

# International joint venture for Royal Rehab

THE ABI Neurobehavioural Rehabilitation Service is a joint venture of the Royal Rehabilitation Centre Sydney and the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust (UK). This is an exciting new project that will bring world-class, effective neurobehavioural rehabilitation to adults with an acquired brain injury.

Trust, is part of the Disabilities Trust Group which has developed a neurobehavioural model of social rehabilitation offering people who have suffered a trauma or acquired brain injury an opportunity to relearn and regain skills they may have lost following their trauma.

The two organisations have been working together to develop their joint venture partnership for this innovative and ground breaking project for over two years. Both organisations share the goal of really making

Lifetime Care and Support agency clients, and some insurance clients.

The service will provide:

- **Integrated therapies** with a focus on mobility, cognition, behaviour change, and social/relationships
- The therapies are focused on increasing **client's independence** in the next stage of their supported accommodation
- **Client determined goals** are aimed at improvements for both the client and their interaction with the community

with its UK partner, the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust, to the social rehabilitation of adults with an acquired brain injury. The clinical team employs up-to-date evidence based procedures.

The program is suitable for clients who have recently acquired a brain injury, or may have had an injury for many years. It provides options for young people from in-patient or nursing home residential care to transition to supported community living.

The team of professional staff, include Clinical Psychologist, Physiotherapists, Speech Pathologist, Nursing and Direct Support Workers.

During the client's stay, family education and support is provided through a group program, and family members are invited to participate in the neurobehavioural program designed for the client.

The focus of the program is to provide transition for the client back to life in the community – maximising their abilities and lifeskills.



Left: Recreational activities - Steven swimming with Royal Rehab staff.

*“...a unique and innovative program, to assist people with acquired brain injury participate to the fullest extent possible in the community.”*

*Stephen Lowndes, CEO Royal Rehab.*



Details of the joint venture to operate the neurobehavioural unit was announced by Royal Rehab's CEO Stephen Lowndes: “Royal Rehab welcomes the collaboration of the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust (UK) to help establish a unique neurobehavioural rehabilitation model to further enhance our work with people with an acquired brain injury. This new service represents the launch of what we are sure will be a unique and innovative program, to assist people with acquired brain injury participate to the fullest extent possible in the community.”

The UK based Brain Injury Rehabilitation

a difference to people's lives, enhancing their abilities and quality of life.

Barrie Oldham, Chief Executive of the Disabilities Trust Group (UK), who himself has visited Sydney to help develop the project, said that both he, the Board of Trustees and senior colleagues were all committed to ensuring that the joint venture is hugely successful.

The Neurobehavioral Service will be working with slow-to-recover clients – clients who have been in nursing homes (now under the Young People in Residential Aged Care program – YPRIC),

The joint venture has already employed some very skilled and dedicated clinicians and other personnel, and a project team has been setup to ensure the joint venture offers unique opportunities for all concerned.

The service will cater to adults with acquired brain injury (ABI) who have finished hospital rehabilitation and may benefit from additional cognitive and social rehabilitation.

Royal Rehab's new service provides intensive, multi-disciplinary assessment and applies an approach developed

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