# Enabling Health

## Appendix 1: Detailed description of review methods

VicHealth

# Appendix 1: Detailed description of review methods

## Purpose

To review health promotion interventions for people with disabilities for a rapid review with a narrative summary. Note that while systematic search strategies were used, a full systematic review with weighting of evidence or blinded abstraction of data was not part of the brief for this component of the project.

## Search strategy

This review commenced with the identification of search terms that were initially tested against mesh terms of databases, and then refined to guide the search strategy. This enabled identification of papers reporting on health promotion interventions across the priority areas:

- Autonomy/ability to make decisions that affect life/self-determination
- Health behaviours (physical activity, nutrition, tobacco, alcohol, sexual health)
- Access and treatment in the health system
- Access to health services and health promotion
- Freedom from discrimination
- Freedom from violence
- Social connection and community participation
- Access to economic resources including key terms of employment, education, transport, housing.

## Search terms

Key words used in all data base searches were:

- Disability and health promotion intervention*
- Disability and health promotion
- Disability and health promotion program*
- Health promotion program*
- Health promotion program and disabled
- Health Intervention and disability
- Disability
- Disabled services

These key words were combined with the following search terms:

- Autonomy / ability to make decisions that affect life: Intervention*, Evaluat* Program* disability and freedom* autonomy or choice or problem solving, independency or decision making or self determination; disability and self determinat* disability and sex* sexual health or sexual education or sexual informat* quality of life, self management* self esteem, recreational activities (sometimes terms used in combination)
- (Freedom from) Discrimination: Program* Intervention or evaluation studies* Disability and discrimination or discriminat* freedom from discrimination, stigma or prejudice, social isolation, social exclusion, barriers, participation, access to information, premises or built environment (some used in combination). Note that freedom from discrimination searches overlap with some literature on education, housing, access to health, access to built environments, premises).
- (Freedom from) Violence: Intervention* program* disability and violence, disability and sexual violence, disabled and violence, freedom from violence, disability and physical violence, physical abuse or trauma, domestic violence, policy, partner violence.
- Social connection and community participation: Intervention, Evaluat* program* intervention studies, Community participat* or connect* or intergrat* social connect* or network or cohesion* social inclusion, social environment* autonomy, self determinat* community activit*, social capital, neighbours, community attitudes (also in combination).
- Health behaviors – physical activity: Intervention studies, Evaluat* program* Disability and physical activity, health behavior or lifestyle, sports, exercise, active, recreation, weight loss, obesity, self esteem, self management, community participat* (or in combination)
- Nutrition: intervention, Evaluat* program*health behavior, diet, cooking, health diet, exercise, weight, obesity, self efficacy.
- Alcohol: Intervention studies, program* evaluat* disability and alcohol, substance abuse, drugs, alcoholism, alcohol intervention.
- Tobacco: Intervention* program* evalaut* smoking intervention, tobacco, control, disability and smok* or searched in combination.
- Employment: Intervention* program, disability and employ*unemployment, work* job* income, salary, discriminat*, legislation, policy, employment program*
- Education: Intervention*, Evaluat* program* health promotion intervention* health program*, disability and education, disability and curriculum, education assessment* (or in combination)
- Housing: Disability and housing program* or service or intervention; Evaluat* intervention studies, disability and community intergrat or community connection* disability housing and quality of life, housing, choice or autonomy or freedom or decision making, housing and community cohesion or belong*, housing, home, homeless*. Disability and housing options, supported accommodation

- Transport: transport and disability*; Evaluat* intervention studies, disability and transport, access to transport, public transport, taxis, bus, train.
- Health system and access: Intervention*, Program* Evaluat* health promotion program* Health care, health service, disability and health care, disability and health services, disability/disabled health care/service, medical service, health information, medicare, health insurance, access to health.

These search terms were repeated for the key priority areas, in combination, in searches on the following data-bases:
- Web of Science, Embasse, Cinahl, Pubmed, OVID/Medline, PsycINFO, Proquest, plus,
- Internet searches using Google scholar, the World Health Organization; United Nations, the EPPI Centre Evidence Library,
- The Cochrane Library
- Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects
- Campbell Collaboration
- Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials

The following websites and clearing houses were also searched for both systematic and non-systematic reviews and grey literature:
- The Cochrane Library: www.cochrane.org/reviews/index.htm
- Centre for Reviews and Dissemination UK: www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd
- Centre for Studies on Inclusive Education: http://www.csie.org.uk/
- Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute: www.ahuri.edu.au
- Women with Disabilities Australia: www.wwda.org.au
- Association of University Centers on Disabilities: http://www.aucd.org
- Tizard Centre: http://www.kent.ac.uk/tizard/About/about.html
- Australian Government Social Inclusion Board
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
- Institute for Social Participation (La Trobe University)
- Victorian Equal Opportunity and Rights Commission
- Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.

For some key areas (e.g. transport) there was a lack of peer-reviewed studies.

# Inclusion criteria

Peer reviewed and grey literature published between 2000 and 2012. The literature included:

(a) Systematic and non-systematic reviews of health promotion interventions to address the priority themes identified in the proposal even though some had no clear method section. Systematic reviews conducted in the late 1990s were also included.

(b) Primary studies evaluating the effectiveness of health promotion interventions for people with disabilities in all priority areas. Qualitative and quantitative studies, pilot studies, quasi-experimental, randomized control trials (before and after) and longitudinal studies were included and qualitative studies.

Reference list of sourced publications, particularly systematic reviews, were hand-searched and key journals were also hand-searched including *Disability and Society*; *Health Promotion International*; *Journal of Intellectual Disability Research*; *Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disability*; *Journal of Health Promotion*. Hand-searching produced several articles on self determination, freedom/autonomy and housing services that had not come up on previous database searches.

Grey literature searches were conducted across the key intervention areas, Clearinghouses and specialist websites. Reports (rather than studies) were found particularly on key areas of education and transport.

Abstracts were read for their fit with the inclusion criteria and a final list of 96 studies including 16 systematic reviews were summarised into extraction tables using the following headings:

**Population studies/ participants**

**Reference**

**Focus of intervention/ article**

**Design and methods**

**Outcome/results**

**Key learnings**

**Description of article/notes**

Full data extraction tables are available online at www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/enabling-health.