Strategies supported fade-out

know when she was feeling upset.

After working with Samira, her family and support team, the NDIS behaviour support practitioner developed a comprehensive behaviour support plan, integrating strategies developed by the speech pathologist and the occupational therapist.

Samira's family, teachers and staff were all trained in the behaviour support plan. It was important that everyone supporting Samira understood the underlying reason Samira was banging her head (function) and how to support her.

Some of the other strategies in the behaviour support plan to help improve Samira's quality of life, reduce, and eliminate the use of mechanical restraint focused on:

giving Samira more space from others when she needed it

- preparing Samira when someone new was attending after school care, including new staff and any changes to her routine by using visual supports, and
- supporting and praising Samira when she used her hand sign and responding immediately to her when she used it (positive reinforcement).

## Outcomes

Over time, Samira learnt how to tell her family, teachers and NDIS staff when she was feeling distressed and she developed more appropriate coping strategies and skills. The head banging reduced and was eventually no longer observed. The use of the helmet was slowly faded out.

## Key points

- Working collaboratively with the person, their family and support team across all settings of a person's life is important to developing a person-centred behaviour support plan.
- No single profession holds all the expertise. Often, a key role of a behaviour support practitioner is to integrate knowledge and assessments from different disciplines and bring together approaches in a positive behaviour support plan.

**administering PRN:**

1. Attempt to identify potential triggers and remove if possible.
2. Attempt to problem solve reasons why Sue may be feeling distressed. Look for environmental and physical factors  
**(Refer to the response section of this behaviour support plan on de-escalation strategies).**

**PRN:**

Seroquel has been prescribed to address self-harm behaviour, including:

- Expressing thoughts of self-harm and Sue is unable to be redirected
- Observed scratching her skin and Sue is unable to be redirected
- Attempting to cut her skin on her arms or other parts of her body.

If any of the above are observed and Sue is unable to be redirected using the de-escalation strategies in this behaviour support plan, Sue may need to be administered PRN.

Follow the procedure instructions.

**Procedure**

1. The primary way for ensuring the ongoing safety of Sue and others is by following the positive strategies listed in the behaviour support plan.
2. Staff are to follow this protocol with the safe medication administration policy in place.
3. Staff are to refer to medication chart and **current prescribing practitioner instructions / form for information on dosage per administration, route, maximum dosage in 24 hours, side effects and administration instructions.**
4. Check the medication chart. **If the medication has not been administered in 24 hours or if enough time has passed since it was last administered as per the prescribing practitioner instructions,** ask Sue if she would like some medication to help her to relax.
5. If Sue agrees, **administer medication according to the medication form / prescribing practitioner instructions.** Do not force Sue to take the medication.
6. Observe and ensure medication has been taken.
7. **Monitor for side effects.** Sue is to be monitored closely while being administered the medication and afterwards for any side effects. Document any side effects in the chemical restraint monitoring log.

# Strategies:

Positive

Preventative

Reactive

Person-centered

# Example of strategies in context

**Setting events**

**Triggers**

**Escalation**

**Incident/ crisis**

**De-escalation**

**Recovery**

High risk situations

Warning signs  
Respond early and safely

**Prevention**

**Prevention**

**Non-aversive response strategies**

Keep everyone safe

For example:

Ensure everyone is safe

Changes to the environment

Strategies to avoid triggers

for example:  
Give distance  
Disengage  
Empathy and listening  
Redirect  
Humour  
Reduce demands  
Sensory approaches

Least restrictive alternatives

Support  
Acknowledge feelings  
Be close and available

Provide any first aid

Increase QOL  
Interactions

Reduce triggers  
Support coping

Follow Restrictive practice Protocol if needed

Reengage in routine

Reengage in routine

Routines  
Schedules

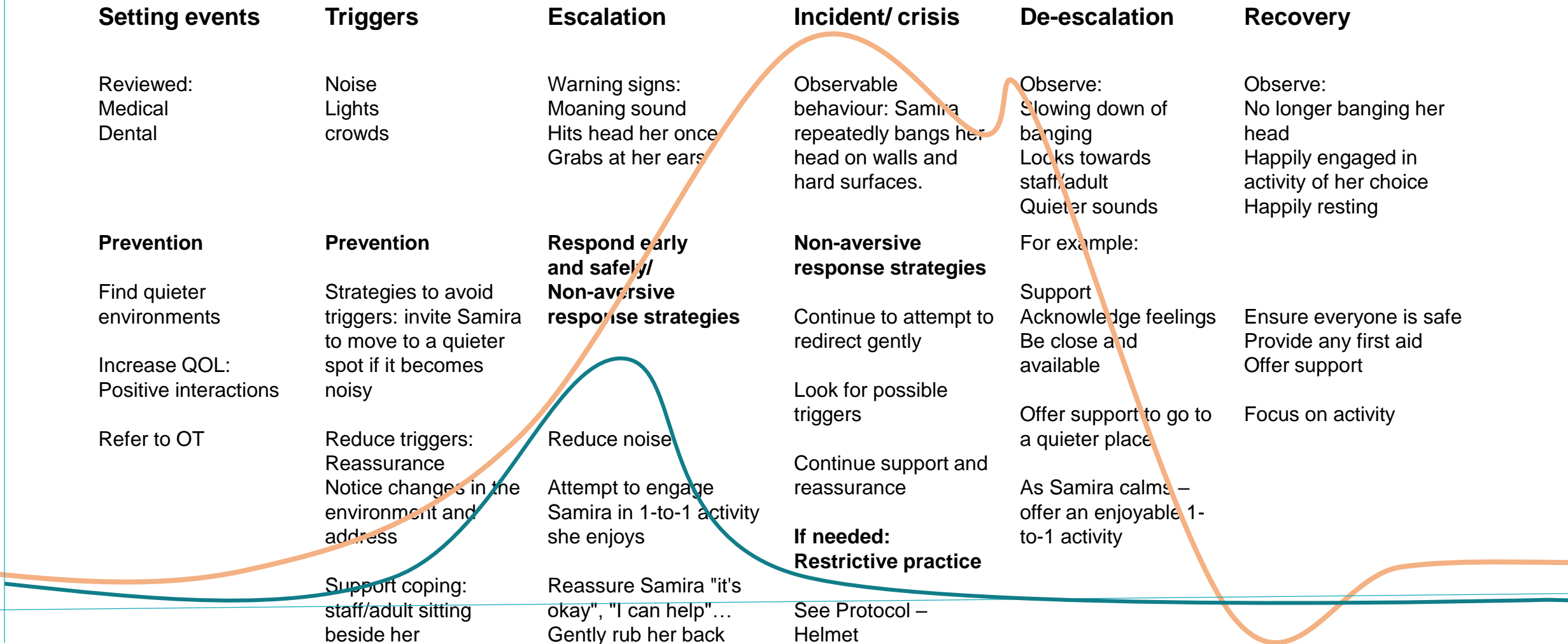
Choice and control

Communication

Data collection

**Skill building:** teaching alternative strategies, Life Skills, Coping skills, Social skills etc

# Example: strategies for Samira



**Skill building:** teaching alternative strategies, Life Skills, Coping skills, Social skills etc

# Interim Response = clear, safe

## Daku

Is an 14 year old boy.

He enjoys going out. He is fascinated with shiny objects.

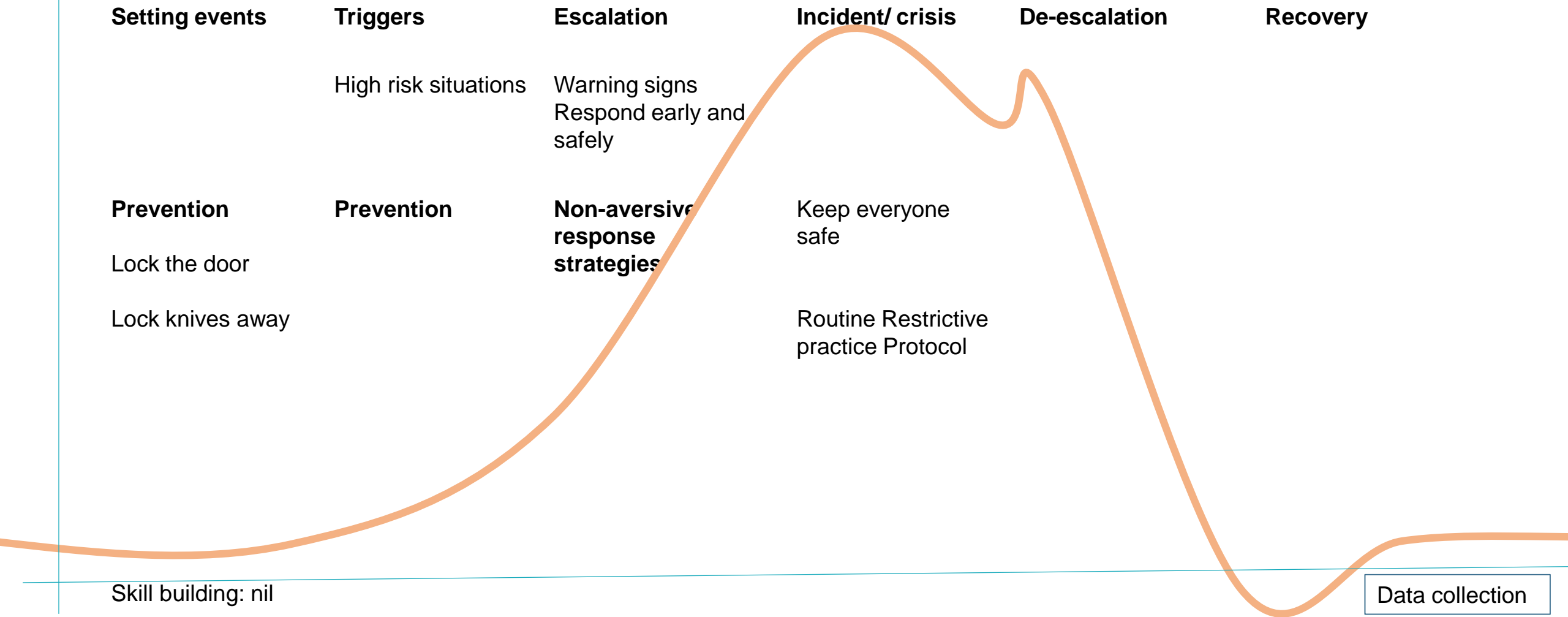
Daku frequently wanders out and away from his home. At the moment Daku really likes shiny knives.

Wandering and waving knives has caused Daku harm.

His family have started locking the front door and locking the knives away.

Protocols for these restrictive practices are included in an Interim Plan.

# Example of strategies in context - Daku



Mapping to the escalation curve - Kaplan and Wheeler, 1983

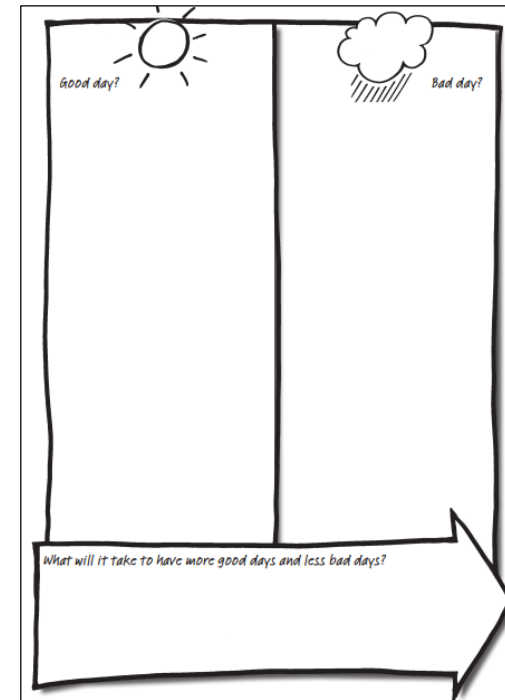


# 1.4 Know how and why interim responses will be unique to the person

Taking a Person-Centred approach

[HSA|Person-centred thinking tools|Good Day/Bad Day |Training \(helensandersonassociates.co.uk\)](https://helensandersonassociates.co.uk)

[Person-Centred Practice Across Cultures resources \(nds.org.au\)](https://nds.org.au)

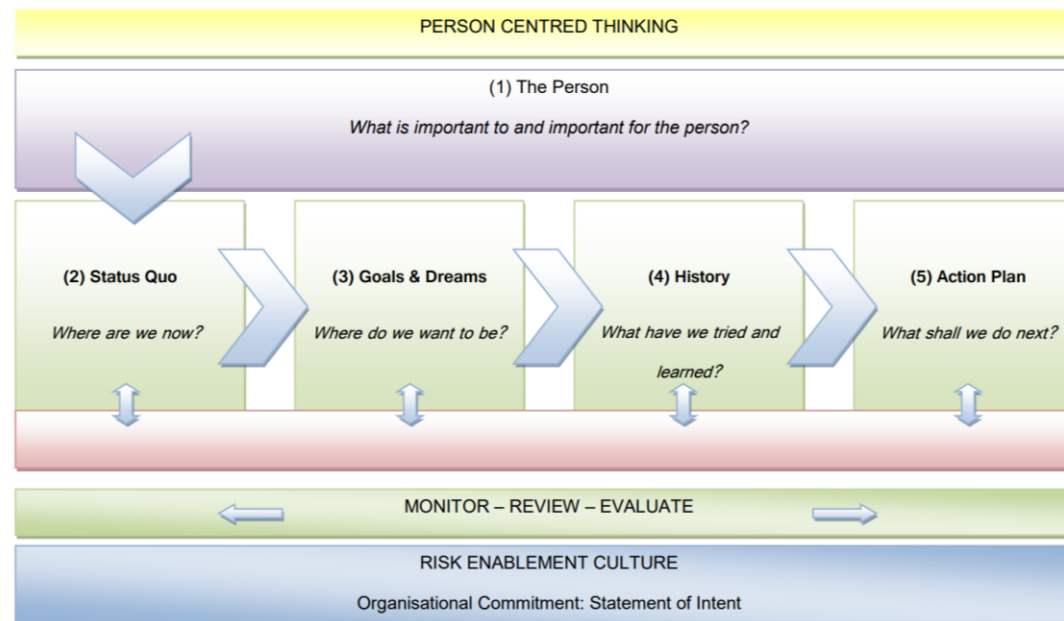


“Risk assessments should not be designed to limit choice and freedom; their purpose should be enabling people to live the lives they want as safely as possible”

- NSW Government (2014) Practice Guide to Person Centred Clinical Risk Assessment

# 1.4 Know how and why interim responses will be unique to the person

Figure 1: Person Centred Approach to Clinical Risk Assessment



Centre for Disability Studies, 2013

# Restrictive Practices

## Core

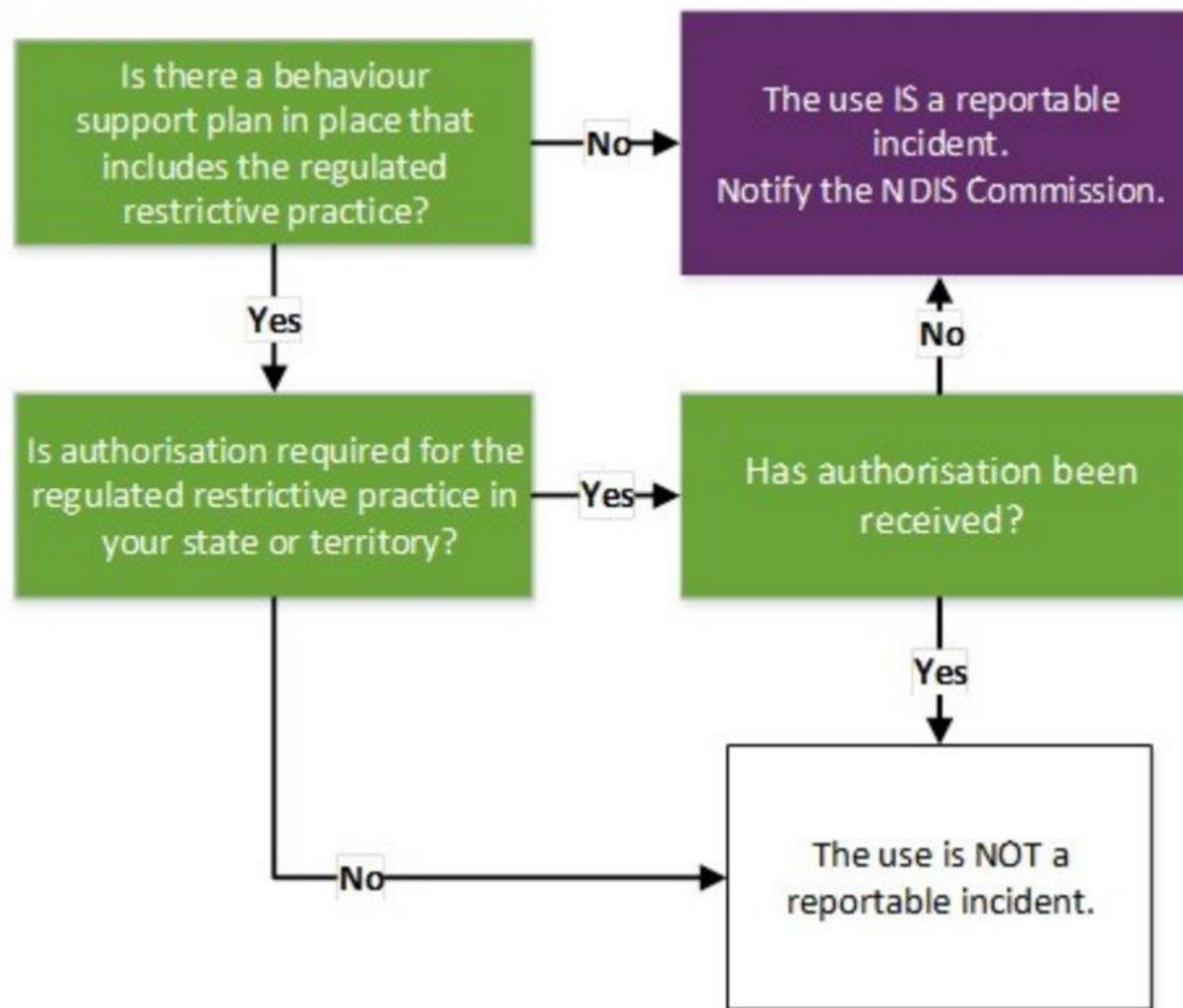
1.5 Be aware that interim risk management may (or may not need to) include restrictive practices

## Proficient

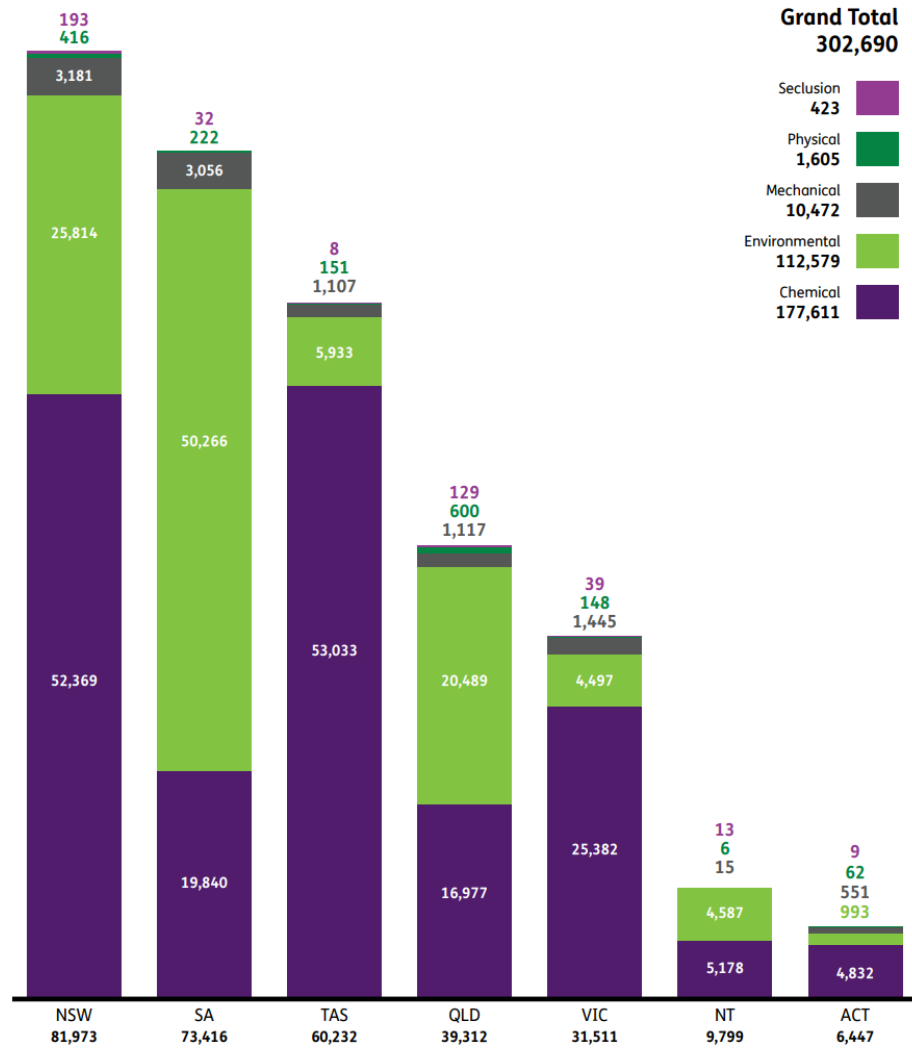
1.2 Be aware of the implications of using restrictive practices as a response

6.3 Understand that restrictive practice can represent serious human rights violations

Figure 1: Flow chart outlining how a reportable incident is defined



Numbers of URPs by State/Territory and Type



## ACTIVITY REPORT 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020

NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission

From 1 July 2019 until 30 June 2020, the NDIS Commission operated in all states and territories except for Western Australia. The NDIS Commission will commence operations in WA from 1 December 2020.



## EXTRACT:

# “Possible impacts of using restrictive practices on people with disability

- “...people with disability who have limited communication skills and/ or emotional regulation skills may self-harm in response to underlying factors such as confusion, anxiety, trauma, sensory impairments, or an underlying illness or pain (Emerson et al., 2014).
- Controlling one behaviour using a restrictive practice can lead to other behaviours of concern (Deshais, Fisher, Hausman, & Kahng, 2015).
- A restrictive practice may be triggering to a person with a history of trauma and abuse.
- A restrictive practice can cause trauma and psychological distress (LeBel et al., 2012).
- The use of a restrictive practice may result in a loss of dignity for the person with disability.
- A restrictive practice can limit personal freedom and the person’s ability to engage in activities of daily life (Deshais et al., 2015).
- They can reduce meaningful interactions with carers and support staff.
- Long-term use of restrictive practices may lead to an over-reliance, which could result in the person seeking restraint or becoming anxious without the restraint (Department of Health and Human Services, 2019).”

“Restrictive practices do not address the underlying factors that cause the behaviour of concern”

- LeBel, J., Nunno, M. A., Mohr, W. K., & O'Halloran, R. (2012). Restraint and seclusion use in U.S. school settings: Recommendations from allied treatment disciplines. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 82(1), 75–86.



# United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (UNCRPD)

Liberty and security of the person (Article 14);

Freedom from torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Article 15);

Freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse (Article 16);

Respect for his or her physical and mental integrity on an equal basis with others (Article 17);

Personal mobility with the greatest possible independence (Article 20);

Freedom of expression and opinion and access to information (Article 21);

# Respect for the integrity of the person = Treating people with disabilities as a person first

Using restrictive practices was identified as something that shaped norms:

- the more that restrictive practices were used against people with disability, the more they were legitimised as 'standard practice'.
- the use of restrictive practices is normalised, it trivialises interfering with the rights and freedoms of people with disability
- which 'contributes to the dehumanisation of people with disability'

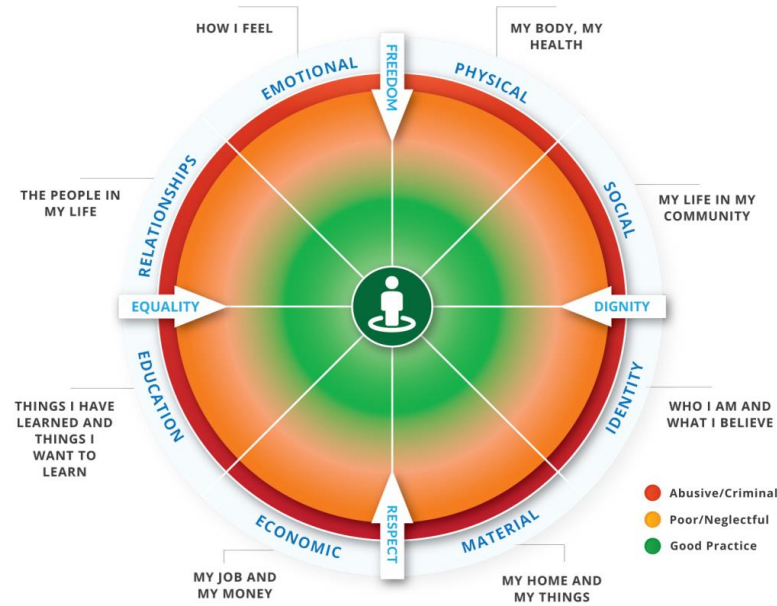
# Respect for the integrity of the person = Treating people with disabilities as a person first

"In the context of behaviors of concern Article 17 is particularly directed towards protection from restrictive practices and compulsory treatment...

... and it provides a powerful mandate for a positive behavior support model that promotes a rights-based approach to service delivery"

Nankervis, K & Chan, J. (2021) [Applying the CRPD to People With Intellectual and Developmental Disability With Behaviors of Concern During COVID-19](https://doi.org/10.1111/jppi.12374). Journal of Policy and Practice in Intellectual Disabilities. Accessed at <https://doi.org/10.1111/jppi.12374> on 7/4/2021

## THE EMPOWERMENT CIRCLE



### WHAT IS THE EMPOWERMENT CIRCLE?

The Empowerment Circle is a tool to help you think about how people can be more empowered in all areas of their life. We know that abuse, neglect and poor practice can happen in every area of a person's life. The Empowerment Circle will help you think about

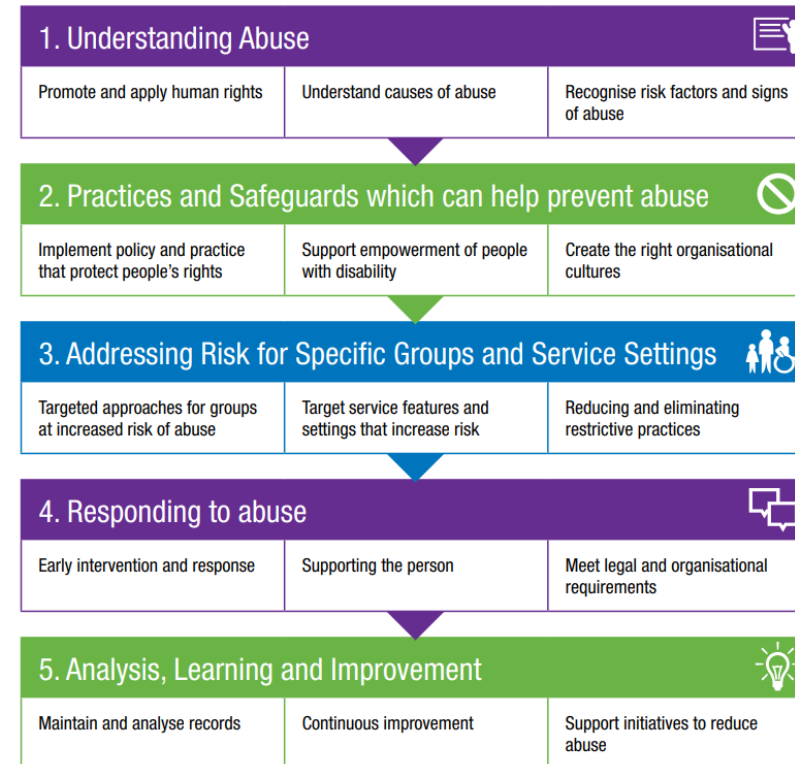
From [Human Rights and You e-Learning Program \(nds.org.au\)](https://www.nds.org.au); [Nat Zero Tolerance framework1.pdf \(nds.org.au\)](https://www.nds.org.au)

# Zero Tolerance Framework

**Zero Tolerance is an initiative led by National Disability Services in partnership with the disability sector.** It aims to assist disability service providers to understand, implement and improve practices which safeguard the rights of people they support.

This evidence-based framework outlines strategies for service providers to improve prevention, early intervention and responses to abuse, neglect and violence experienced by people with disability. An expanding range of Zero Tolerance tools and resources for the disability sector are available to support broader safeguarding approaches for people with a disability.

For more information and resources visit <https://www.nds.org.au/resources/zero-tolerance>



From [Human Rights and You e-Learning Program \(nds.org.au\)](https://www.nds.org.au); [Nat Zero Tolerance framework1.pdf \(nds.org.au\)](https://www.nds.org.au)

# Zero Tolerance: Recognising Restrictive Practices

“...restrictive practices can be overused or misused. They might be used:

- without knowing that something is restricting a person’s human rights
- without teaching new ways to get needs met
- without using proactive strategies to reduce the risk
- for too long at one time
- for too long over time and without being regularly reviewed
- for reasons other than keeping people safe
- to control people or to make people act in a certain way
- as a form of abuse and neglect (intentional or unintentional)
- due to a lack of training, knowledge or reflection about less restrictive alternatives
- without the proper authorization”

# The use of a regulated restrictive practice must:

- a) be clearly identified in the behaviour support plan
- b) if the State or Territory in which the regulated restrictive practice is to be used has an authorisation process (however described) in relation to that practice, be authorised in accordance with that process
- c) be used only as a last resort in response to risk of harm to the person with disability or others, and after the provider has explored and applied evidence-based, person-centred and proactive strategies
- d) be the least restrictive response possible in the circumstances to ensure the safety of the person or others
- e) reduce the risk of harm to the person with disability or others
- f) be in proportion to the potential negative consequence or risk of harm
- g) be used for the shortest possible time to ensure the safety of the person with disability or others.

# Reduction and Elimination:

Decision points

Debriefing





KGUN 9 | ON YOUR SIDE

# QUARANTINE AFFECTING YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?

WAYS TO COPE DURING A CRISIS


6:09

62°



FORECASTS

MARANA

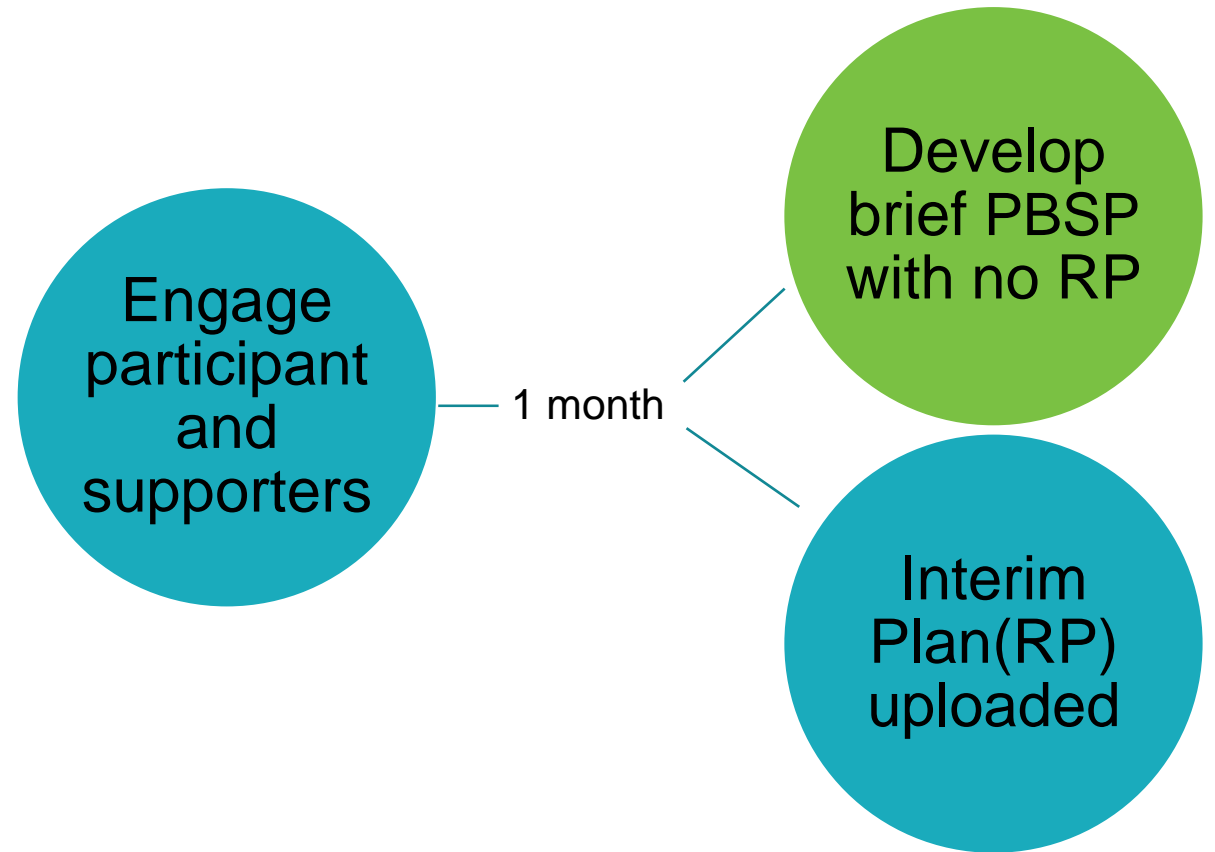
CLOUDY  HI 68° LOW 43°

# Least restrictive option?

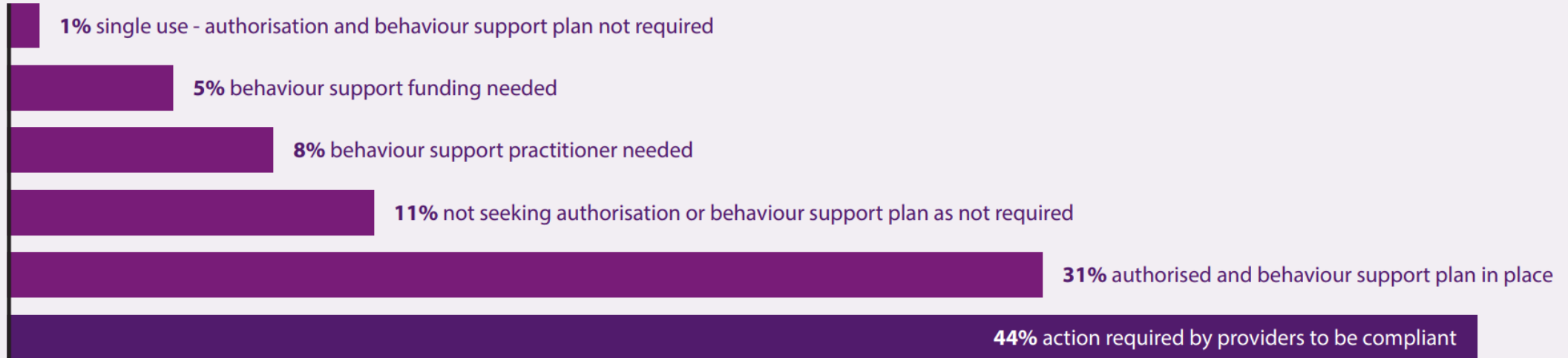
- ☀ Stay at home
- ☀ Limited to an hour of outside exercise per day
- ☀ No visitors
- ☀ Curfew – stay home at night
- ☀ Mask wearing in all public places
- ☀ No large gatherings
- ☀ Only allowed travel up to 5km from your home to do shopping
- ☀ Only one person per home is allowed leave per day
- ☀ No dancing in shared indoor spaces
- ☀ No eating in restaurants
- ☀ Non-urgent medical procedures on hold until conditions are right

# Decision points

2 possible outcomes



The results for first part of the compliance activity for around 250,000 URPs show the following results for those URPs as at 31 December 2020:



During this reporting period, until the 30 November 2020, the NDIS Commission operated in all states and territories except for Western Australia. On 1 December 2020 the NDIS Commission commenced operations in WA. For this report figures for WA are only included in participant numbers and provider registration data.



# EXTRACT: NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission June 2019 Roadshows Behaviour Support Questions & Answers

**Q.**

**If a behaviour support practitioner is asked to create a BSP for a participant because they have a restrictive practice in place, however after undertaking an assessment, they find that the restrictive practice is not necessary?**

**Should the practitioner decline to complete the BSP, or complete one which includes the restrictive practice with a plan for its reduction and elimination?**

**A.**

A restrictive practice can only be used when it is part of a behaviour support plan developed by an NDIS behaviour support practitioner. If a restrictive practice is used, it must be the least restrictive response possible in the circumstances.

If it is identified in the functional assessment that preventative/ skills building strategies alone can manage the behaviour of concern without the use of a regulated restrictive practices, the practitioner needs to work with the implementing provider to develop fade out strategies of the restrictive practice.

# Be clear about your role and the legislation

## **National Disability Insurance Scheme (Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support) Rules 2018**

### **Part 3—Conditions of registration relating to the provision of specialist behaviour support services**

#### **Div2**

#### **19 Period within which behaviour support plan containing a regulated restrictive practice must be developed**

...

(2) The registration of the specialist behaviour support provider is subject to the condition that the provider must develop:

- (a) an interim behaviour support plan that includes provision for the use of the regulated restrictive practice within 1 month after being engaged to develop the plan;

# Core strategy 6: Debriefing and practice review

An immediate debriefing should happen after an emergency use of a restrictive practice. The goal is to of this immediate debriefing is to:

- ensure that everyone is safe,
- satisfactory information is available to inform the later structured debriefing process, and
- the person who was restrained is safe and being appropriately monitored.

Australian Government. (2014). [National framework for reducing and eliminating the use of restrictive practices in the disability service sector.](#)

# Core strategy 6: Debriefing and practice review

The goals of formal debriefing:

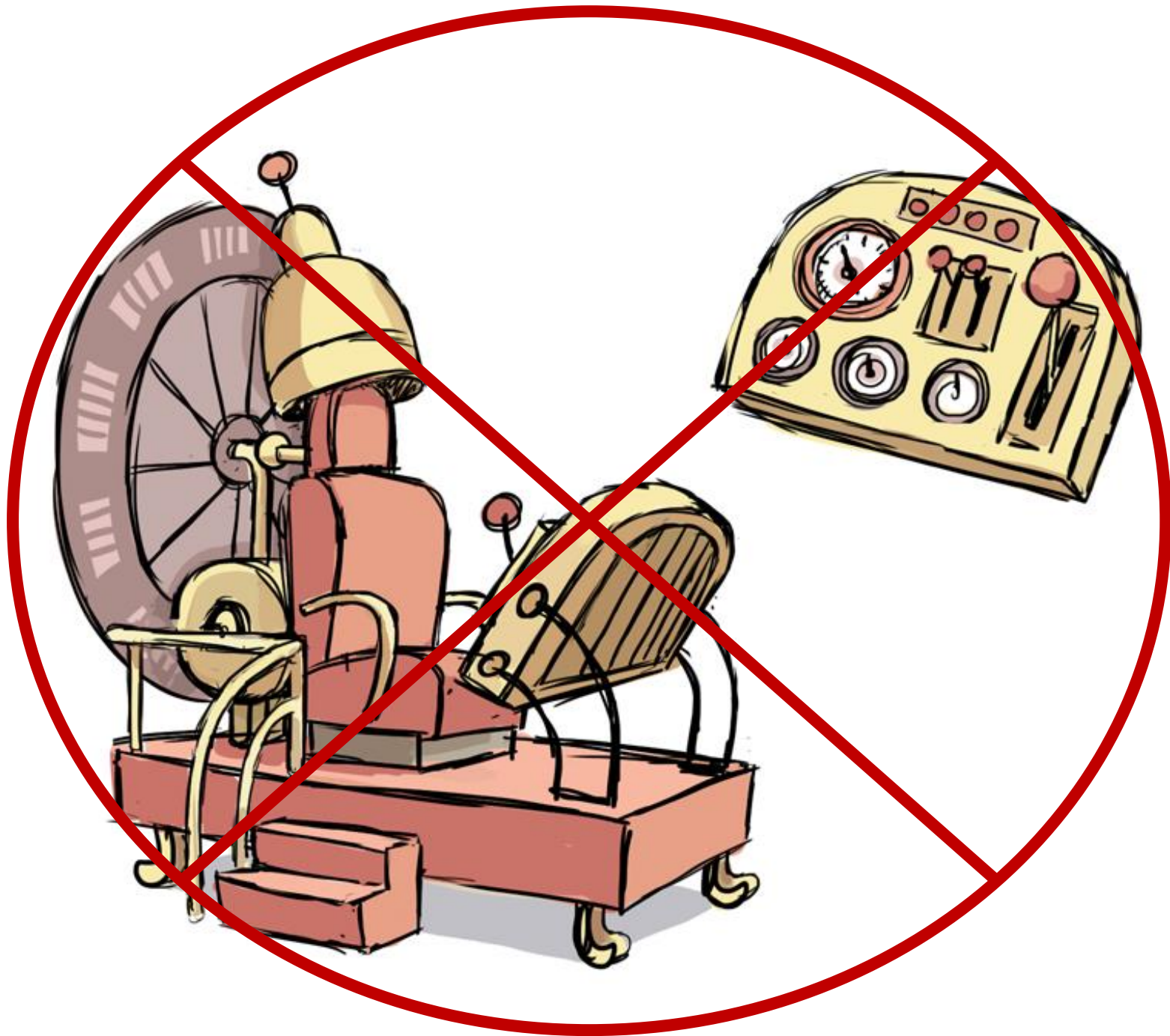
- 1) To reverse or minimize the negative effects of the use of seclusion and restraint.
- 2) To prevent future use of seclusion and restraint.
- 3) To address organizational problems (rules, attitudes, practices, training, environment of care) and make appropriate changes.

(Massachusetts DMH, 2015; Huckshorn, 2013; Cook et al, 2002; Hardenstine, 2001) in Australian Government. (2014).  
[National framework for reducing and eliminating the use of restrictive practices in the disability service sector.](#)

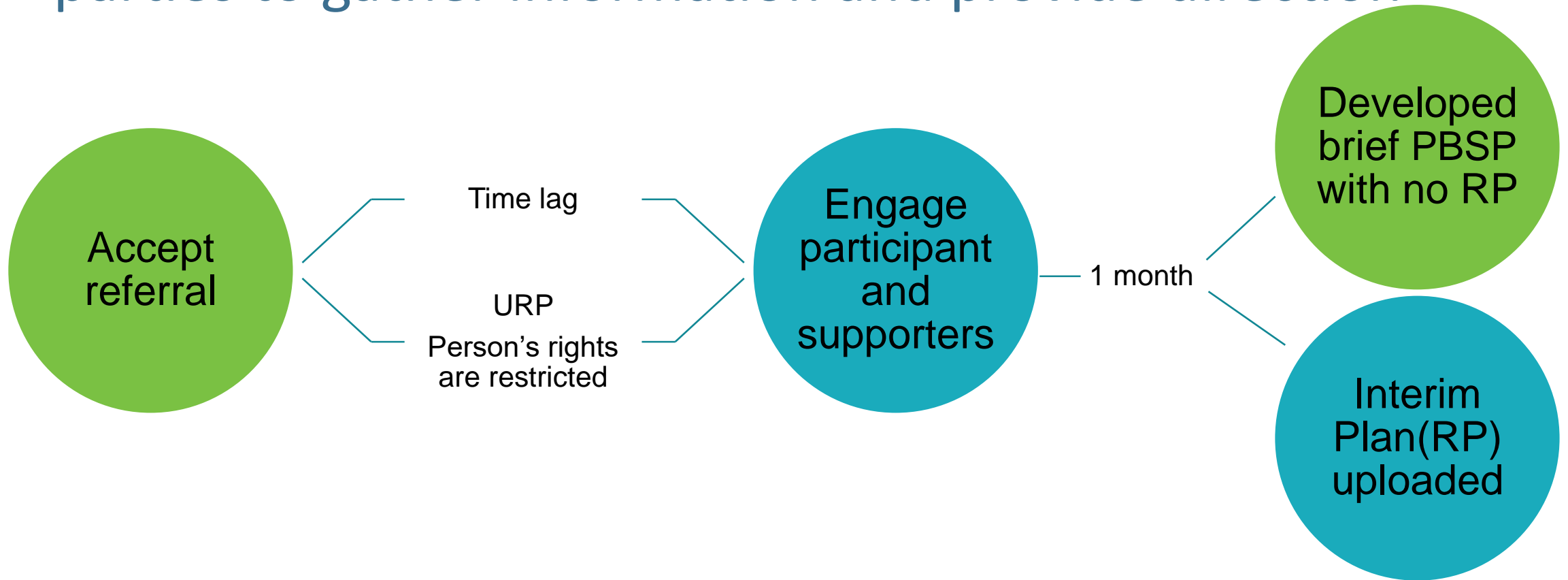


# Process and Decisions

1.11 Communicate clearly and effectively with relevant parties to gather information and provide direction



# 1.11 Communicate clearly and effectively with relevant parties to gather information and provide direction



# While you are waiting for a behaviour support practitioner to commence work

## The Commission recommends providers:

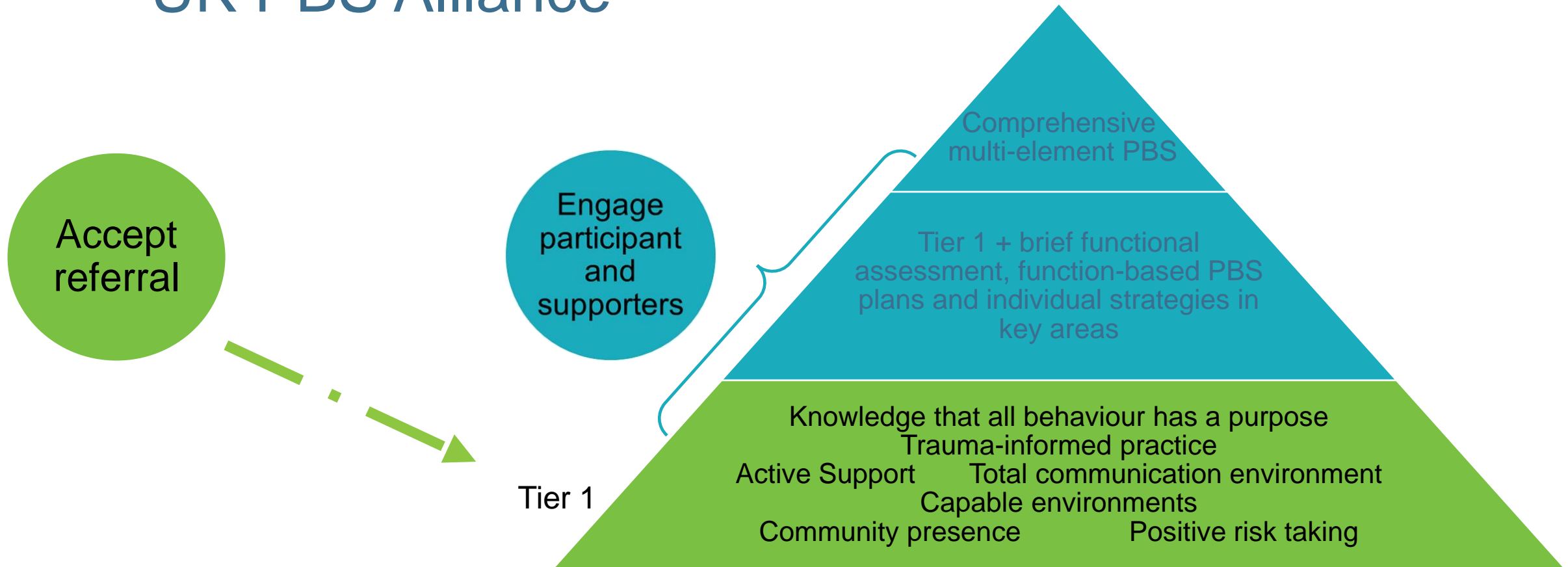
- keep reporting as per legislation
- complete risk assessments to ensure safety
- **review restrictive practices - are they still required?**
- ensure current restrictive practices are the least restrictive options in the current circumstance
- ensure that medical reviews are followed up within appropriate time-frames
- ensure that allied health specialists reviews are followed up within appropriate time-frames
- (if relevant, ensure that medication reviews are followed up within appropriate time-frames)

## Practitioners notice:

- Consent to release data is progressed
- All stakeholders aware and available?
- Delays for consent at the sign off stage?

<https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2021-01/unauthorised-use-restrictive-practices-questions-and-answers.pdf>

# The Positive Behaviour Support Framework – UK PBS Alliance



Adapted from [https://hcpbs.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/PBS\\_framework\\_diagram\\_with\\_hands.pdf](https://hcpbs.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/PBS_framework_diagram_with_hands.pdf)  
[PBS Workforce Development Framework May-20.pdf \(bild.org.uk\)](https://www.bild.org.uk/PBS_Workforce_Development_Framework_May-20.pdf)

# Interim Response = quick, brief, clear, safe

An interim plan:

- has positive strategies
- and preventative response strategies
- protocols for the safe use of the regulated restrictive practice
- is about keeping people safe, quickly
- is the **start of a process**
- is the start to developing collaborative relationships
- is a chance to support the knowledge of a family or provider about

# Interim Response = quick, brief, clear, safe

An interim plan is **not**:

- a document to allow a restrictive practice to take place
- the end of a process
- a full functional behaviour assessment
- a comprehensive behaviour support plan
- always going to follow a referral for a person subject to an RP

# References and Resources

## Zero Tolerance

Zero Tolerance is an initiative led by NDS in partnership with the disability sector. Built around a national evidence-based framework, Zero Tolerance is a way for organisations to understand actions they can do to prevent and respond to abuse, neglect and violence of people with disability. [Zero Tolerance - National Disability Services \(nds.org.au\)](https://www.nds.org.au)

Understanding Abuse: [Human Rights and You e-Learning Program \(nds.org.au\)](https://www.nds.org.au)

[Quick easy reference to Zero Tolerance resources - https://www.nds.org.au/images/resources/NDS-Zero-Tolerance-iPDF-Guide-2020.pdf](https://www.nds.org.au/images/resources/NDS-Zero-Tolerance-iPDF-Guide-2020.pdf)

Recognising Restrictive Practice Guide - [https://www.nds.org.au/zero-tolerance-framework/considering-additional-risk#recognising\\_restrictive\\_practice\\_films](https://www.nds.org.au/zero-tolerance-framework/considering-additional-risk#recognising_restrictive_practice_films)

[Empowerment Circle - https://www.nds.org.au/zero-tolerance-framework/understanding-abuse#empowerment\\_circle](https://www.nds.org.au/zero-tolerance-framework/understanding-abuse#empowerment_circle)



# References and Resources

## Resources from the NDIS Q&S Commission

- [National Disability Insurance Scheme \(Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support\) Rules 2018 \(legislation.gov.au\)](https://www.legislation.gov.au)
- [Regulated Restrictive Practices Guide | NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission \(ndiscommission.gov.au\)](https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au) accessed 07/04/2021
- [Regulated restrictive practices with children and young people with disability: Practice guide | NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission \(ndiscommission.gov.au\)](https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au) accessed 07/04/2021
- Activity report: [Activity Report: 1 July 2020 to 31 December 2020 \(ndiscommission.gov.au\)](https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au)
- <https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2021-01/unauthorised-use-restrictive-practices-questions-and-answers.pdf> accessed 07/04/2021
- NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission(June 2019) Roadshows Behaviour Support Questions & Answers<https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2019-09/behaviour-support-qas-august-2019.pdf>

# References and Resources

## **\*Person Centred Clinical Risk assessment\***

[PC-Clinical-Risk-Assessment-Practice-Guide-Final-Version-June-2014.pdf \(cds.org.au\)](#)

## **Person centred Resources**

[HSA|Person-centred thinking tools|Good Day/Bad Day |Training \(helensandersonassociates.co.uk\)](#)

[Person-Centred Practice Across Cultures resources \(nds.org.au\)](#)

## **Debriefing**

Six Core strategies for reducing seclusion and restraint use, a snapshot [National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors \(nasmhpd.org\)](#)

**(Tiers of Support) UK PBS Alliance – The Positive Behaviour Support Framework adjusted from**

[https://hcpbs.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/PBS\\_framework\\_diagram\\_with\\_hands.pdf](#)  
[PBS Workforce Development Framework May-20.pdf \(bild.org.uk\)](#)

# References

Australian Government. (2014). [National framework for reducing and eliminating the use of restrictive practices in the disability service sector.](#)

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Thank you for watching this webinar.

Best wishes in your work to improve the QOL of people you work with.

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