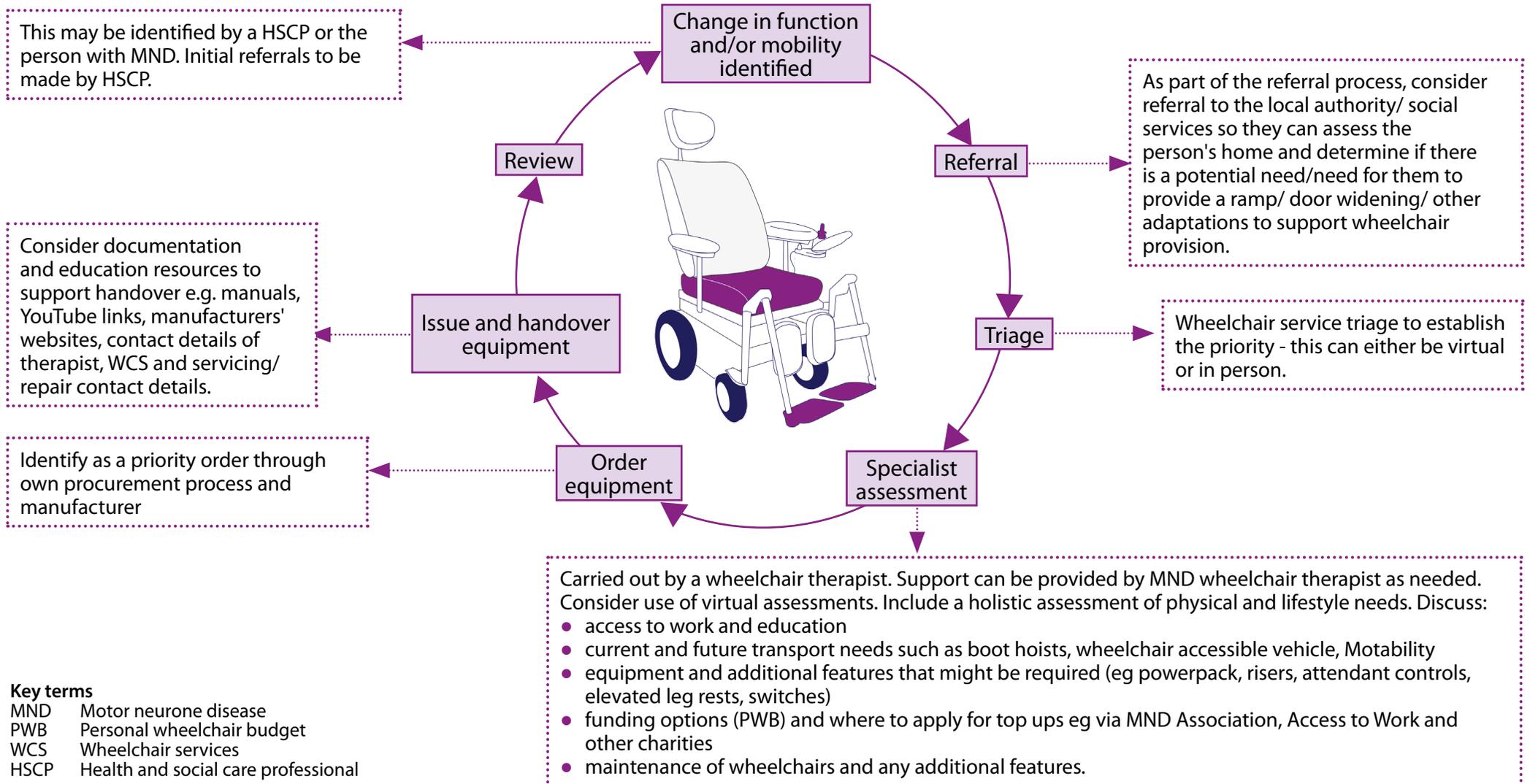


This pathway has been developed to help wheelchair therapists and other professionals to support someone with MND to access a suitable wheelchair in a timely way. Please also see our information sheet P2 - *Wheelchairs for MND* at www.mndassociation.org/professionals/publications.



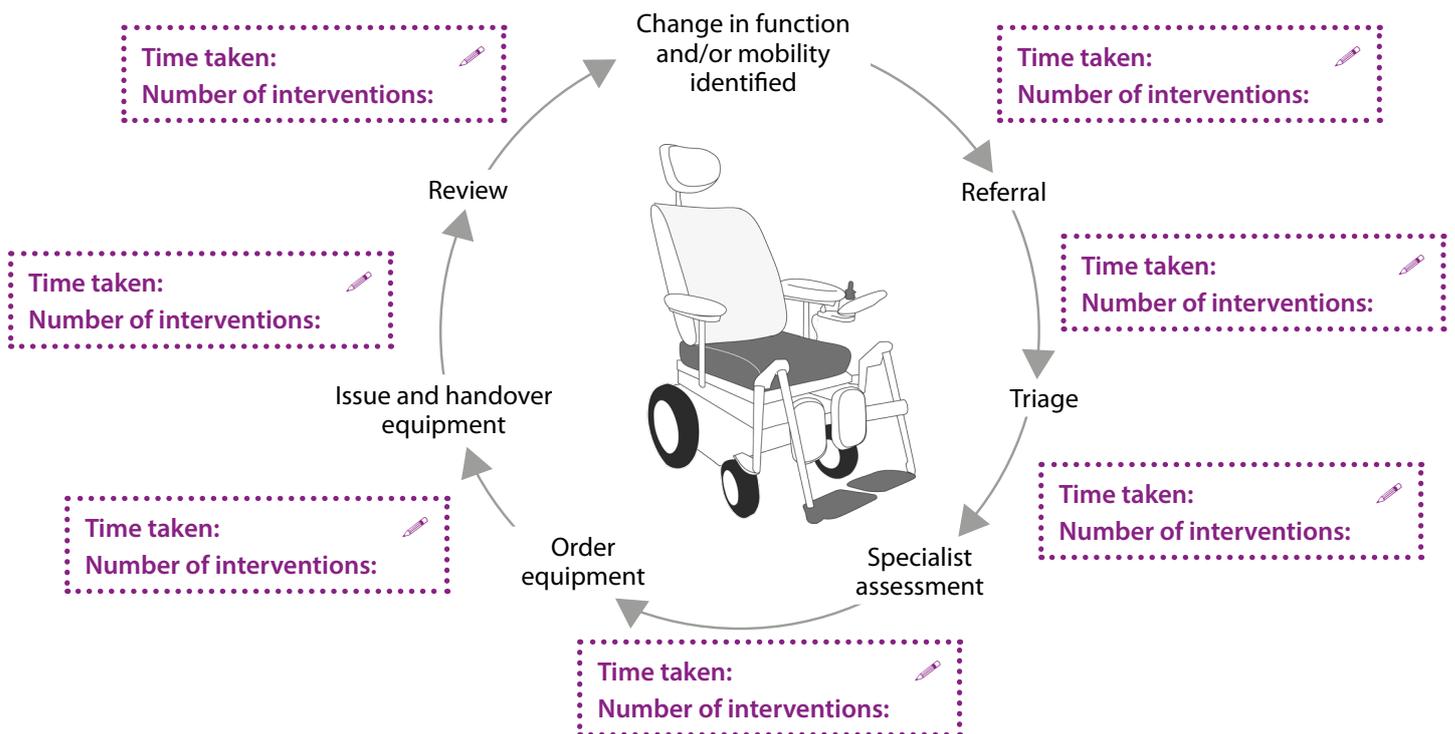
Key terms

MND	Motor neurone disease
PWB	Personal wheelchair budget
WCS	Wheelchair services
HSCP	Health and social care professional

If you have any questions or experience any problems with access to a wheelchair for a person with MND, our helpline may be able to offer advice. Email mndconnect@mndassociation.org or call 0808 802 6262.

Audit tool

This pathway includes space to record timescales between each activity. This is followed by suggestions to aid reflection on your current practice and service delivery.



Referral

How are referrals made to your service?

How can referrals and re-referrals for clients with MND be made quickly and marked as a priority?

Do you have a secure email address for referrals or re-referrals?

Triage

How do you prioritise or fast track MND referrals?

Are there links with the MND care centre, MND community team, and social care occupational therapist to support the pathway?

Can you gain more information about the person, eg:

- When were they diagnosed?
- What type of MND do they have? How fast is it progressing?
- What is their current level of function? The ALS Functional Rating Scale¹ can help predict postural/wheelchair needs.
- Are they known to other health care professionals such as a multidisciplinary team or social care occupational therapist?
- What is hand function like? Consider head, leg and foot control.
- What is their current method of transfer?

Specialist assessment

Would having a clinician with a specialist interest in MND streamline your processes for this client group?

Is there a training need for the team on MND and its impact?

Can regular assessment slots for specialist controls, complex equipment trial etc be accessed in a timely manner?

Do you consider future-proofing of the chair for the changing postural and functional needs of the client?

Will the client require devices mounted to their chair either now or in the future? Eg communication aid, ventilation, feed pump.

Are you able to signpost individuals to transportation and adapted vehicle information?

Visit www.nice.org.uk/guidance/NG42 (see section 1.9).

Order equipment

Is there an accessible stock of equipment that is suitable for MND clients that could be issued on assessment?

Are you using codes from manufacturers to indicate an order is for MND? They may be able to fast track orders.

Is there a central procurement process? Is there a fast track through this?

Can you use funding from a third party for additional features?

Can you utilise PWB to provide equipment to meet holistic needs? Is there a process in place to make usage of PWB easy and efficiently?

Is there a checking process for urgent or MND orders to ensure they progress in a timely way?

Issue and handover equipment

Do you have regular time slots allocated for urgent or MND cases, so timely appointments can be booked?

Are clients allocated the same wheelchair service therapist to ensure continuity of care?

Is a process in place to ensure all technical changes or alterations can be made before or during issue of equipment?

Regular review

Do you have a regular review service or allocated time slots?

Do you email or call clients for updates?

Do clients have a named person they can contact if they need further support?

Can review requests be taken on without need for re-referral process once a person has a product from your service?

References

1 Cedarbaum JM et al. *The ALSFRS-R: a revised ALS functional rating scale that incorporates assessments of respiratory function*. Journal of the neurological sciences. 1999 Oct 31;169(1-2):13-21.