Why Do People With Intellectual Disability Die?

We looked at how many people with intellectual disability died in NSW and why.

People with intellectual disability died more often than other people in NSW.

Many people with intellectual disability died before the age of 65.
What do people with intellectual disability die from?

About 1 in 5 people died from heart diseases

About 1 in 5 people died from cancer

About 1 in 6 people died from an illness of the brain, for example epilepsy
About 1 in 8 people died from breathing problems.

In more than 1 out of every 3 deaths things could have been done to stop it from happening.

**What needs to be done?**

We need people with intellectual disability and their carers to learn more about healthy living.

We need health and disability workers who know about intellectual disability health.
We need better health services for people with intellectual disability

The government should include people with intellectual disability in all new health plans and services

Prepared by the Department of Developmental Disability Neuropsychiatry, UNSW Australia

Visit our website: https://3dn.unsw.edu.au

You can call us on: (02) 9931 9160

You can email us: dddn@unsw.edu.au