

**Supplementary  
Submission  
No 1a**

**INQUIRY INTO EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND  
APPROPRIATE DELIVERY OF OUTPATIENT AND  
COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CARE IN NEW SOUTH  
WALES**

**Name:** Mr Grant Mistler  
**Date Received:** 19 November 2023

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**From:** Grant Mistler  
**Sent:** Sunday, 19 November 2023 10:00 PM  
**To:** Portfolio Committee 2  
**Subject:** CM: RE: request: Equity, Accessibility and Appropriate Delivery of Outpatient and Community Mental Health Care in New South Wales

Good evening Holly

I probably should have added these points to my email below for clarification

These points come from the NDIS-produced PDF document "Accessing the NDIS: A Guide for Mental Health Professionals"

Warm regards Holly

Grant

p.8 "While the NDIS Act does not exclude children or young adults with a psychosocial impairment, it would be in very rare circumstances access might be met."

p.9 "The Council of Australian Government (COAG) principles state that early intervention for mental health is usually a health responsibility. In a psychosocial context, it is rare to grant NDIS access via s25 because early intervention for mental health conditions is usually not an NDIS responsibility."

p.9 "It is quite possible for a person to live with a high-prevalence psychiatric condition throughout their adult lifetime without ever meeting the requirements of s24 of the NDIS Act."

p.8 "Where co-existing drug or alcohol dependency issues are present, the evidence must demonstrate that the substantially reduced functional capacity remains regardless of the status of the co-existing issues. Identifying that substantially reduced capacity is the result of a mental health condition and not substance/alcohol abuse is a highly specialised task and usually occurs in the following circumstances:

- it is confirmed by a specialist neuropsychiatrist or neuropsychologist; or
- it is confirmed following abstinence from substance/alcohol in a controlled setting, there is no requirement for ongoing abstinence to satisfy NDIS eligibility."