

Measuring the impact and responsiveness of the expanding SLIPAH (Simulated Learning in Paediatrics for Allied Health) Program across Queensland

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Background:

The SLIPAH framework is a model to provide transportable, standardised paediatric clinical training using simulation-based methods for allied health practitioners, from student to clinician. It embeds inter-professional paediatric education to improve access for regional, rural & remote students/practitioners, providing standardised clinical exposure for occupational therapists, physiotherapists and speech pathologists. Ongoing impact evaluation aims to facilitate refinement of the Program in terms of accountability, performance, responsiveness and dissemination of outcomes.

Method:

SLIPAH was embedded into 6 allied health Programs across 3 Queensland universities between 2011 and 2013, expanding in 2014 to 14 Programs across 6 state-wide universities. Collaboration with Queensland Health regional facilities to provide paediatric training to the workforce also increased.

Results:

E- Learning Registrations(2 packages approx. 2 hours each to complete)

2013:749 students, 605 workforce

2014:801 students, 630 workforce

Direct Contact Scenarios:

	Total		Students		Workforce	
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
Sessions	56	151	32 9%*	104 17%*	24 25%*	47 47%*
Numbers	1243	2289	1040 3%*	2154 12%*	203 38%*	135 55%*
Hours	2570	3745.25	2043 9%*	3106.5 13.5%*	527 70%*	638.75 65%*

*=Regional and remote

Discussion:

The data shows this is an efficient training model across the continuum and positive feedback on evaluation is mirrored in the uptake. The initial workforce demand was in the acute setting, with a high throughput. The focus then changed in response to paediatric capability requirements and SLIPAH provided targeted education to each centre. Expansion into all Queensland universities will continue with an aim to introduce SLIPAH to the 7th university and the remaining few Programs. Ongoing analysis and synthesis of the data will ensure effective response to the changing requirements of students & workforce. The aim is to provide a foundation to equip Queensland allied health professionals with the skills required for safe and equitable paediatric healthcare.

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