

# Presentation Abstracts

## Theme 3: Collaboration in Allied Health

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**Abstract title:**     *Identifying the training needs of clinicians across a regional organisation*

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**Introduction:** Barwon Health is Victoria's largest regional health service with a workforce in excess of 6,000 people. There are many common attributes and capabilities required of the clinical workforce, regardless of profession or area of work. As the consumer demand for improved interprofessional working increases, training common learning needs together is a logical step in enhancing interprofessional relationships, collaboration and team work.

**Objective:**

- To describe the development of a tool to analyse the common clinical training needs across an entire health organisation.

**Methods/approach:** In 2015, Barwon Health's Clinical Education and Training unit developed an online interprofessional training needs survey based on the Health Workforce Australia National Common Health Capability Resource (2012). The survey asked clinicians to rate their capability using a descriptive 4-point scale across 41 items, and included provision to record comments relevant to discipline or area of work.

**Results/ practice implications:** 517 clinicians completed the survey, of which 173 were allied health sciences and therapies professionals. Preliminary data analysis reveals allied health clinicians rate their capability highest in the categories of handover, scope, communication and interdisciplinary working. They identified requiring the most training in the categories of conflict and working together, change and improvement, consumers and reflective practice.

**Conclusion:** The challenge of identifying the training needs of clinicians across a large organisation has led to the development of a robust survey tool. This tool is informing the planning of training activities by the Clinical Education and Training unit in 2016. Further work is needed to develop an interprofessional educational framework that describes training resources required to address these common capabilities.

**References:**

Health Workforce Australia. (2012). National Common Health Capability Resource: shared activities and behaviours in the Australian health workforce.

## **Biography**

Angela graduated with a Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) in 2007 and worked as a physiotherapist in Public Health in Melbourne and London prior to commencing work at Barwon Health in 2015. Her clinical expertise in the area of neurology and rehabilitation has inspired her interest in understanding how strong interprofessional working relationships may lead to enhanced patient outcomes. Angela is passionate about empowering allied health clinicians to fulfil their potential as health professionals and uses education as a tool to foster their development.