

# Bridging the Gap:

## Empowering Clinicians with a Structured Pathway for Complex Wheelchair Prescription in Australia



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### BACKGROUND

In Australia, clinicians prescribing complex wheelchairs face a critical gap in credentialing support. Complex prescriptions demand high expertise to ensure safety and optimal outcomes for people with disabilities. NeuroRehab Allied Health Network (NRAHN) developed a Wheelchair Prescription Credentialing Pathway to empower clinicians by providing structured knowledge development, skill/experience development, mentorship, and assessment of competence.

### OBJECTIVE

To establish a competency-based framework that guides clinicians through progressive skill development for wheelchair prescription, ensuring safe, high-quality, interdisciplinary practice.

### THE CREDENTIALING PATHWAY OVERVIEW

- **Self-Assessment:** Clinicians complete a tool to identify their current competency level and learning needs.
- **Mentorship:** Progressing clinicians are paired with mentors to review assessments and develop individualized learning plans.
- **Learning Activities:** Includes CPD modules, case studies, joint prescription sessions, resource reviews, mentorship and training workshops.
- **Formal Assessment:** Credentialing assessments observed to confirm competence.



### FRAMEWORK COMPONENTS

1. Competency-Based Credentialing Levels: Beginner to Advanced (Level 0 to Level 3).
2. Referral Complexity Tool: Classifies likely wheelchair prescription complexity at referral.
3. Self-Assessment Tool: gauges current competency level and learning needs.
4. Extensive Resource Library: Guidelines, case studies, modules, product guides, extensive list of external learning events
5. Mentor Guidelines: Roles, responsibilities, eligibility, funding and time allocation.
6. Structured Learning Plan & Activity Log: Tracks knowledge gaps, practical experience, and endorsement.
7. Prescription Tools and Documentation: Includes assessment forms, checklists, reporting templates.
8. Safeguarding Guidelines: Defines interdisciplinary collaboration and credentialing required to prescribe at each complexity level.

### IMPACT

NRAHN Wheelchair Prescription Credentialing Pathway provides a clear, robust route for clinicians to gain and demonstrate competency, improving the safety and effectiveness of complex wheelchair prescriptions.

### CONTACT & FURTHER INFORMATION

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