

# HOW THERAPY ASSISTANTS HELP...

- Therapy Assistants work under the supervision of a qualified therapist, often taking on less-complex treatment or helping with home practice activities or in group programs.
- Supervision may be direct with the therapist, assistant and child working together or indirectly through the therapist and assistant sharing photos, videos, notes and discussions after each session.
- The therapist designs a therapy plan based on the family's goals and the assistant implements parts of the plan that are within the assistant's skill set.
- Assistants can stretch a therapy budget further.
- Assistants may have greater flexibility to fit into a family's life by providing services in the home or community.
- When assistants help implement a child's home program this can lighten the load for parents.
- Assistants can be uni students studying speech pathology, occupational therapy or psychology. Their assistant work helps contribute to a future workforce of qualified therapists passionate about supporting people with disabilities.

*tailoring therapy for  
each child's needs*

*helping to implement therapy  
plans to achieve your child's goals*



*making a difference... one word at a time.*

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# THERAPY ASSISTANTS



## OTHER THERAPY ASSISTANTS CAN

- ✔ Implement a simple home program, individual therapy program or group session that is designed for their skill set with training and supervision by a qualified therapist.

## OTHER THERAPY ASSISTANTS CANNOT

- ✘ Assess or Diagnose
- ✘ Plan Therapy
- ✘ Change Treatment Plans or Goals
- ✘ Write Reports
- ✘ Discharge Clients
- ✘ Provide Educational Tutoring Services under NDIS funded services
- ✘ Conduct equipment trials or use specialised equipment without any training
- ✘ Work independently without supervision from a qualified therapist
- ✘ Work without insurance coverage
- ✘ Work with complex clients that...
  - require on the spot clinical reasoning and problem solving
  - require frequent modification and adaption in the session
  - need close monitoring, specialist handling or advanced techniques.
  - have significant behavioural difficulties

helping children and their families



## OUR THERAPY ASSISTANTS

- ★ **Capacity Building** support under the NDIS.
- ★ Must be implementing therapy plans which help a child reach their plan goals.
- ★ Must be employed and supervised by a registered speech pathologist.
- ★ Are trained and supervised to have the skills and knowledge required to deliver the therapy plan.

## WE CHARGE FOR:

- ★ **Initial Assistant Planning Session**
- ★ **Therapy Assistant Sessions**  
(Direct session time + 15min Indirect)
- ★ **Therapy Assistant Travel**
- ★ **Direct Speech Pathologist Supervised Session**

## WE PROVIDE COMPLIMENTARY:

- ★ **Assistant Observing Therapist's sessions**
- ★ **Indirect Speech Pathology Supervision**  
(via video/photo, notes or a meeting)
- ★ **Relevant Assistant training**
- ★ **Written Therapy Support Plan**

## SUPPORT WORKERS

- ➔ Provide **Core Supports** under the NDIS for a person's everyday needs (daily living assistance and community participation)
- ➔ A support worker may need to learn strategies from therapists that are helpful in everyday living and for community participation.
- ➔ Support workers are always welcome to attend your child's therapy sessions
- ➔ Fees apply for any additional training you request for your support worker
- ➔ Parents use third party agencies or source your own worker. We do not employ support workers at Therapy Matters.
- ➔ We are unable to supervise support workers due to their independent employment nor can we ensure that your support worker has the skills and knowledge needed to correctly implement therapy activities, achieve goals in your plan or be compliant with the NDIS.

