



If you are not familiar or unsure of whether an individual is eligible to access Partners in Recovery, please take the time to read through this short summary of PIR and the inclusion criteria.

What is Partners in Recovery?

Grampians Partners in Recovery (GPIR) is a new initiative providing assistance to those with severe and persistent mental illness with complex needs who require support from multiple agencies. PIR aims to better support these individuals, their carers and families, by getting services and supports from multiple sectors they may

come into contact with (and could benefit from) to work in a more collaborative, coordinated, and integrated way. GPIR will facilitate better coordination of and more streamlined access to the clinical and other service and support needs of these individuals.

Who Can Access Partners in Recovery?

GPIR focuses on those who have a severe and persistent mental illness with complex support needs that require a response from multiple agencies. These individuals have persistent symptoms, significant functional impairment and psychosocial disability, and may have become disconnected from social or family support networks. This can lead to extensive reliance on multiple health and community services for assistance to maintain their lives within community-based settings and outside of institutional care. They may have co-morbid substance use or physical health issues or both, are likely to experience difficulties maintaining stable accommodation, and experience difficulty in completing basic activities of daily living. These individuals are reported to often fall through the system gaps and require more intensive support to effectively address the complexity of their needs.

In summary, those who may be eligible to access GPIR (tick if they apply to your client)

- Are aged 25 to 64 years.
- Have complex needs that require substantial services and supports from multiple agencies.
- Have a diagnosed mental illness that is severe in degree and persistent in duration.
- Require substantial support to engage with the various services to meet their needs.
- Have no existing coordination arrangements in place to assist them to access the necessary services, or has little or no engagement with the service sector.
- Are willing to engage with GPIR and give either written or verbal consent to sharing and storage of information.

NOTE: While not essential, it is very useful if the person has an up-to-date physical and mental health assessment and diagnosis at the time of referral. This will assist with the timely acceptance of the referral. If this not possible, this will be organised by the PIR Organisation.



Referral Form to GPIR

Submit referrals to:

Email info@grampianspir.org.au

Fax 03 5358 4113

Post GPIR, 8-22 Patrick St, Stawell 3380

Referrers details

Referring agency Date of referral

Worker's name Telephone

Email Fax

Provider number (if applicable)

The person has/appears to have a mental illness that is severe in degree and persistent in duration Yes No

Diagnosis

.....

.....

.....

GP Name

Does the person currently have any support through other services?
(for example, National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), HACC, Clinical Mental Health Services)

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Does the person currently receive the Disability Support Pension? Yes No

If yes, is the principle condition Mental Illness? Yes No

The person has given consent for this referral to be made and is aware that a GPIR staff member will contact them?

Written consent (client signature):
or attached consent form

Verbal consent

..... Date of consent



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Additional referral information

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing additional referral information.

Each of the following five inclusion criteria should be met on assessment of all PIR referrals:

1. The person appears to have a severe and persistent mental illness.

This should be judged on the basis of preliminary evidence, which may be prima facie, based on the referral information, self-report from the person or information provided by other informants. In assessing this, PIR Organisations should use the following as a guide:

Evidence of severity can include:

- a reported diagnosis of psychotic illness; or
- a reported diagnosis of another mental illness with associated impairment across a range of functioning domains; or
- the person has experienced multiple hospitalisations for treatment of mental illness over the past 3 years; or
- the person is a recipient of the Disability Support Pension where mental illness is the principal condition.

Evidence of persistent mental illness can include:

- the person is a recipient of a Disability Pension where mental illness is the principal condition; or
- the person has experienced mental illness over many years, or is likely to do so; or
- the person has recently experienced the onset of a mental illness that is expected to be of a prolonged nature (lasting years not months).

The referral protocol will require referrers to state the individual being referred either has or appears to have a mental illness that is severe in degree and persistent in duration. Following acceptance of the referral, the Support Facilitator will need to verify a diagnosis or arrange for a diagnosis to be made (as per the inclusion criteria). This would usually be undertaken as a component of the Needs Assessment.

2. The person has complex needs that require services from multiple agencies.
3. The person requires substantial support and assistance to engage with the various services to meet their needs.
4. There are no existing coordination arrangements in place to assist the person in accessing the necessary services, or where they are in place, those arrangements have failed, have contributed to the problems experienced by the client, and are likely to be addressed by acceptance into PIR.
5. The person or their legal guardian has indicated their willingness to participate in PIR. This will be later confirmed at the Needs Assessment stage where the formal consent of the person or their legal guardian should be sought in writing.

CLIENTS WITH DSM-IV AXIS II

In the current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV-TR) published by the American Psychiatric Association, Axis II disorders include personality disorders and developmental disorders (autism, intellectual disability). While people with a diagnosed personality disorder are eligible, assuming PIR inclusion criteria are met, the PIR initiative is not designed for those with developmental disorders, unless they have a co-existing mental illness and meet other inclusion criteria. A range of other community support and service coordination programs are available for those with a developmental disorder.