NDIS Evidence Advisory Committee Consultation

People who use something different to seizure alert dogs

Part 1

Easy Read

The Australian Government Department of Health Disability and Ageing wrote this.

We say **DHDA** for short.

When you see the word **we** it means DHDA.

We wrote this in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold

Not bold

We have some words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.

These are important words.

This is an Easy Read summary of an online **survey**.

Surveys have questions about your ideas.

We can answer any questions by email.

Email us disabilityevidence@health.gov.au

You can ask for help to read this document.

You can ask

- A friend
- Family members
- A support person.

We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the **Traditional Owners** of the land we live on.

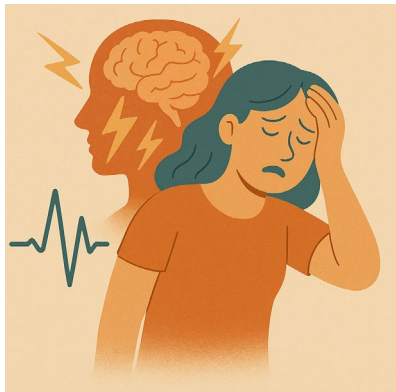They were the **first people** to live on and use the

- Land
- Waters.

Contents

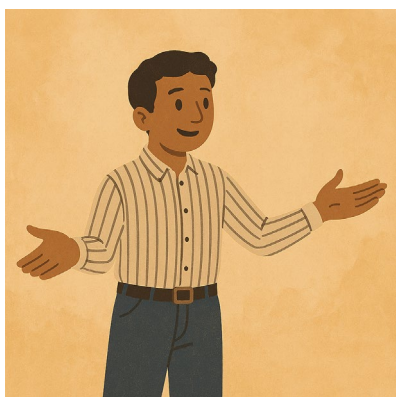# Who is this survey for

We made a **survey**.

This survey is **only** for people who have

- Epilepsy

- Other disabilities that involve **seizures**.

- Use something else.

Seizures are when the brain has lots of activity happen all of a sudden.
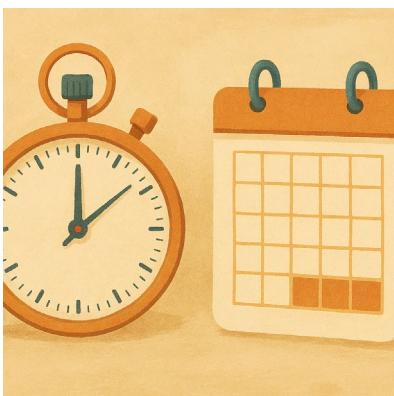
It can make the brain

- Get mixed up
- Stop working for a short time.

Seizures can look like

- Someone staring and not talking back
- Shaking
- Falling down.
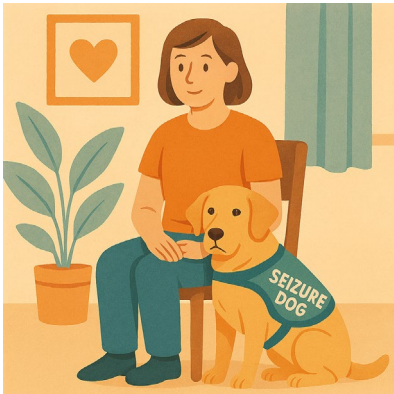
Seizures look different for everyone.

Seizures can go for a
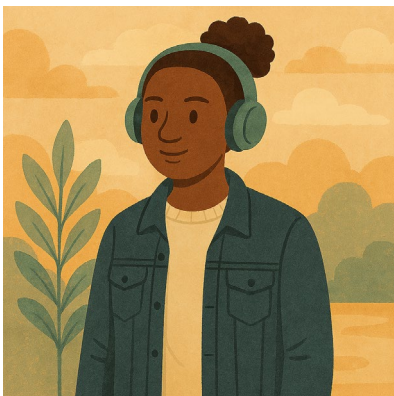
- Short time
- Long time

After a seizure most people feel

- Tired
- Confused.

We have other surveys for people who
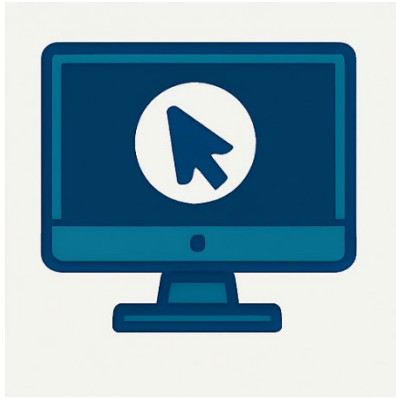
- Use a seizure alert dog

- Had a seizure alert dog but do **not** use it any more

- Family or carers of people who have

  o Epilepsy
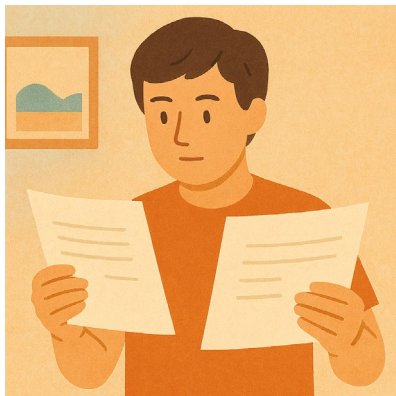 o Other disabilities that involve seizures

Who use seizure alert dogs.

You can look at the other surveys on our website.

consultations.health.gov.au/evidence-advisory-committee-eac/september2025

It is in Easy Read.

We have **2 parts** to this survey.

You need to do **part 1** first.

You need to send both parts back to us by email.

You need to send it back before

11.59 at night
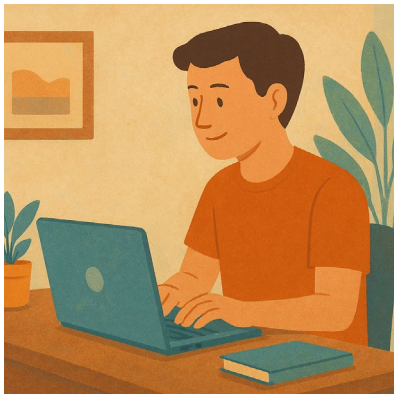**Sunday** 9 November 2025.

What to do

You need to download both parts of the survey.

You can
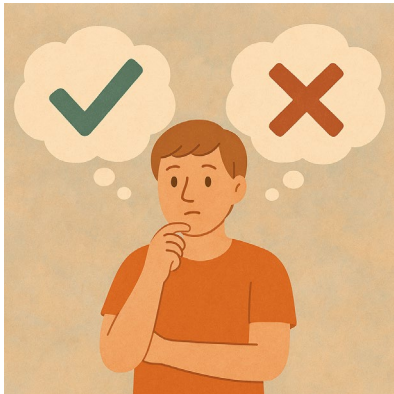
- Write your answers

- Type your answers.

You need to send your answers back to us by email.

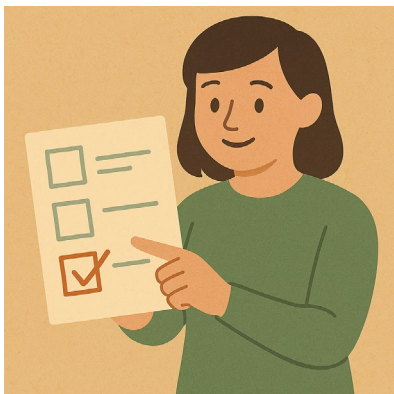disabilityevidence@health.gov.au

Each part will have some

- Information
- Questions.

There are no right or wrong answers.

Do your best.

You can choose what questions to answer.

You do **not** have to answer them all.

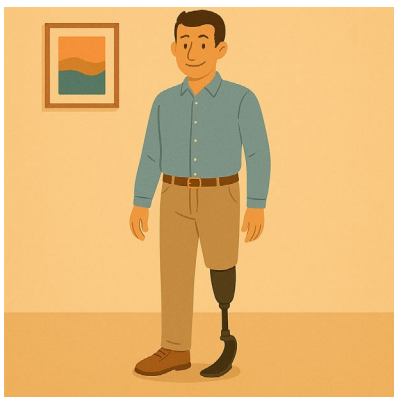# About your disability

What is your disability

You can pick as many you have

- Acquired Brain Injury

This is anything that damages your brain after you were born like

- Stroke
- Injury to your head
- Diseases.

- Amputations

This is when you have an operation to remove part of your body like your leg.

They only do this if they have to.

- Arthritis

This is pain or swelling in your joints like in your hands.

It can happen in

- 1 part of your body
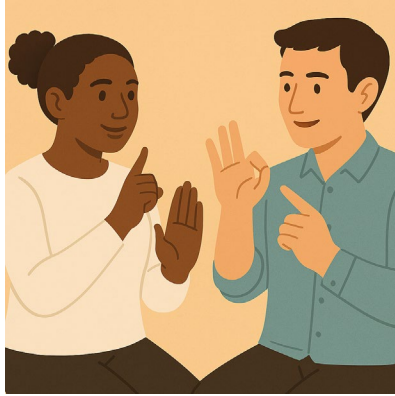- Many parts of your body.

- Autism

- Cerebral palsy

This is a physical disability that can change how you
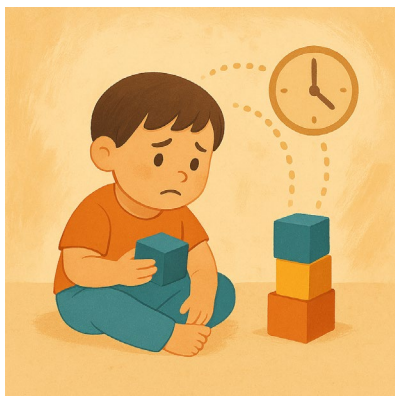
- Move
- Stand
- Sit.

- Deaf or hard of hearing

- Dementia

This is when you have trouble

- Thinking
- Remembering
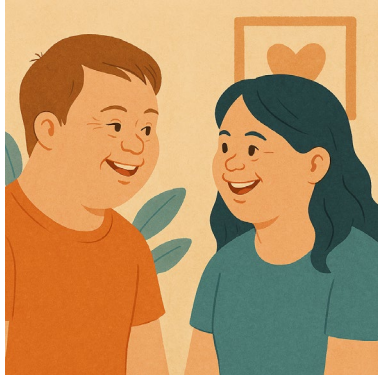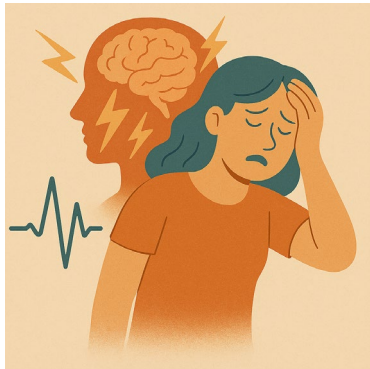- Doing things for yourself.

- Developmental Delay

This is when someone learns slower than other people their age.

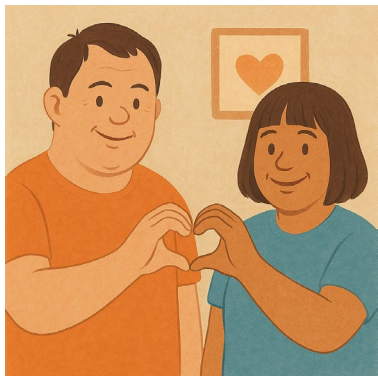They might need extra help with
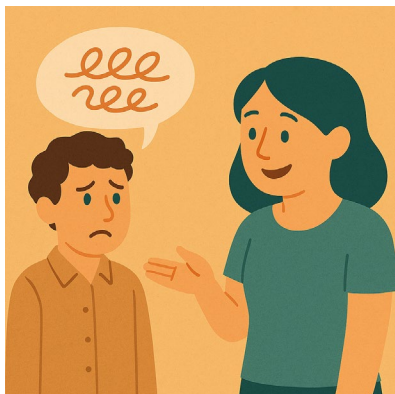
- Talking
- Moving
- Their emotions.

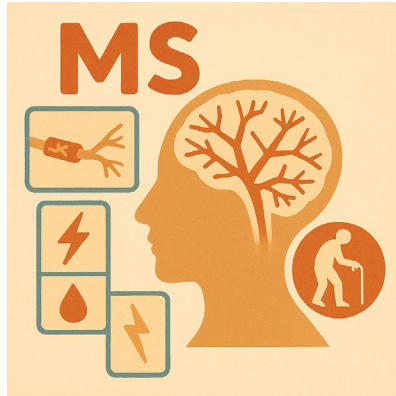|	
	• Down Syndrome
	• Epilepsy This is when someone has seizures.
	Intellectual disability
	• Language disorders This is when someone has a hard time understanding or using language that is • Spoken • Written down • Signed.

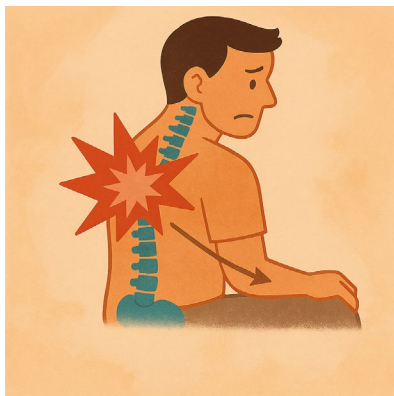- Multiple sclerosis

This affects your

- Brain
- Spine
- Nerves

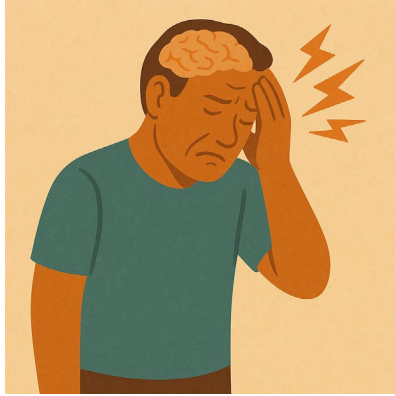It is called **MS** for short.

- Psychosocial disability

This is a disability because of your mental health.

- Spinal cord injury

This is when you have damaged your spine.

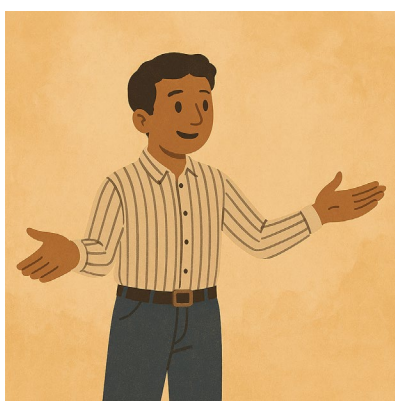This can change what you can do for yourself.

- Stroke

This is when the blood in your brain

- Is stopped for a time
- Can **not** get to where it needs to.

This can cause damage to your brain.

- Blind or have low vision

- Anything else

Please write in the box

Question 1 support

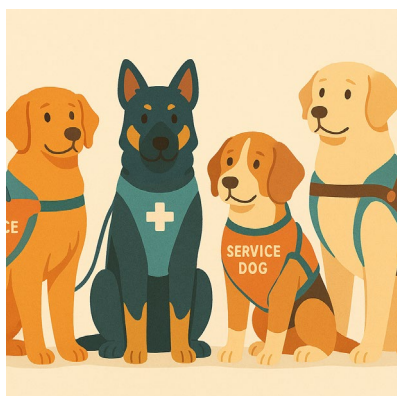We want you to think about **seizure alert dogs** for

- Epilepsy
- Other disabilities that involve seizures.

The person who has the dog is called the **handler**.

Sometimes this is

- The person who has seizures
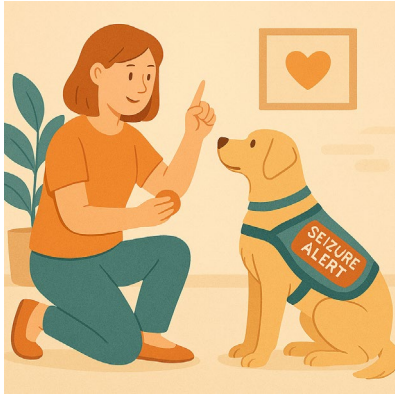- Someone else like a parent.

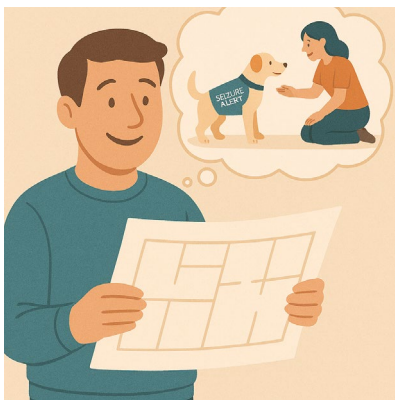A seizure alert dog is **trained** to respond to seizures.

Trained means they have learned something.

They **aim** to help people who have seizures.
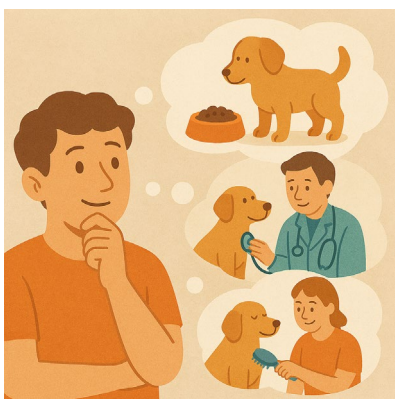
Aims are things you want to do.

They are trained first by a special dog trainer.

The handler follows the plan

- To keep up training
- Do what else is needed for the seizure alert dog.

The handler also looks after the seizure alert dog.

Like

- Buying it food
- Taking it to the vet
- Looking after its fur.

Seizure alert dogs respond to seizure by
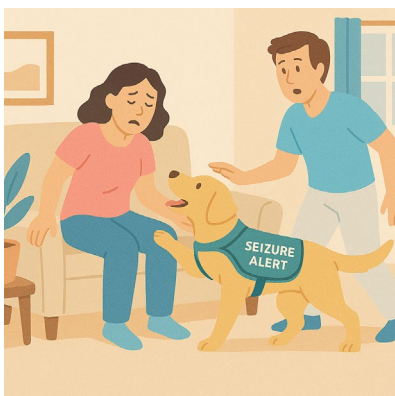
- Alerting people

- Protecting the handler from getting hurt.

They do this by

- Barking

- Getting someone else

- Pressing the handlers **seizure response device**

This is something the person who has seizures wears.

It helps tell other people they are having a seizure and need help.
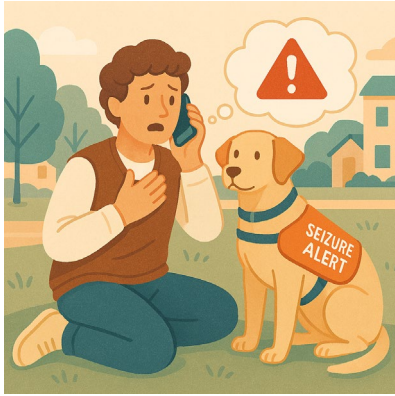

- They might use their body to stop the handler getting hurt.

They can block dangerous areas.

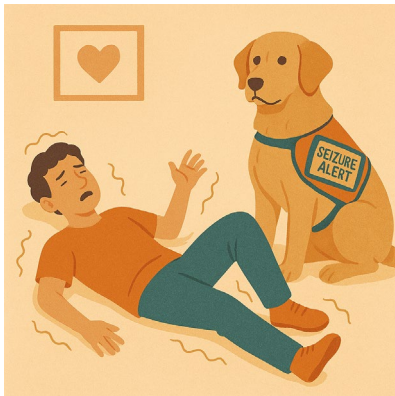There are also seizure **predicting** dogs.

Predicting means saying if something is going to happen in the future.

Seizure predicting dogs alert the handler before they have a seizure.
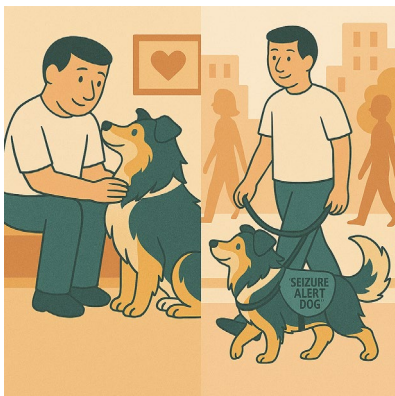
This can help the handler

- Move to a safe space
- Call for help.

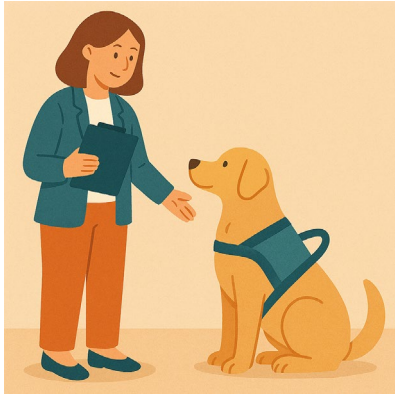Both types of seizure alert dogs are trained to

- Comfort
- Support

The person after the seizure has stopped.

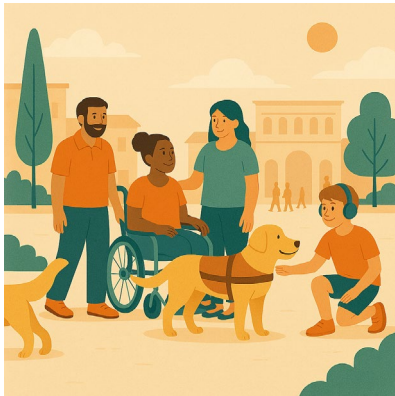People use their seizure alert dogs
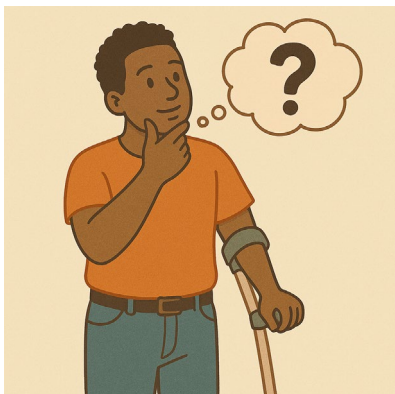
- At home
- In public.

Seizure alert dogs need to

- Have the right **accreditation**

Accreditation means someone has come to check that the rules have been followed.
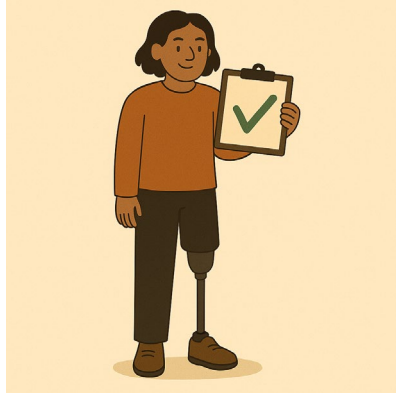
- Be safe and healthy in the community
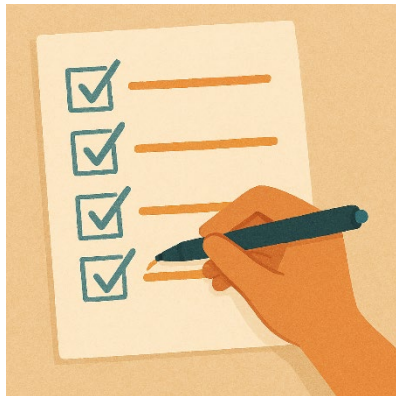
Question 1

Do you think we have said everything about

- What seizure alert dogs are
- How they are used.

Please tick only 1 box.

Yes

No

I want to change something.
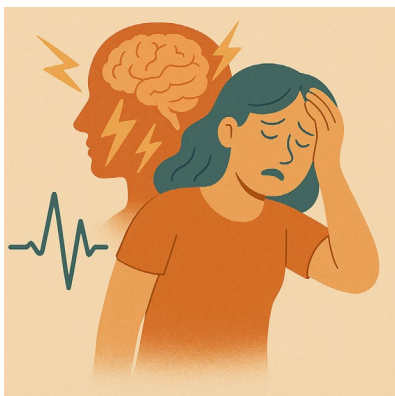
Please write what you want to change in the box.

You can

- Add something
- Take away something

Question 2 disability group

We want to think about all the different groups of people who might use seizure alert dogs.

So far we think they are

- People with epilepsy

- People with other disabilities that involve seizures.
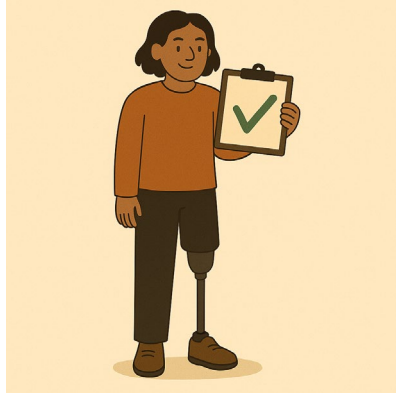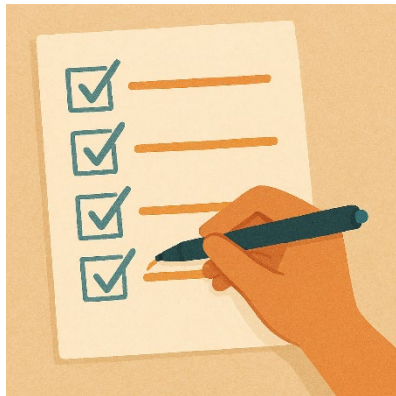

We think they could be

- Children

- Adults.

Question 2

Do you think we have said all the groups of people who might use seizure alert dogs.

Please tick only 1 box.

Yes

No

I want to change something.

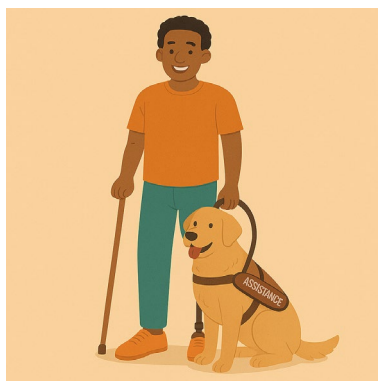Please write what you want to change in the box.

You can

- Add something
- Take something away.

Question 3 outcomes

Supports are used to get good **outcomes**.

Outcomes are the things we see when our plans are working.

Outcomes can

- Make peoples lives better

- Keep people safer.

We think that seizure alert dogs aim to help with

- Stopping people from getting hurt with seizures they do **not** expect
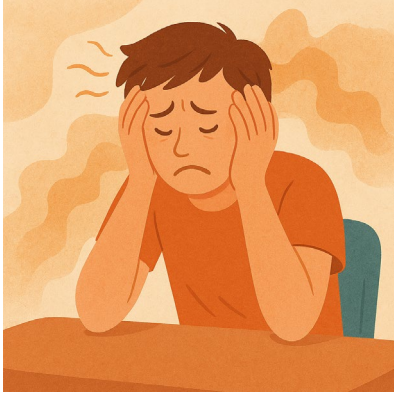

- Being **independent**
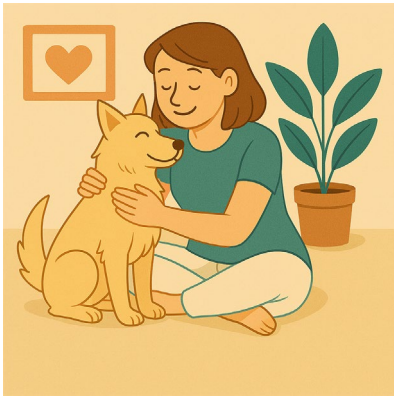
Independent means doing things on your own.

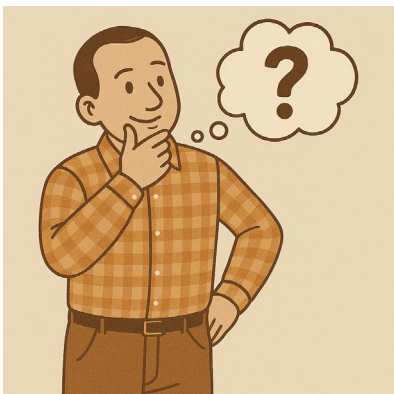- Good **wellbeing**

Wellbeing means that you are

- Happy
- Healthy.

- Stress

- Emotional support.

Question 3

Do you think we have said the most important outcomes for this support.

Please tick only 1 box.

Yes

You can write extra things if you want.

You can put the outcomes you think are the most important.

No

I want to change the list.

Please write what you want to change in the box.

You can

- Add something
- Take something away.

Question 4 compare with other supports

We need to **compare** how well seizure alert dogs work for

- People with epilepsy
- People with other disabilities that involve seizures.

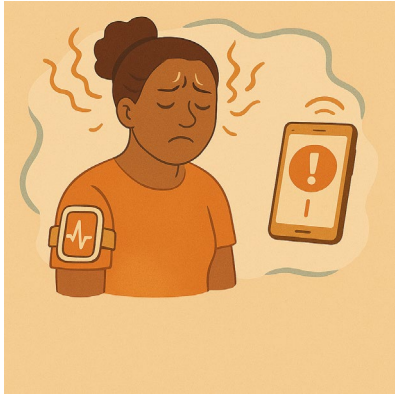Compare means to look at 2 or more things.

You might look at what

- Is different
- Is the same
- Works best.

This will help us say if 1 support is best.

Other supports we could compare seizure alert dogs with are

- A full time support worker

- **Assistive technology**

Like

- Seizure monitor alert device
- Other things to help

Assistive technology can be things to help you

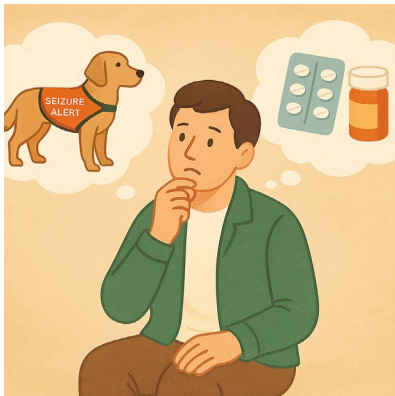- Speak
- Move
- See
- Hear.

- What you use to manage your seizures

Like medicine.

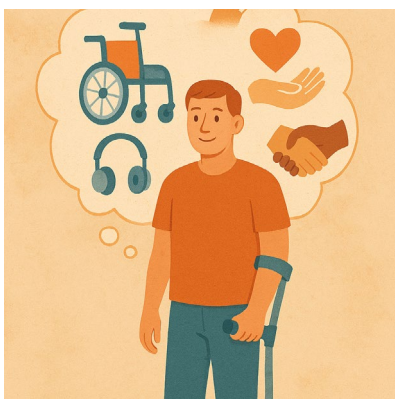We think these supports will aim to help people with the same **outcomes**.

Outcomes are the things we see when our plans are working.

A seizure dog is used with other supports.
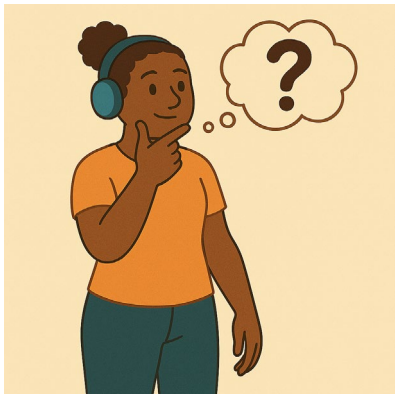
It does **not replace** something else.

Replace means change 1 thing for another.
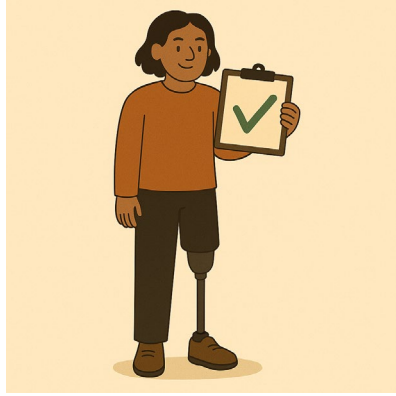

Have you tried different supports.

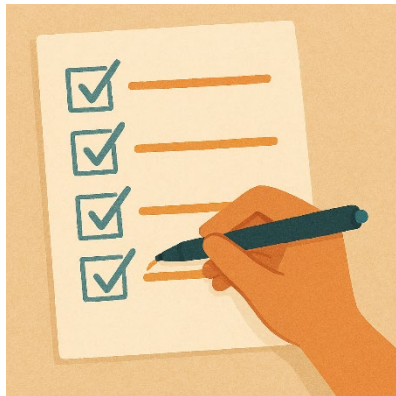What supports would you use if you could **not** use seizure alert dog.

Question 4

Are these the best supports to compare to seizure alert dogs.

Please tick only 1 box.

Yes

No

I want to change something.

Please write what you want to change in the box.

You can

- Add something
- Take something away.

Thank you for doing **part 1**.

Please do **part 2** next.

You can take a break if you need it.