

Included in this issue:

- peer-reviewed articles of interest
- links to reports and opinion pieces
- events and updates

Articles of interest

Measuring the quality of nursing clinical placements and the development of the Placement Evaluation Tool (PET) in a mixed methods co-design project

The aim of this study is to develop a feasible, valid and reliable clinical placement evaluation tool (PET) for nursing students in Australia.

A phased approach was used, and the online pilot testing included 1263 nursing students across six Australian universities.

The PET can differentiate perceptions of placement quality and it is likely to improve educational and clinical environments.

In the trial, the mean total scale scores were significantly higher for Victorian students, ahead of New South Wales and Queensland.

Additional trials are planned across Australia and further evaluation of the psychometric properties will continue.

[Find out more](#)

Motherhood and medicine: systematic review of the experiences of mothers who are doctors

There are increasing numbers of women graduating in medicine in Australia leading to women working less hours than men due to their competing demands of being mothers and doctors.

This study aimed to explore experiences and perspectives about women combining motherhood

and a career in medicine and used peer-reviewed articles between 2008-2019.

The study reported that women prioritised career advancement by delaying starting a family and believed that careers would be slowed by motherhood. Several structural and attitudinal barriers to women pursuing both medical careers and motherhood were identified.

Sustainable strategies to better enable and support women to excel in both roles are required globally.

[Find out more](#)

Allied Health Professionals Experience of Supervising Allied Health Assistants. A mixed method study.

In 2017, it was reported that 24% of allied health professionals (AHP) spent time undertaking tasks that an allied health assistant (AHA) could do with relevant training and supervision.

The AHPs in the study (n=35) reported supervising AHA for 10% of their workday and 75% reported they had adequate time for supervision. Evidence suggested that AHP in the study lacked knowledge of AHA training, skills, and roles and this gap in understanding impacted on their ability to supervise and delegate tasks. Improving knowledge base will lead to effective supervision and delegation.

[Find out more](#)

Recruiting and retaining general practitioners in rural practice: systematic review and meta-analysis of rural pipeline effects

Despite increases in the number of general practitioners (GP), there remains a shortage in rural areas, and in very remote areas, the number of GP services per capita is about half that of major cities.

The review included 27 eligible studies and determined that having a rural background is an important predictor of later rural practice. Increasing the odds of practicing in a rural location included living in a rural area for any period before the age of 18 years, rural undergraduate training, and post graduate experience.

Understanding the effects of the rural pipeline factors should inform strategies and national policies. While the Australian government funded programs to strengthen and support attraction and retention of primary care workers, the study suggests that the evidence of government interventions is limited.

[Find out more](#)

Racism in a Place of Healthcare: The Qualitative Case of a Rural Australian Hospital

Racial prejudice remains a serious access barrier to mainstream health services for many people. This article explores how racism manifests in a rural place of healthcare and recommends that critical interrogation of enduring racial tensions within rural Australian places is required to improve the quality of rural healthcare.

Semi-structured interviews were undertaken with residents living in north-east Victoria who were admitted to the hospital in the previous 12 months.

The study concluded that racism impacts accessibility and acceptance. Ensuring workforce diversity will increase the cultural safety of rural health services.

[Find out more](#)

Events

Indigenous Allied Health Australia 2020 National Conference

1-4 December 2020 (online)

[Find out more](#)

Consumers Health Forum Virtual Summit 2021 – Shifting Gears

18-19 March 2021 (online)

[Find out more](#)

5th Australian Nursing and Midwifery Conference 2021

6-7 May 2021

Newcastle

[Find out more](#)

Food for thought

The Productivity Commission says mental ill-health costs Australia billions – its time for a proper investment in making things better

<https://theconversation.com/the-productivity-commission-says-mental-ill-health-costs-australia-billions-its-time-for-a-proper-investment-in-making-things-better-150184>

Implications for Bachelor of Nursing programs when using student experience survey findings as an indicator of course quality

<https://www.ajan.com.au/index.php/AJAN/article/view/97/66>

Career Pathways for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce: Literature Review Report

<https://researchdirect.westernsydney.edu.au/islandora/object/uws:57799/datastream/PDF/view>

Career Pathways for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce: Secondary Data Workforce Report

<https://researchdirect.westernsydney.edu.au/islandora/object/uws:57798/datastream/PDF/view>

Lack of integration in Australia's health workforce: There are unconnected silos everywhere

[https://www.healthworkforce.com.au/media/Healthworkforce/client/4.%20Workforce Planning/2020_HWNA_Web.pdf](https://www.healthworkforce.com.au/media/Healthworkforce/client/4.%20Workforce%20Planning/2020_HWNA_Web.pdf)

Want to record your doctor's appointment? Great idea, but first, check it's legal

<https://theconversation.com/want-to-record-your-doctors-appointment-great-idea-but-first-check-its-legal-147747>

Availability and quality of publicly available health workforce data sources in Australia: a scoping review protocol

<https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/10/1/e034400>

Contact

We welcome your comments and contributions. Please contact us at

healthworkforce@health.qld.gov.au