

# **Early intervention for lymphoedema - changing allied health practice through education**

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Early intervention for people at risk of, or with early stage lymphoedema has been shown to be effective. It was identified, that there was a need to increase the number of clinicians who could deliver early intervention approaches to patients. In response to this, the Health Education and Training Institute (HETI) has developed an accessible and sustainable training program to enable allied health professionals to obtain generalist skills and knowledge to provide high quality patient care to people of NSW living with lymphoedema. The program has two modules, an awareness module for all allied health and an intervention module for occupational therapists and physiotherapists.

The overarching aim of the project was to improve accessibility for people with secondary lymphoedema to timely and quality treatment in the NSW public health system from appropriately skilled clinicians in the right place, at the right time and by the right person. The online learning program was developed in consultation with a group of clinicians with expert knowledge in lymphoedema management and was paired with a state-wide implementation strategy to enable practice change “on the ground”.

This presentation will showcase this programs implementation and introduce PPS the ‘Patient, Public Health and Service driven model of education development’. This model illustrates how service need was addressed in order to bring about change in clinical practice to make a real difference to patient outcomes.