



CAIRNS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Tip Sheet from Cairns OT to Aged Care referrers

October 2024

Things we need in preparation for seeing clients under Aged Care funding packages / STRC

From late October 2024, we are unable to assist client who need Home assessment and Assistive equipment prescription. We currently have very limited Occupational Therapy (OT) availability on this particular caseload despite recruiting efforts. Therefore we are unable to accept new Home Assessment referrals until we are able to secure more OTs to meet this specific caseload's needs.

We retain some capacity for Home Assessments in the southern Atherton Tablelands i.e. Tolga, Atherton, Malanda, Millaa Millaa, Herberton and Ravenshoe.

Our capacity for Hand, wrist and arm therapy; Swelling and Lymphoedema Management; Pain Management Therapy; Neurological Rehab and Work Rehab is not affected by this change.

Referrals

Please send all referrals to referrals@cairnsot.com as this helps us to triage the referrals and ensure the most appropriate OT sees the client as soon as possible. We have provided our referral form in case you wish to use this, however you can use your own forms providing you send all the details we need to action the referral.

Can you please advise

- How the service will be funded – organisation we need to invoice and the relevant email address for the invoice
- We cannot invoice MyAgedCare directly using a referral code.
- The issues that the client has and areas that you feel need addressing
- MyAgedCare Support Plan and / or details from GP re medical diagnoses, details of their functional issues
- Please detail any timeframes that are important
- Clarify if a client is urgent due to risk factors vs they want things now
- Please ensure the client / family are prepared to have the OT visit them

Our process

We would like to emphasise that as Occupational Therapists, we

- assess function and then we
- work to remediate the issue

P: 07 4042 6333

F: 07 4042 6390

referrals@cairnsot.com

Suite 6, Calanna Health Centre

61 Sondrio St, Woree QLD 4868

www.cairnsot.com



- teach the appropriate task modification techniques
- prescribe the appropriate assistive equipment
- recommend / design home modifications
- document the recommendations in the process required by the funding body

There has to be a clinical need for the assistive equipment / home modification. We cannot and will not 'rubber stamp' equipment requests. Inappropriate or unnecessary equipment can be as dangerous as incorrectly prescribed medication and can reduce capacity.

Fees

It can take a minimum of 4-5 hours and sometimes many more hours if multiple pieces of equipment require prescription and or trial. Major home modifications e.g. bathroom modifications, can take 10-15 hours work, sometimes over several months.

Our fees are based on the number of hours required for the assessment, documentation, travel and liaison. If you require a quote please send detailed referral and request a quote.

Our current hourly rate is \$217 per hour GST Free.

It is based on the scheduled fees relating to our other caseloads.

There is a fee increase in line with market factors and the CPI in July each year.

Our OTs are

- Kerry Stingel (Director)
- Rebecca Morrison
- Natasha Dalzell
- Amanda Donald
- Mignon Prinsloo

Our Admin team are Ruby, Lyn and Andrew.

Cairns OT celebrate our 25th year of operation in 2024.

We value

- Being **Attentive**, dependable and committed to meeting client and referrer needs
- Providing **Valuable** services to individuals, referrers and community
- Offering Expertise, **Ingenuity** and Adaptability
- Being **Authentic**, honest and sincere in our interactions

Thank you for your ongoing support.

We welcome your feedback to referrals@cairnsot.com

Cairns Occupational Therapy is your centre for

- *Hand, wrist and arm therapy, Splinting*
- *Scar, swelling, wound and lymphoedema management*
- *Pain management therapy, especially Neuropathic Pain*
- *Home modification and assistive technology prescription*
- *Work rehabilitation services*