

Equipment Service procedures for Allied Health Professionals requesting CHSP Minor Home Modifications

Background

MND Victoria have been awarded CHSP granted funds for Minor Home Modifications until 30 June 2022. MND Victoria are required to adhere to the CHSP Guidelines when administering this Program.

Objective (as per Grant Funding)

To provide home modifications that increase or maintain levels of independence, safety, accessibility, and wellbeing. Modification services can also assist in creating a home environment that supports reablement and restorative practices.

Funds should ideally be spent in the Aged Care planning regions listed in the agreement. MND Victoria have difficulty predicting where people diagnosed with MND will live/hence the Dept has always allowed us some flexibility with this (exception rather than rule).

We have funding for the following regions:

Vic regions:

- Barwon-SW
- Eastern Metro
- Gippsland
- Hume
- North Western
- Southern

Tas:

- Northern
- Northern Metro
- Southern Metro

1. Prioritisation and allocation of equipment requests

2. Priority will be given to minor modifications or home safety equipment with a total cost capped at \$1,500. There may be opportunity to apply for funding up to \$15,000. Due to limited funding, and need to support as many clients as possible, we would consider this on a case-by-case basis, with consideration given to the amount of funding available in each region.

3. Eligibility

To be eligible clients diagnosed with MND must be:

- Over 65 or over 50 if Aboriginal/TSI
- Live in the community; ideally in the regions we have funding for.
- All people must be registered with MND Victoria – this means they will have MND (or a similar progressive neurological condition) which results in functional impairment.

For further information please refer to the CHSP- Manual (Service type: Home Modifications) - refer to pages 38 – 40 for Home Modification Funding information

4. Referral Pathway

MND Victoria will accept referrals from any qualified registered Allied Health Professionals (from health, community or MND clinic). The AHP must have assessed the person and their home environment prior to making a referral. MND Victoria will accept referrals for people registered with MND, who are over 65 years of age (50 if ATSI/TSI). Each referral must be accompanied by a quote/s for works and a clear specification of the modification required.

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The referral form is available on our website at <https://www.mnd.org.au> or directly at <http://www.mnd.org.au/homemod.request>

5. Submitting a request

AHP CHSP Modification Request forms must be completed by the requesting AHP.

They are accessed through the MND Victoria website at <https://www.mnd.org.au> or directly at <http://www.mnd.org.au/homemod.request>

NB: This information guides our decision making in whether a referral will be accepted.

Objective	To provide home modifications that increase or maintain levels of independence, safety, accessibility and wellbeing. Modification services can also assist in creating a home environment that supports wellness and reablement and restorative practices
Service type description	Services are provided to assist eligible clients with the organisation and cost of simple home modifications and where clinically justified, more complex modifications. Home modifications provide changes to a client's home that may include structural changes to increase or maintain the person's functional independence so that they can continue to live and move safely about the house. Examples of home modification activities could include: • access and egress pathways through a property • appropriate lever tap sets or lever door handles • grab rails in the shower • client engagement and support • installation and fitting of emergency alarms and other safety aids and assistive technology • internal and external handrails next • ramps (permanent and temporary) • chair lifts or two-person wheelchair compatible platform lifts • step modifications In some clinically justified circumstances home modifications could also include: • bathroom redesign (e.g., lowering or removal of shower hobs, changes to design lay out to improve accessibility) • kitchen redesign (e.g., lowering kitchen bench tops, changes to design layout to improve accessibility) • widening doorways and passages (e.g., to allow wheelchair access). Home modifications are provided to improve safety and accessibility and independence within the home environment for the client. Simple modifications can be installed by the service provider, in line with the Building Code of Australia and in compliance with state and territory building regulations and include: • hand-held showers, sliding shower rails • removal of shower screens/doors – installation of weighted shower curtains • doorway wedges <35 mm rise • slip resistant flooring/step treatments including highlighter strips • lowering or removal of shower hobs • lever taps and door handles • repositioning of clotheslines, letterboxes • widening of pathways. More complex home modifications require a specialised functional assessment of the client to be undertaken by an Occupational Therapist who will assess the need for home modification, as well as consider alternative solutions that may be more suitable (for example assistive technology and equipment). Home Modification providers may use grant funds to purchase occupational therapy assessments for their clients to help

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	determine their specific care needs and requirements. Any occupational therapy assessments purchased or delivered must be reported on the Data Exchange. The intent of the CHSP is to primarily fund simple home modifications for wellness and safety purposes (i.e. modifications that would incur a cost of less than \$1,000 to the Commonwealth).
Out-of-scope activities under this service type	General renovations of the home, Capital Works are not in the scope of the CHSP.
Service delivery setting e.g., home/centre/clinic/community	Client's home. Note: Services will not be delivered where another entity holds responsibility for structural changes to the home; similar Government support is already provided through other programs or where it is a state or territory government responsibility to provide this type of support (e.g., clients living in social housing would receive home modification support through their state or territory government). It is the responsibility of the client to investigate and gain any permission necessary before modifications are undertaken, for example permission to modify a private property the client is renting, strata scheme permission or local council authority where applicable. Support to the client to undertake this process may form part of the project management activities undertaken by a service provider
Use of funds including any target areas	Service providers can use their home modification funds flexibly to obtain appropriate services for clients where clinically justifiable to increase independence within the home. Service providers may purchase Occupational Therapy assessments for clients requiring complex home modifications that may be prescribed through the Occupational Therapy assessment.
Specific funding advice	Funding can be used to cover both the labour costs and the materials cost or only some part of this, for example the initial work including measurement of the home, planning processes and for project management of the modification.
Legislation	Service providers must comply with relevant Commonwealth and/or state/territory legislation and Local Government Authority regulations and Building Code of Australia. This includes holding appropriate licences and insurances, where required. For example, service providers are required to be aware of their obligations to comply with state and territory-based laws and regulations relevant to the safe handling and removal of asbestos when undertaking home modifications in the homes of clients.

For further program information please contact:

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