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ACT Community Based Health Services.

Current range of community based services.

There are not enough General Practitioners- people with disabilities who are being discharged from hospitals cannot find a general practitioner.

There is not enough disability specific knowledge among the present health professionals i.e. doctors and other medical professionals.

The needs of people with disabilities are not known. Examples of these issues:

- Physical access for people with mobility difficulties- infrastructure problems- wide enough doors and examination tables that can be adjusted.
- Physical access for people who need access to more than one service- health centre accessible but psychologist in same centre is not accessible.
- Information in alternative formats for people with vision impairments.
- Clear Signage for people with hearing impairment.

There is not enough promotion of wellness and preventative medicine for people with disabilities. If you have a disability it is often assumed that you are ill or permanently sick and exercise classes etc. are not promoted from Health Centres to assist people with disabilities to stay healthy.

People with and without disabilities are complaining about the waiting times with no fixed appointments that is the system in regional centres. Eg Ginninderra Health Centre. People with disabilities have personal care routines that can be disrupted by long, long waiting times.

The cost of health services for people who are not on a health care card are a huge consideration.

ACT Health Specific community health services.

There has been a drastic reduction in home visits. For people with mobility disabilities it is difficulty to get reliable transport to a local centre. Home visits are essential.

Possible Innovation to ACT community based health services.

Where is all the medical staff going to come from to staff these centres???



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Role of ACT Health service outreach.

Nurse Practitioners could be used to facilitate more home visits.

Mobile Centres might also assist people with disabilities with transport difficulties. It is still expensive to travel a long distance by taxi even with ACT Taxi Subsidy scheme.

Management of ACT Community Centres should have an aged person or person with a disability on their Management Committees.