

# Impact of transdisciplinary advanced allied health practitioners within paediatric neurodevelopmental and behavioural clinics

Julie Creen  
Advanced Allied Health Practitioner  
Occupational Therapist

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service  
University of the Sunshine Coast

[Julie.creen@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Julie.creen@health.qld.gov.au)



# Research Aim



*To investigate the impact of a transdisciplinary advanced allied health practitioner (paediatrics) on the pathways for children referred to a paediatric outpatient service at the Sunshine Coast University Hospital and Health Service*

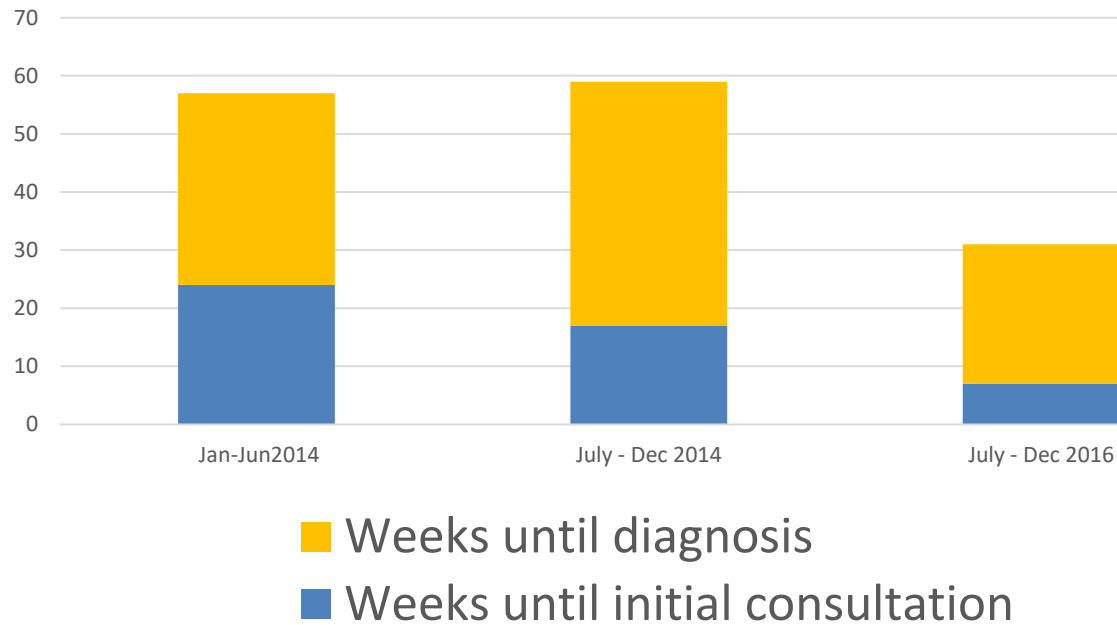
## *Data Collected*

1. Wait times from referral to first consultation
2. Wait times from referral to diagnosis
3. Clinical pathway
4. Clinical consistency

## *Participants*

- 225 children
- Aged 5-14 (mean 7)
- 2014 to 2017

# Wait Time



# Clinical Pathway

	<b>2014 N=75</b>	<b>2016 N=75</b>	<b>Mean N=150</b>
<b>AAHP only</b>	38 (50.7)	40 (53.3)	78 (52)
<b>AAHP &amp; SMO</b>	37 (49.3)	35 (46.7)	72 (48)

Clinical pathway	Chi Square test	$\chi^2 (2, N = 225) = 59.81, p < .000$
Time to diagnosis	Kruskal-Wallis H Test	$H(2) = 20.51, p < .000$
Time to initial consultation	Kruskal-Wallis H Test	$H(2) = 130.44, p < .000$

# Take home messages

- ★ Preliminary support for transdisciplinary advanced allied health practice supporting children in neurodevelopmental and behavioural outpatient clinics at tertiary and regional hospitals
- ★ Can reduce waiting times and streamline service delivery
- ★ Can reduce time to diagnosis and accessing early intervention
- ★ Dependent on team mix and individual clinicians skills
- ★ Organisational support required for ongoing training and education
- ★ Could be effective in other similar hospital services

*“Right person, right skills, right service”*

# Future research



- ✓ Parent and child experience of advanced allied health practice
- ✓ Clinical staff experience of working in a transdisciplinary model
- ✓ Clinical staff experience of advanced allied health practice

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