

ASSBI NEWS

June 2023

Issue 83

Working together to improve the lives of people living with brain conditions



ASSBI

Sharing knowledge, Enriching lives

WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT



I am delighted to be writing my very first “Words from our President”, having taken the reins from Prof Olivier Piguet at ASSBI’s AGM at the conference in Darwin on 5 May 2023. I feel incredibly honoured to lead such a vibrant, forward-thinking, impactful and inclusive organisation whose members care so deeply about working together

to improve the lives of people living with brain conditions. ASSBI’s unique strength is its multidisciplinary, transdiagnostic scope, which allows rich exchange of knowledge and ideas amongst clinicians, researchers, students, policy makers, and people with lived experience of conditions affecting the brain.

I have been a member of ASSBI since I was a bright-eyed clinical neuropsychology student in the early 2000s. I have always loved ASSBI conferences and events, for both the high-quality, clinically meaningful content, and the top-notch social program which reliably features dance floor delights! This was never truer than in Darwin, at ASSBI’s first in-person/hybrid conference since 2019. I am still buzzing from the fun of it all. A full conference report will follow in the next newsletter, but for now – thank you and congratulations to Barbra Zupan and Lizzie Beadle for their superb job as convenors, the student team led by Aishani Desai for all of their crucial contributions, all our keynote speakers and presenters who beautifully showcased the diverse and important work that is happening in our field, and of course the inimitable Margaret and Matt Eagers, without whom we really would all flounder.

I’m also proud of ASSBI’s focus on supporting students through our student teams and ambassadors, events, awards, and other initiatives. I spent several years as the Student Liaison Officer on the ASSBI executive committee, which was a very rewarding role, and indeed quite easy given the amazing competence and innovative spirit of our student team and members. The next generation of clinicians and researchers in the brain impairment field are truly remarkable.

I would like to give an enormous thank you to Olivier Piguet for all his hard work during his two years as President. Olivier had the tough gig of leading ASSBI through the thick of the pandemic, and consequently gave his two Presidential Addresses online rather than in-person, thereby missing the rewards of a live audience. He was nevertheless unflappable, capable, and determined. He was instrumental in developing ASSBI’s 5-year strategic plan and ensuring our plans for the first year were successfully implemented. It has also been wonderful to have a dementia

expert at the helm of ASSBI, which has been important for ensuring our scope includes all brain conditions, not just brain injury.

Enormous thanks must go to Emeritus Professor Robyn Tate, who is stepping down from the ASSBI committee as part of her attempts to “retire”. Robyn has been instrumental to ASSBI right from the beginning, and in fact was part of the birth of ASSBI in 1976, at the same time as I was busy being born. It is hard to put into words the phenomenal contributions that Robyn has made to ASSBI and to our field broadly. She has such a rigorous, careful, considered approach to everything she puts her mind to. Special thanks to you Robyn for all you have given, and for asking me to step into your shoes as President.

Congratulations also to our new President-Elect, A/Prof Barbra Zupan. In line with our aim to ensure multidisciplinary engagement with ASSBI goes from strength to strength, it will be wonderful to have a speech pathologist at the helm to give everyone a break from us neuropsychologists! Barbra is very active, positive, and hard-working and will undoubtedly be a fantastic President when she takes over in 2025.

In the second year of ASSBI’s 5-year strategic plan, there is a strong focus on growing and re-imagining the ways in which ASSBI engages with people with lived experience. This is a really important task and one which is very close all our hearts. The executive committee would welcome all your ideas about this, and how ASSBI can best complement the work of other organisations focused on advocacy for people living with brain conditions.

It’ll be a busy couple of years ahead. It’s just as well we have such a strong committee and membership to share the work – and have some fun along the way.

Dana Wong, President, ASSBI

EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT



We went from 5 volunteers down to 2 when 3 local student volunteers pull out because of COVID. I would like to sincerely like to thank my Angels, Aishani, Monique and Sarah for stepping up and helping Matt and I on the ground at the conference in Darwin. Much appreciated.

Please enjoy this newsletter and don’t



forget to get copy for the September Newsletter to me by 15th August 2023. I’ve noticed that some people are not receiving emails about the conference and webinars from our

registration platform CVENT. If this is happening to you, please action the undernoted:

How can I ensure I receive emails from Cvent?

To ensure you receive important emails from Cvent (and ASSBI), follow the links below to learn how to [whitelist](#) email addresses in email clients:

- Add a contact on [Android](#)
- Add an email address as a Contact in [Apple Mail](#)
- Move an email to the Primary tab in [Gmail](#)
- Add a trusted name to the Safe Senders List in [Outlook](#)
- Add a contact from an email in [Yahoo](#)

Additionally, you can have your tech department [whitelist certain IP addresses](#) for Cvent emails.

Cheers, Margaret Eagers, EO

SOCIAL MEDIA



Like us on [Facebook](#),

[Follow ASSBI](#) on Twitter. Become a contact on LinkedIn

If you have anything interesting you would like tweeted or mentioned on Facebook, contact Lizzie or Travis via assbisocialmedia@gmail.com.

Lizzie Beadle and Travis Wearne – Social Media Officers

WEBSITE

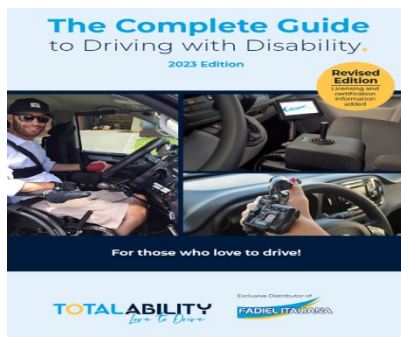
ASSBI is in the process of refreshing and improving our website. As a result, you might come across pages that are still in development (i.e. not fully functioning yet) , or find that some existing pages are temporarily unavailable. We thank you for your patience over this interim period and will endeavour to complete the updates as quickly as possible.

Signing in, as a member or associate, will give you the opportunity to update your own information **including your email address**. If you are an ASSBI member, it will also give you access to *Brain Impairment*. In addition, ASSBI members receive at least a 10% discount in the Store. if you want to change your email address login with your old email address or [email Matthew](#) to change it prior to you logging in. <https://www.assbi.com.au>

Be sure to add information about your discipline and your geographical base, as this will help us to better understand our ASSBI community.

When your membership is due you will receive a couple of reminder emails and you can renew and pay online by Visa, MasterCard or PayPal if you have an account. You can also transfer your fees via the bank – if you do this, email [Margaret](#) so she can put your payment through. NO CHEQUES PLEASE.

If you have anything you wish to post on the site or have any feedback please email me at admin@assbi.com.au.
Matthew, Webmaster



NEWS



Do you have clients/know people who would benefit from having a National Assistance Card?

The National Assistance Card is a personalised card to assist people with disability and health conditions in the community.

The National Assistance Card is available to everyone living with **brain injury** in Australia. In Tasmania, the Card is also being trialled with the **autistic community**.

Website: www.nationalassistancecard.com.au

The National Assistance Card can be used in everyday or emergency situations to assist the cardholder in communicating their unique areas of difficulty and any assistance they may need.

Go to the end of the Newsletter for more information

2023 Revised Edition of the Complete Guide to Driving with Disability has landed!

Total Ability, has been serving clients and industry partners in Australia and New Zealand for more than 11 years!

With continued dedication to educate clients on the possibilities of driving with disability, Total Ability have produced two Guides ([Complete Guide to Driving with Disability](#) and the [NDIS Guide to Vehicle Modifications](#)) to help navigate the process which can seem overwhelming at first.

The Complete Guide to Driving with Disability was first launched in 2021 and now after gathering feedback from clients and industry partners, a more robust document has been developed with detailed information about the licensing rules as well as certification of vehicle modifications for each State and Territory in Australia.

The Complete Guide takes you through a step-by-step process of what is involved in getting your licence and your vehicle fitted with driving controls and vehicle access products. It also gives an insightful history of hand controls and multiple links to funding bodies, State and Territory authorities, client anecdotes and contact details where to get more help.

Download the [Complete Guide to Driving with Disability – 2023 Edition](#) today and embark on the journey to “Love to Drive”.

For a hard copy please contact Total Ability on **1300 858 410** or info@totalability.com.au

This Guide is for people who:

- 1 Are learning to drive for the first time.
- 2 Have acquired a disability and are now getting back to driving.
- 3 Are current drivers who could (maybe should) upgrade to new equipment.
- 4 Are people who have given up on the idea of driving, unaware new equipment may make it possible.

[Get The Free Guide](#)

People Who Have an Acquired Brain Injury (ABI)

In recent years, people have increasingly used the Internet and social media for work, education, and to connect socially. People with acquired brain injuries lose many of their social connections after their injury. They continue to use social media after their injury yet receive little support to use it safely and experience challenges in using social media. Rehabilitation professionals describe being inadequately prepared to support them in its use and often take a reactive rather than proactive approach.

Training Resources Targeting Social Media Skills to Inform Rehabilitation for People Who Have an Acquired Brain Injury: Scoping Review

Dr Melissa (Liss) Brunner, Dr Rachael Rietdijk, and Professor Leanne Togher ([ABI Communication Lab](#), The University of Sydney) have recently published the results of a scoping review that aimed to examine social media skills training to inform ABI rehabilitation.

Information from 47 peer-reviewed academic articles, 48 social media training websites, and 120 online support groups for people with ABI was reviewed and descriptively synthesised. Training resources to support people with ABI in safely using social media were limited. The key content to be addressed and the features to be incorporated into web-based social media training were determined, with key recommendations being the use of interactive training with practical components addressing cybersafety, how to use platforms, and how to connect with others. To read more, please follow the link to the JMIR open access article <https://www.jmir.org/2022/4/e35595/>.

Developing Social-ABI-lity: An Online Course to Support Safe Use of Social Media for Connection After Acquired Brain Injury

In response to the scoping review's identified need for bespoke training options, the research team started to develop a short, self-guided social media communication skills training program. The program was developed iteratively through incorporating findings from previous research in the field and using collaborative design of the course content and features with 23 people, including people with living experience of ABI and other key stakeholders. The initial priorities identified by the participants in the collaborative design phase were the need to clearly incorporate elements of cybersafety throughout the course and to make the course as accessible as possible for people with a brain injury. A prototype of the program was developed and discussed with the collaborative design participants and then refined further. A pilot trial of the prototype was then conducted with four participants who had an ABI. No large changes were observed in the participants' friends or followers counts, nor major changes in the frequency of their posts or interactions. However, three reported they had increased awareness of their activity and interactions in their preferred social media platforms and had consciously altered how often they commented or reduced the number of accounts they followed/friended. This study was the first of its kind to provide initial evidence that this type of intervention can produce improvement in awareness and confidence in social media skills and use. To read more, please follow the link to the AJSLP open access article https://doi.org/10.1044/2022_AJSLP-22-00099. *'It gives you encouragement because you're not alone': A pilot study of a multi-component social media skills intervention for people with acquired brain injury*

The proof of concept study (above) identified that it was likely that the self-guided social-ABI-lity program would be most beneficial as one element within a multi-component approach to improving social media communication skills, with the participants identifying

the need for additional support to assist safe and meaningful access and participation in social media. In this study, we aimed to investigate whether completing the social-ABI-lity course and then participating in a private, moderated social-ABI-lity Facebook group resulted in improved skills in interacting online or improved quality of life for people with ABI. We also aimed to determine the feasibility and acceptability of private, moderated Facebook groups for providing support to people with ABI. Participants completed the short self-guided social-ABI-lity program independently and then participated in a private, moderated Facebook group over a 12-week period. Participants improved their confidence and enjoyment in using Facebook and built a sense of connection with others in the group, providing preliminary support that this multi-component intervention was feasible and acceptable. However, future implementation of this programme should explore embedding active peer moderators within groups and taking a more individualized and structured approach to delivery of the intervention. To read more, please follow the link to the JILCD open access article <https://doi.org/10.1111/1460-6984.12806>.

BRAIN IMPAIRMENT



ASSBI's multidisciplinary Journal

The Editors are proud to announce that Brain Impairment will be moving to new publishers CSIRO in 2024. We have also been accepted onto PubMed

To login to the Brain Impairment site of Cambridge University Press, **login** to the ASSBI website and [click on this link](#) to get directed to the Brain Impairment page of the CUP website, if you require any help with this please email [Margaret](#). To read some of the articles from the author's perspective [click here](#)
Jennifer Fleming and Grahame Simpson, Co-Editors

STUDENTS

The student teams were involved in several aspects of the **46th Annual Brain Impairment Conference** this year including creating a video for the lived experience panel discussion, a student social and a "Meet the researcher" workshop.

Video for the Lived Experience Panel

The student teams helped kickstart the lived experience panel discussion at the conference in Darwin this year with a video that showcased people with lived experience including their stories told from their perspective, what research they would like to be seen completed, and how they would like to be more involved in research. This was a truly special project for the student teams to be involved in and through this video we hope that we were able to help elevate the voices of people with lived experience at ASSBI.

Meet the Researcher: A Speed Networking Workshop

This year we had an interactive workshop session for students at the conference. This unique format was designed to help students connect with leading researchers working across multiple disciplines in brain impairment. We had seven dynamic, leading researchers across disciplines who have worked in brain injury rehabilitation (e.g., traumatic brain injury, stroke, multiple sclerosis), outcome research, evidence-based practice, recovery from childhood brain disorders, ageing and brain health and many more avenues.

Students were allocated into small groups to enable the opportunity to meet each researcher, share their own research and ask questions. The workshop followed a round-robin format with student groups rotating between researchers at regular intervals (i.e., every time Margaret's bell rang!)

A big thank you to **Dana Wong, Vicki Anderson, Melissa Brunner, Natasha Lannin, Emmah Doig, Michelle Kelly and Ian Kneebone** for being involved in this event.

A special thank you to **Jacinta Douglas** for her support from afar.

Student Social

In true ASSBI fashion, we also had a student networking event over drinks and canapes. This was a fun-filled evening for students to interact and foster connections in a causal setting.

Thank you to Margaret and Matt for organizing this wonderful event!

Student Volunteers

A special mention to our student volunteers Monique Hassarati and Sarah Haskard who really stepped up and who's enthusiasm and teamwork made everything behind-the-scenes feel like a seamless process!

Aishani Desai, **National Student Coordinator**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ASSBI Webinars

Are available in the [ASSBI Online Store](#)

ASSBI 2023 Series of Webinars

We had some ideas put on the white board at the conference and will get to these shortly. BUT Please get in touch with Margaret if you have ideas of whom to invite to deliver a webinar in 2023.

ASSBI CONFERENCES

[Go to the ASSBI website to keep up to date](#)

ASSBI's 47th CONFERENCE (#assbi2024)



Elise Elbourn and her committee are excited to announce that ASSBI's 2024 conference will be held in tropical Sydney at the Sofitel Wentworth from 2-4 May. The theme for the conference is 'Looking Ahead: Innovations and Aspirations'. The

conference will be face to face as well as have a streaming component.

Our exciting program will include six half-day workshops on Thursday 2nd May, and keynote presentations from renowned international and national speakers on Friday 3rd May and Saturday 4th May.

The conference will include platform presentations, "how-to" sessions, datablitz presentations and posters. The programme will be drawn from abstracts covering all facets of brain conditions and rehabilitation across the lifespan. Call for abstracts will open soon and we will keep you updated on invited Keynote speakers.

The poster features the ASSBI logo at the top left with the tagline "Sharing knowledge, Enriching lives". Below the logo is a circular image of a city skyline with a bridge and water. The main text reads "ASSBI 2024 CONFERENCE" in large, bold letters, followed by "Looking Ahead: Innovations and Aspirations". The location is "SOFITEL WENTWORTH SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA". The dates are "2nd-4th May 2024". Below the dates are two circular portraits: Dana Wong, ASSBI President, and Elise Elbourn, ASSBI 2024 Convenor. At the bottom right, it says "ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS OPENING SOON" and "assbi.com.au". The footer reads "Australasian Society for the Study of Brain Impairment".



Associate Professor Dana Wong ASSBI Presidential Address

Dana is an Associate Professor and Clinical Neuropsychologist in the School of Psychology and Public Health at La Trobe University, with active roles in research, teaching and clinical practice. She leads the eNACT

(Neurorehabilitation And Clinical Translation) Research Group, which focuses on innovative neuropsychological rehabilitation techniques to improve the lives of brain injury survivors, and enhancing clinical implementation of and clinician competence in these evidence-based interventions. She has over 70 peer-reviewed publications including a CBT for ABI manual (published by ASSBI Resources!) She was awarded La Trobe's 2020 Research Engagement and Impact Award, the 2021 Australian Psychological Society (APS) College of Clinical Neuropsychologists Award of Distinction, and several teaching excellence awards. Dana is an Editorial Board member for ASSBI's journal Brain Impairment. In 2017 she led the development of BRAINSPaN, a multidisciplinary community of practice of clinicians and researchers in the brain impairment field. She is co-Chair of the Neuropsychological Intervention Special Interest Group of the International Neuropsychological Society as well as being President of ASSBI

We look forward to seeing everyone in May 2024!!

Sponsorship Is open, if you wish to sponsor/partner with ASSBI [click here](#)

Past Workshops and Webinars

are available for purchase #assbiworkshops

[CLICK HERE](#) to see more and order. Jessica Trevena-Peters, Jennie Ponsford, Adam McKay, Dana Wong and Alinka Fisher have all presented full day training workshops. Neera Kapoor and Caroline van Heugten 90 min webinars and a multitude of 60-minute webinars have been presented and are available on the [ASSBI ONLINE STORE](#)

Non-ASSBI Conferences



20th NR-SIG-WFNR Conference will be held HYBRID on 8th & 9th June

2023 Face to face in Glasgow, Scotland, UK, online and on demand for 90 days post-conference. Welcome and talks from Glasgow University's Clinical Neuropsychology Training Unit is on 7th June. [Registration is OPEN](#)



3rd CCD Symposium will be held HYBRID on 22nd & 23rd June 2023

Face to face in Manchester, England, UK, online and on demand for 90 days post-conference.

[Call for Abstracts is open](#) and closes on: 11th March 2023
[Registration is also OPEN](#)



6th AADPA Conference will be held on 29th & 30th July 2023

Face to face in Melbourne, VIC, Australia, online and on demand for 90 days post-conference. NEW! Workshops on 28th July.

[Call for Abstracts open](#) and close on 9th April 2023
[Registration is also OPEN](#)



ACNS Conference will be held IN PERSON on 27th to 30th November

2023 at Sydney University, NSW, Australia

ASSBI RESOURCES

We are proud to announce that we now have a Chinese language version of the CBT Manual available as a pdf. Purchase through the store as per usual.

ASSBI Resources is going from strength to strength. Please contact Elise: elise.elbourn@sydney.edu.au or Skye: s.mcdonald@unsw.edu.au if you have any queries or suggestions about Resources.

PLEASE NOTE that you do NOT have to be a member of ASSBI to purchase any of the manuals or tests

Our fabulous ASSBI Resources products span assessment and remediation of a wide variety of neuropsychological, cognitive and emotional disorders commonly seen in people with brain disorders. Products include PDF and video downloads as well as paper versions of professionally produced manuals and kits that can be posted to anywhere in Australia.

To see the range go to our Resources page.

<https://www.assbi.com.au/Resource>. To get members price (10% discount) login to the ASSBI website first.

All resources in PDF form can be purchased instantly. Buy the PDF version and then you will receive the link to download a pdf of a manual or kit and webinar as soon as you pay. If you wish to purchase the UK version tick that option. You can pay online by PayPal OR using Debit/Credit cards Visa or MasterCard.

Non-members have access to some free downloads too – [click here](#) to see the full list of manuals **and** free to downloads on offer.

There are also some FREE webinars which showcase some of our kits [CLICK HERE](#)

Skye McDonald and Elise Elbourn, ASSBI Resources

Opportunities for Involvement

There are a lot of colleagues out there wanting your help, have a look and see if you can help out

[CLICK HERE TO SEE ALL REQUESTS FOR HELP](#)

Relaxation study for people with Aphasia

What: Research study for relaxation training

Where: Online on Vimeo

When: We are recruiting now!

Why: To help us **evaluate relaxation videos** for people with aphasia

How: Email rebeccahelou@icloud.com or call 0424 687 505

M.O.S.T-project: Meaningful Outcomes for School-aged kids with CCDs from TBI

We are trying to understand which treatment outcomes are most important for school-aged kids with cognitive-communication disorders (CCDs) arising from TBIs and their families.

In this project, we will interview children and teens with brain injuries and their parents. Interviews may last for up to 20 minutes. Interviews will happen over Zoom, meaning families can take part from home (or anywhere that is easiest for them!).

Children and teens will suggest treatment outcomes to help a fictional character with a TBI.

In their interviews, parents will be asked about what aspects of their child's communication and life they would most like to help following their TBI.

The results from the M.O.S.T project will be integrated with results from an international e-Delphi study to provide guidance for clinicians undertaking assessment and outcome measurement in clinical practice.

Children, teens and their families are eligible to take part, if:

- They are between 5 - 18 years of age;

- They have a cognitive-communication disorder or difficulties (CCD) following a traumatic brain injury (TBI) (or concussion);
- They live in Australia.

Interested families can



visit <https://swiv.co/UQMOSTProject> to read more about our study and register their interest. Please don't hesitate to contact Dr Sarah Wallace (s.wallace3@uq.edu.au) or Lauren Crumlish (Lauren.crumlish@uqconnect.edu.au) if any questions arise. This research study has ethical approval from The University of Queensland [2022/HE000609].

Child Apraxia of Speech Trial

We are researchers from the Speech and Language Group at Murdoch Children's Institute. We're conducting a trial of methylphenidate (Ritalin) as a possible intervention for Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS). The study is open to 6–12-year-old children within 130km of MCRI who are either diagnosed with CAS or have suspected CAS, and elevated inattentive and/or hyperactive symptoms. Please find attached our study flyer for further information.

Interested participants can express their interest here:

<https://redcap.link/znct13io>

Please feel free to be in touch with Prof Angela Morgan for any queries: angela.morgan@mcri.edu.au or (03) 8341 6458.

Angela Morgan and Elana Forbes

Current practice methods of rehabilitation professionals in the assessment of financial capability in people with acquired cognitive impairment: a mixed methods study.

- Are you an occupational therapist, neuropsychologist or other rehabilitation professional?
- Do you work with people who have acquired cognitive impairment due to acquired brain injury (ABI) or neurological disability (dementia, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis etc.)?
- Are you/ or have you been previously involved in exploring or assessing a person's **financial capability** (financial capacity/competence)?

Assessing **financial capability**, or the behaviours and approaches to personal financial decision-making may involve exploring a person's ability to manage money, shop, budget and pay bills. It may also involve examining how a person makes financial choices, plans ahead, or gains assistance with financial tasks if required.

Aim: To explore the current methods and practices of rehabilitation professionals in the assessment of financial capability following acquired cognitive impairment and understand their perspectives of desired aspects in future assessment tools.

Share: Please share your experiences with other rehabilitation professionals and the research team in a focus group (in-person or online) with an accompanying short survey to help build knowledge of current practice to inform assessment development.

Contact: Research team: Sarah Swan s.swan1@uq.edu.au
0406 532 778

Freyr Patterson, f.patterson@uq.edu.au

Jenny Fleming, j.fleming@uq.edu.au

This study has ethical approval from the University of Queensland (2022/HE002294)



The Concussion Essentials Studies

Examining an individualised treatment, including education, physiotherapy & psychology for children and adolescents 8 – 18 years who have persisting symptoms following a concussion.

Study 1 - For children and adolescents less than 3 weeks post-concussion 8-week treatment vs. Usual Care

Study 2 - For children and adolescents 3 to 12 months post-concussion 12-week treatment

Plus, all participants receive

- concussion-targeted physiotherapy assessment,
- neuropsychology assessment, and
- symptom monitoring

Where?

The Royal Children's Hospital, or Mt Waverley location Face-to-Face and telehealth appointments available

Interested?

Patients: Contact the study team for more information

E: takecare@mcri.edu.au

Ph: 0423 188 247

Health professionals: Refer by visiting

<https://redcap.link/concussion>

Occupational therapists at La Trobe University are seeking survey participants for a study exploring how occupational therapists treat behavioural changes to optimise participation for people living with brain injury.

You May Qualify if You

- You are an AHPRA accredited occupational therapist
- You work, or have worked within the last 2 years, with adults living with brain injury and behavioural changes

Participation involves

If you decide to take part in the research, you would be asked to:

- Complete a 15-minute survey, online

Your decision to participate in research is voluntary.

Reimbursement for participation

There are no additional costs associated with participation in this research study, nor will you or the participant be paid.

For More Information

If you would like more information or are interested in being part of the study, please contact Ana Brown:

ana.brown@latrobe.edu.au

Survey link:

<https://redcap.latrobe.edu.au/redcap/surveys/?s=AJFF3NP7T8YD DD7E>



NATIONAL ASSISTANCE CARD®

Do you have clients/know people who would benefit from having a National Assistance Card?

The National Assistance Card is a personalised card to assist people with disability and health conditions in the community.

The National Assistance Card is available to everyone living with **brain injury** in Australia. In Tasmania, the Card is also being trialled with the **autistic community**.

The National Assistance Card Service hope that, in the future, the Card will be available to all people in Australia with disability and health conditions.

The National Assistance Card can be used in everyday or emergency situations to assist the cardholder in communicating their unique areas of difficulty and any assistance they may need.



Each Card includes a **personalised QR code** providing access to additional information (written or personalised video) that the cardholder has chosen to include about the impacts of their disability or health condition and how people in the community can assist them.

Scan the sample Card QR code below to view example cardholder information and video:



Is there a cost?

A new National Assistance Card costs \$44 (including GST).

A replacement Card costs \$22 (including GST).

NDIS participants whose NDIS plan is self or plan managed may be able to claim the cost of their National Assistance Card from their plan. People may also be able to claim the cost of the Card from other third-party organisations, such as compensation insurers.

For more information:

- Visit our website: www.nationalassistancecard.com.au
 - Including our dedicated Service Providers page: www.nationalassistancecard.com.au/information-for/service-providers
- Watch our video: <https://youtu.be/HkL7XutzOx4>
- Read testimonials from cardholders, businesses and service providers: www.nationalassistancecard.com.au/testimonials
- Contact us:
 - Email: info@nationalassistancecard.com.au
 - Phone: 1300 242 827



"... but because I had my National Assistance Card in my running bag, I had the confidence to do it."

- Belinda, National Assistance Cardholder

