

Cunningham Centre

...delivering excellence in education, training and support to the health workforce

Using online modules to improve data systems training for students

Ryan McVey (Acting Allied Health – Advanced Clinical Educator (Interdisciplinary), Cunningham Centre
Physiotherapy Clinical Education and New Graduate Support Officer, Toowoomba Hospital)

Kath White (Instructional Designer, Cunningham Centre)

Background

As the demand for student clinical placements continues to grow the contribution of Allied Health (AH) students to service delivery needs to be accurately assessed, however this contribution is currently difficult to determine due to inconsistent data quality^[1]. Within Queensland Health, Performance Indicators Version 5 (PI5) is the most common program used to capture activity data of AH professionals and students. A desktop review of training processes revealed poor standardisation across the state in facilities utilising PI5. This lack of standardised training is likely to contribute to the inconsistent recording and interpretation of activity data^[1]. A consistent, standardised training package for students and staff was required to minimise errors in the PI5 activity data and better inform clinical benchmarking and AH workforce planning decisions.

Aim

The project aim was to develop a standardised online Allied Health activity data collection training package for use by staff and students. This package consisted of two modules.

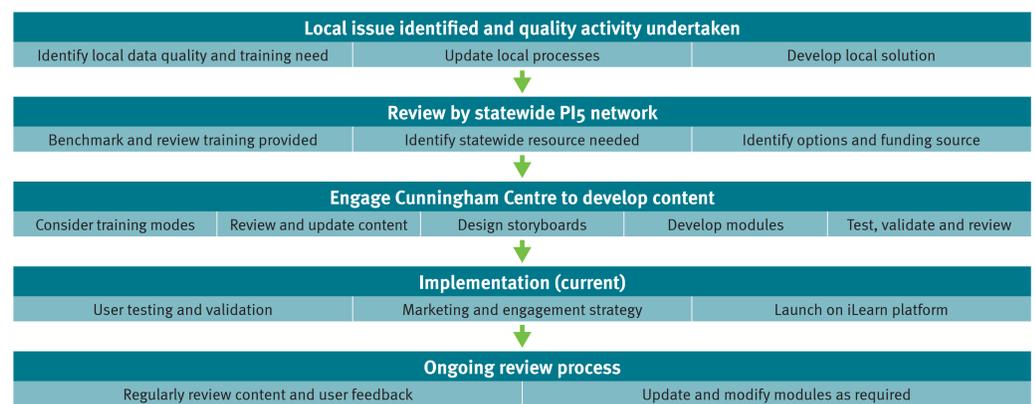
Module 1

Application and interpretation of Allied Health Information Management Business Rules^[2]

Module 2

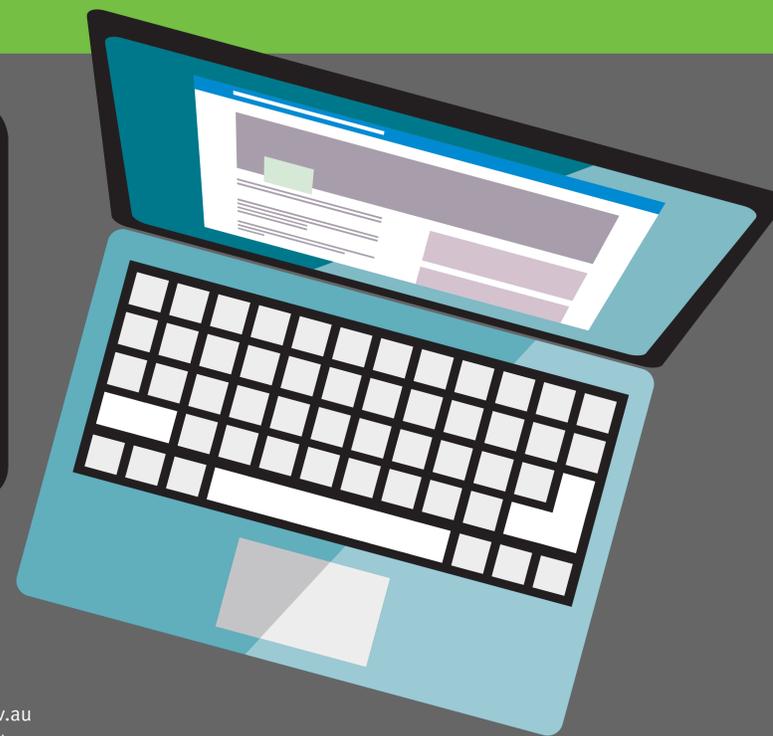
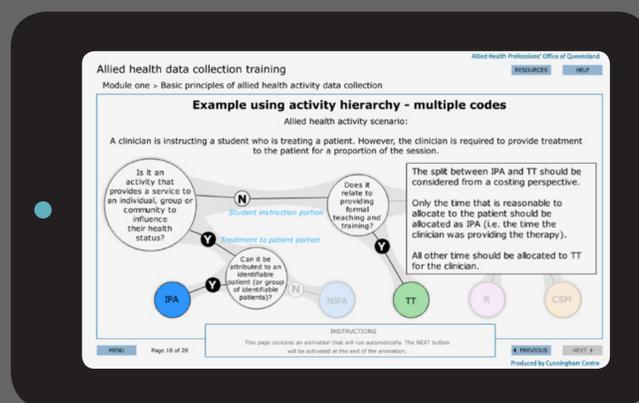
Simulated PI5 learning environment

Process undertaken



Results

The design of the two modules aimed to enhance interactivity for users and promote practical application of the content covered to adequately prepare users to input data into PI5. Based on user testing feedback, 85% of users agreed the information was presented in a way that kept their attention and was easy to navigate. The following screenshots illustrate the interactive nature of the content.



Acknowledgements:

Funding for the development of this training package was provided by the Allied Health Professions' Office Queensland

Contact details:

Ryan McVey
ryan.mcvey@health.qld.gov.au
AHET@health.qld.gov.au
07 4616 5521

Key challenges

- Balancing user interactivity and learner engagement with budget, access and hosting considerations
- Stakeholder engagement and project funding
- Ensuring technology compatibility both within and outside Queensland Health

Key learnings

To develop a successful training package:

- Engage the right people at the right time
- Undertake user testing to ensure you balance interactivity, ease of use and content
- Don't overload the user with unnecessary content
- Thoroughly plan and design the training package before you develop the content. Investing time at the planning stage reduces delays and additional costs during development.

- Before developing content, consider the following questions:
 - Who is the target audience?
 - How will the user access the training and where will the package be hosted?
 - What should the user know or be able to do upon completing the module?
 - How will the user's knowledge, ability or competence be assessed?

Conclusions

- Online learning may provide greater consistency, flexibility and user interactivity, however it may also require higher initial outlay and longer development timeframes than traditional learning resources.
- Potential online training should be rigorously evaluated to ensure it is suitable to translate into an online learning environment.
- Comprehensive planning is the key to success.
- The PI5 online training package should be available for use by staff and students on the new Queensland Health iLearn platform from November 2015.

References

[1] Bathersby, S., Shardlow, K., Gooding, M., Hearn, C. (2015). *Directors of Physiotherapy Services Queensland Clinical Education and Training Initiative: Physiotherapy student contribution to physiotherapy services within Queensland Health*. Brisbane, Australia.

[2] Allied Health Professions' Office Queensland (2014). *Queensland Health Allied Health Information Management Business Rules Version 4.2*. Brisbane, Australia.