

Bridging the Gaps in Clinical Reasoning

Turn Your Assessments into Strong ACC Reports

Quick Summary

Many assessment reports are delayed due to missing or unclear clinical reasoning.

This session introduces a **3-part framework** to help you connect assessment findings to equipment recommendations.

By structuring your assessments effectively and using a simple template, you can streamline documentation, justify decisions with confidence, and improve client outcomes.

At the core: matching **problems, features, and benefits**.

Key Insights with ‘Why This Matters’

1. Use a Structured Framework: Body – Environment – Activities

Why this matters:

Without a clear structure, important information can be overlooked or difficult to connect, leading to processing delays.

A **3-part structure** ensures your assessments are thorough and organized, helping you justify decisions effectively.

2. Link Your Findings to Equipment Features and Benefits

Why this matters:

Describing what a device *does* isn't enough. ACC and Enable NZ need to understand **why it matters** for your client's function and participation.

Making clear connections between **problems, features, and benefits** strengthens your justifications and reduces delays.

Example:

- **Problem:** Your client's Karma's Flexx is too heavy to lift, requiring a support worker to assist with getting it in and out of the vehicle.
 - **Equipment recommendation:** Tilite ZR.
 - **Feature:** The Tilite ZR weighs only 4kg.
 - **Benefit:** The lightweight frame lets your client lift it easily in and out of the vehicle **independently, giving her the freedom to explore places on her own.**
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3. Templates Streamline Your Thinking and Reporting

Why this matters:

You're busy, and reporting takes time. Templates help **capture key details** so that no critical information is missed. They provide structure, support consistency across reports, and make your documentation more efficient.

4. Good Clinical Reasoning Improves Lives

Why this matters:

When you clearly link assessment findings to equipment solutions, your clients can **increase function, independence, and overall quality of life.**

Strong clinical reasoning leads to better outcomes, empowering them to participate fully in daily activities.

Practical Applications

- **During assessment:** Use the **3-part framework** to guide your evaluation:
 - *Body:* What physical limitations or risks exist?
 - *Environment:* What barriers exist at home, in transport, or outdoors?
 - *Activities:* What does your client want or need to do?
 - Alternatively, you can use the [ICF model](#).
 - **When documenting:** Focus on **benefits over features.**
E.g., Instead of "The freewheel is portable," say, "The freewheel's portability allows your client to take it on family trips, increasing participation in outdoor activities."
 - **If stuck on equipment options:** Contact suppliers, use Enable's comparison charts, or consult Enable NZ's clinical team for guidance.
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For further support, reach out to:

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