

# Summary

This report aims to investigate how access to assistive devices for people with neurological conditions is impacted by regional policies and directives. Our following conclusions are based on our members’ experiences and our survey that was sent to our members during January 2022. This report is a follow-up on one of our earlier reports, *Neurorapporten 2017*.

## Conclusions

Based on our survey as well as other reports on the supply of assistive devices in Sweden, we can conclude that the access to assistive devices varies depending on where you live in the country, making it an unequally distributed resource. From this, we draw the following conclusions:

- The supply of assistive devices is too restrictive today, almost forty percent of the respondents to the survey are missing one or more assistive devices. There are many who do not have aids for basic needs such as mobility aids and assistive devices in the home. In addition, more and more people are buying assistive devices themselves.
- The patient's participation and right to information should be strengthened as many feel that they have not been able to influence the choice of assistive device as much as they would have liked.
- Access to equipment for leisure activities is very limited in all regions. Just over ten percent of the respondents believe that they have received sufficient information about leisure equipment.
- There are large differences across the country in terms of assistive devices’ fees and the fee systems vary between regions, which contributes to unequal access to assistive technology. Just over twenty percent of the respondents state that they have at one time refrained from obtaining assistive devices because they could not afford it.