



# CAIRNS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

## Tip Sheet from Cairns OT to Aged Care referrers

Date: January 2022

Things we need in preparation for seeing clients under Aged Care funding packages / STRC etc. for Home modifications &/or assistive equipment prescription

We appreciate your referrals.

Many of you send excellent referrals with all the details we need. However, there have been a few instances that have taken a lot of time to track down the needed information and potentially delayed our service provision. This info will help avoid those issues in the future.

### Referrals

Please send all referrals to [referrals@cairnsot.com](mailto:referrals@cairnsot.com) as this helps us to triage the referrals and ensure the most appropriate OT sees the client as soon as possible. We have provided our new referral form in case you wish to use this, however you can use your own forms providing you send all the details we need to action the referral.

Can you please advise

- Please note how the service will be funded – organisation we need to invoice and the relevant email address for the invoice
- The issues that the client has and areas that you feel need addressing
- MyAgedCare Support Plan and / or details from GP re medical diagnoses, details of their functional issues
- Please detail any timeframes that are important
- Clarify if a client is urgent due to risk factors vs they want things now
- Please ensure the client / family are prepared to have the OT visit them

### Our process

We would like to emphasise that as Occupational Therapists, we

- assess function and then we
- teach the appropriate task modification techniques
- prescribe the appropriate assistive equipment
- recommend / design home modifications
- document the recommendations in the process required by the funding body

There has to be a clinical need for the assistive equipment / home modification.

We cannot and will not 'rubber stamp' equipment requests. Inappropriate or unnecessary equipment can be as dangerous as incorrectly prescribed medication and can reduce capacity.



## **Fees**

It can take a minimum of 3-4 hours and sometimes many more hours if multiple pieces of equipment require prescription and or trial. Major home modifications e.g. bathroom modifications, can take 10-15 hours work, sometimes over several months.

Our fees are based on the number of hours required for the assessment, documentation, travel and liaison. If you require a quote please send detailed referral and request a quote.

Our current hourly rate is based on the NDIS Price Guide and is \$196 per hour GST Free. There is a fee increase in line with market factors in July each year. We have no funding other than the fees relating to the services provided.

In January 2022 we expanded our team of OTs, to increase our availability.

Our OTs are

- Kerry Stingel (Director)
- Niki Phibbs
- Rebecca Morrison
- Deirdre Hill
- Natasha Dalzell
- Amanda Donald
- Lisa Curran
- Mignon Prinsloo

Our Admin team are Ruby, Lyn, Lucy and Andrew.

Cairns OT celebrated our 22<sup>nd</sup> year of operation in 2021.

We value

- Being **Attentive**, dependable and committed to meeting client and referrer needs
- Providing **Valuable** services to individuals, referrers and community
- Offering Expertise, **Ingenuity** and Adaptability
- Being **Authentic**, honest and sincere in our interactions

Thank you for your ongoing support. We welcome your feedback to [referrals@cairmsot.com](mailto:referrals@cairmsot.com)

### ***Cairns Occupational Therapy is your centre for***

- *Hand, wrist and arm therapy, Splinting*
- *Scar, swelling, wound and lymphoedema management*
- *Pain management therapy, especially Neuropathic Pain*
- *Home modification and assistive technology prescription*
  - *Work rehabilitation services*