



Learnings from Career Guidance Program Trialled with the Stroke Association of Victoria Project to help Stroke Sufferers in Geelong to “Stay at Work”, 2016-2017.

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The participation rate or proportion of people available for work in Australia is 53% for people with disability (PWD) and 82% for people without disability. This manifests itself in meaning approx. 1 million PWD of working age are unemployed or unavailable for work or 50% of the working age PWD population. And it's been the same proportions for 20 years. Australia is 21st out of 27th in performance in OECD countries on disability employment.

The current focus of Government on improving outcomes for employment for people with disabilities is on improving transition from education to employment for recent students. Another large remaining group are older people who have acquired disability or whose disability becomes more serious and effects their ability to work. This is also a growing group as the workforce ages, and access to pension is moving to an older age in parallel.

"AMP Employment Boost" grants is funding a consortium lead by the Stroke Association of Victoria to develop an early intervention pilot project in Geelong. Its aim is to assist sufferers back into work, after medical support reduces. I am involved providing career counselling support for this Stay at Work project. Partnered with Barwon Health and Deakin University.

Each year 100,000 people suffer strokes in Australia, approx. 1000 in the Geelong area, of whom a third are of working age.

This presentation outlines the program developed for the Stroke SAW trial, the mix of the participants, discusses the outcomes and learning's to date. Project timeline is 2016-2017.

Experiential learning activities will be achieved by working through case studies, understanding issues and developing solutions.

Learning outcomes:

Better understanding of the extra Career issues and possible supports for people who suffer strokes.