**Ethical Governance in Services: Moving Beyond Clinical Governance**

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Over the past two decades, health services in OECD nations have become incredibly focused on clinical governance, and governance more generally. The commonly held belief is that if our services are compliant with the regulations, standards and legislation then the service will be excellent, the client outcomes outstanding and the service very safe. the clients and their families will be very happy.

Sadly, we know that this is not the case, because clinical governance doesn't focus on the client experience and the ethical aspects of service delivery. We absolutely need clinical governance and governance more generally in our services, but it’s not the be all and end all. We need to also focus on Ethical governance and how this places the individual at the center of everything we do, what we value in a service and how we measure the success of the service.

Ethical governance is demonstrated very well by Aboriginal Elders and Aboriginal Culture. This has been demonstrated by Michael Wright in the Looking Forward Project.

The tension between person centred practice, governance, compliance and how this plays out in NDIS plans is unchanged despite COVID. This paper thus proposes a paradigm shift that is independent of COVID, given it is an entrenched way of thinking and managing health services.

It is time that we consider how we enhance our current governance models to include a focus on Ethical governance as this will deliver better outcomes for clients as this will increase our focus on client care and the human side of our services.