**“I drive myself every day…I don’t know what I would do without my car:” Using social return on investment analysis to value the social impact of modified vehicles to people with disability.**

**Aims**

People with acquired disabilities often have return to driving as a rehabilitation goal and, given the technological advances in vehicle modifications (VMs), people with lifelong disabilities have greater opportunity to drive for the first time. Returning to driving has been associated with a range of positive social, economic and health outcomes. Yet to date there has been no economic evaluation of VMs, in Australia or internationally. This study aimed to identify the personal, community and social impact of VMs using social return on investment analysis (SROI). SROI analysis is an innovative approach that aims to place values on social outcomes to produce a ratio of total spend to total impact e.g. a ratio of 3:1 indicates that $3 of value was generated for every $1 spent.

**Findings**

We present our analytical findings including data sources, outcomes identified, how evaluations were determined, and what other factors were considered in arriving at our SROI ratio. Given the vast spectrum of VMs that can be tailored to meet the needs of people with disability, from simple wing mirrors and spinner knobs through to complex modifications (e.g. Space Drive, Paravan), we conducted three separate calculations that reflect low, moderate and high level complexity and cost. In the post-NDIS environment, where it is expected that the NDIS will become a major provider of VMs moving forward, this study shows the valuable potential of SROI analysis in demonstrating value for money for a wide range of stakeholders including funding bodies, policy makers, practitioners, and disability advocacy groups.

Word count = 250 (excluding headings)