**TITLE OF PAPER**

Robust Credentialing Frameworks for Prescription of Assistive Technology

**Aims**

To develop a robust Registration and Credentialing Framework which aligns with best practice and aims to ensure safe and effective prescription of assistive technology, with a focus on competency based training.

**Findings/Results/Outcomes**

The SWEP Prescriber Registration and Credentialing Framework has been successfully implemented for over 12 months now. With feedback from prescribers and the industry, improvements continue to be made along the way.

**Abstract**

The State-wide Equipment Program (SWEP) introduced a revised Prescriber Registration and Credentialing Framework (The Framework) in July 2017. The key purpose of this Framework was to ensure suitably qualified and skilled prescribers were prescribing assistive technology within the guidelines of our funding bodies and aligned with best practice.

In developing The Framework other relevant national and international credentialing models were considered and will be discussed.

The Framework acknowledges the complex interactions between clients, the assistive technology, the environment and the skills of the prescriber. The Framework aims to create a structure where assistive technology is categorised into logical types and then sub-categorised based on client complexity and prescriber skill level. All the necessary administrative pathways have been developed to support the Framework.

The Framework provides formal pathways and processes for prescribers to register for the first time (as an inexperienced prescriber), upgrade prescriber status to a higher level, re-credential at the same level, or register for the first time as an experienced prescriber.

The role of competency based education is also acknowledged and there is provision for education providers to have their programs formally endorsed.

Going forward SWEP will continue to explore the expected learning outcomes or performance criteria required of prescribers and the various ways professional competence can be demonstrated.