



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Communities**



Have your say – Authorisation of Restrictive Practices in Western Australia

Easy Read

July 2021

For information only

This document has been produced by The Department of Communities and uses pictures from two companies called Photosymbols and Medifab. You can share and print this book. If you want to use the pictures in this book please email arplegislationproject@communities.wa.gov.au.

Introduction

People with disability have the same rights as all people to:

- be listened to
 - get services
 - feel safe
 - choose for themselves
- and
- much more



Sometimes people with disability need support

Support can be from

- family
 - friends
 - carers
- or
- organisations that help, called service providers



Behaviour Support



Sometimes, you might do something that makes you or others unsafe

There can be many reasons that this happens

This might be called challenging behaviour, or behaviour that challenges



Behaviour that challenges can include:

- hurting yourself or other people
 - breaking things
 - running away
- or
- not wanting to do things or see people



Behaviour support can help you and other people who support you

It is important for people to talk to you to understand what is happening for you



Sometimes, service providers use restrictive practices when supporting people with disability

Restrictive practices are actions that prevent your freedom or movement



Restrictive practices can limit your rights but are sometimes used to help keep people with disability or others safe

People with disability should feel safe and be able to live a good life



It is important for everyone to work together to reduce the use of restrictive practices

Restrictive Practices

There are five types of restrictive practices that can be used in WA



Seclusion – when you are put in a room or area by yourself and cannot get out



Chemical restraint – when you are given medicine that calms you down

This does not include medication from your doctor that is not related to behaviour



Physical restraint – when someone holds part of your body to stop you from moving



Mechanical restraint – when something is used to stop you from moving

This does not include equipment that is used for therapy

(Image source: [Medifab](#))



Environmental restraint – when you cannot use or get to parts of your home or things you own



Restrictive practices should not be used unless they are needed

Choosing to use restrictive practices is a hard decision

Those decisions must be officially approved or authorised

Have your say

The Department of Communities wants to make decisions about using restrictive practices better

To do this, we need help from the community

You can help the Department understand how you feel about restrictive practices and how you want the process to work



Department of
Communities



The Department is talking with people across WA and asking questions like:

- how should decisions be made about restrictive practices?
- who should make decisions about authorising restrictive practices?
- in what situations should a restrictive practice be needed?



There are different ways everyone can have their say and give feedback, including:

- face-to-face meetings
- surveys
- and
- feedback forms



More information

If you want to know more or have a question:

- phone 0439 497 940

or

- email

arplegislationproject@communities.wa.gov.au

or

- visit our website

www.communities.wa.gov.au/arp-consultation

