

The Australian Cerebral Strategy - at a glance

Australian and New Zealand Cerebral Palsy Strategy

In 2020, a collaboration of Australian and New Zealand cerebral palsy organisations, researchers, health professionals and people with lived experience released the Australian and New Zealand Cerebral Palsy Strategy.

- The Strategy:**
- Provides a framework which outlines key priority areas.
 - Guides key decision makers to deliver support, promote excellence in research, leverage funding avenues and enhance community knowledge.
 - Aims to improve the health, function, participation, and quality of life of people with cerebral palsy and their families across 4 goal areas.

Halfway through the current 5-year strategy term, the working collaboration have reviewed progress against the success indicators. This report provides a status update of a selection of research, projects, and opportunities within each success indicator in Australia. The collaboration also acknowledges the other exceptional work, outside of these four success indicators which also contribute to the Strategy's vision.

Since the Strategy was released, many external circumstances such as the COVID-19 pandemic have had large social and economic impacts on the individuals with cerebral palsy, their families and community; and provided further challenges to healthcare, employment and disability supports, increasing the likelihood of poorer outcomes.

Despite these obstacles, the field has made remarkable advances, yet more can be done with support and contributions from government, business and the wider community.

Research



Grants awarded by Cerebral Palsy Alliance Research Foundation since 2019 **\$17,988,087**

Prevention



Rate of CP dropped from **1 in 500** to **1 in 700** Australian babies diagnosed with CP, from birth years 2009-2014 (current data due to diagnosis confirmation at 5 years).

Skills and Training



Number of people General Movements trained **220 Basic, 92 Advanced**

Fundraising and Awareness



STEPtember **124,000 participants** and **\$10,362,087 raised (2022)**

Participation and Inclusion



World CP Day **193 countries participating. 9 million people reached (2022)**

Co-design and Consumer Voice



My CP Guide website launch **184,000 engagements, 12,415 new users since July 2022**

Prepared in March 2023



Australian & NZ
Cerebral Palsy
Strategy



Status report for priority areas



Funding required
for sustainability

Priority 1:

Reducing the age of cerebral palsy diagnosis to enable early intervention

1. Early Diagnosis Guideline Implementation
2. Hammersmith Infant Neurological Examination and General Movement Assessment Training
3. Early Diagnosis Clinics (NSW)
4. Automated screening for GMs scoring
5. DRIVE CP: Directing Research In Very Early Cerebral Palsy
6. BAMs for BUBS: National Early Screening Proposal



Government
commitment
required

Priority 2:

Improving outcomes through partnership with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)

1. CP Strategy Collaboration's capacity to support the NDIA and Government fulfill the vision of the National Disability Strategy
2. Providing service and NDIS participant data to the NDIA and government
3. Establishing a formal advisory body to NDIA
4. NDIS participant data linkage research



Funding required
for sustainability

Priority 3:

Improved health and wellbeing for people with cerebral palsy across the life-span

1. CP-Achieve: Australian Centre for Health, Independence, Economic Participation and Value Enhanced Care for adolescents and young adults with cerebral palsy
2. EPIC-CP: Equity Pathways and Integrated Care for children and young people with cerebral palsy
3. GAME; Goals Activity Motor Enrichment
4. BetterStart workshops
5. TRANSMIT; A multifaceted knowledge TRANslation Strategy iMproving funcTion in children and youth with cerebral palsy
6. Assistive Technology: Remarkable
7. Assistive Technology: Research into communication, cognition and mobility
8. Genomics



On track

Priority 4:

Improved community understanding of cerebral palsy including complex communication

1. CPActive
2. World CP Day
3. CMV Awareness Month
4. My Voice Library
5. STEPtember