

Project Profile presented by

The Hopkins Centre

Research for Rehabilitation and Resilience

VALUING HOME MODIFICATIONS



Project aims

Home modifications can provide *value* and *value for money* in a number of ways – from more measurable outcomes like a reduction in paid caregiving hours (which can pay back the cost of the modification many times over) - through to harder to quantify, but equally important domains, such as improved health, activity, participation, wellbeing, control, autonomy, dignity, safety and quality of life.

Currently, home modification professionals are required to make estimations of *value* and *value for money* as part of their work. For those that operate under large funding schemes, these estimations can be complex, and the central concepts are not always explicitly defined, clear or easily operationalisable.

This project explores the definitions and uses of *value* and *value for money* from the perspectives of a range of stakeholders in the home modification process. Phase one has engaged with 20 Occupational Therapists (OT's) across Australia, to improve understandings of how these central concepts are being defined, measured and applied within their professional home modification practice.

Further phases of this project will explore these concepts from a wider range of stakeholder perspectives, including end users and their families. The overall aim is to develop clearer and more useful understandings of these concepts – which has the potential to improve outcomes for all parties in the home modification process.

Status:

The first phase is nearing completion with data collected from the in-depth interviews with Occupational Therapists currently undergoing analysis.

Project investigators

Dr Grace Bitner – The Hopkins Centre, Griffith University; Prof. Heidi Zeeman and Prof. Michele Foster – Menzies Health Institute Queensland, Griffith University.

Funders

The Hopkins Centre, Motor Accident Insurance Commission (MAIC) and Griffith University.



Contact

Dr Grace Bitner, The Hopkins Centre

Email: projecthomemods@griffith.edu.au

* This is just one of a suite of projects focused on architectural design, home modifications and the availability of housing for people with disability. If this area interests you, please contact us.

A joint initiative of



Metro South Health



Queensland Government



T twitter.com/hopkins_centre



E hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au



W www.hopkinscentre.edu.au