

## Media Release

30 September 2021

### The ABTA welcomes the ACC proposed changes to cover birth injuries.

The Australasian Birth Trauma Association (ABTA) is a charity established in 2016, dedicated to helping Australians and New Zealanders prevent and heal from birth-related trauma. Our vision is for safer births and better healing.

ABTA welcomes the announcement by ACC Minister Carmel Sepuloni that the Government is expanding cover for birth injuries.

For too long the importance of prevention, early diagnosis and support of women that have experienced birth injuries has been largely ignored.

Whilst most women will recover from birth well, some do experience birth injuries and it is important that those who need treatment can access it.

ABTA Founder and CEO, Amy Dawes says "The impact that birth injuries have on new mothers can be profound. For many women in our community, it has taken months, or often years for them to seek the support they need. Birth injuries can impact quality of life, social life, sexual relationships, physical activity, bonding with their baby and ability to function in the workforce. Fast access for specialist services will make a real difference to families in Aotearoa New Zealand. This is a step in the right direction".

[birthtrauma.org.au](http://birthtrauma.org.au)



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For more information please visit our website or email us on [support@birthtrauma.org.au](mailto:support@birthtrauma.org.au)

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## About ABTA

Birth is wonderful.  
But sometimes birth is frightening.  
Sometimes birth is physically damaging.  
Sometimes birth is nothing like you hoped or planned.

It's hard to hear, but important to say: birth can be traumatic. But it doesn't need to be, and there's help if it is. We are a peer-led community dedicated to helping women and families from Australia and New Zealand prevent and heal from birth-related trauma. We do this through advocacy, education, research and peer-led support.

### Initiatives

Peer2Peer Meets Peer2Peer Live Chat ThinkNatal Education

[birthtrauma.org.au](http://birthtrauma.org.au)

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