The National Best Practice Datasets – Are we there yet?

Presenter: Catherine Stephens

Co-author: Kristy Perkins

1 The Allied Health Professions’ Office of Queensland
2 West Moreton Hospital and Health Service
The beginning of the journey…

- **Allied Health Minimum Data Set (AHMDS)**
  - Unique client identifier
  - Sex
  - DOB
  - Indigenous status
  - Area of usual residence
  - Postcode
  - Telephone number
  - Interpreter services
  - Preferred language
  - Compensable status
  - Carer Availability
  - Date of admission (hospital)
  - Client type
  - Service provider
  - Party relationship
  - Referral Source
  - Treatment Setting
  - Indicator for Intervention
  - Diagnosis (ICD)
But it wasn’t long before we started thinking ……..

What additional information do we require to:
• better demonstrate the value of allied health care?
• identify the types of conditions that allied health practitioners treat and the interventions that provide the greatest benefit?
• better inform the allocation of allied health resources?
• better inform allied health costing and pricing?

And
• Could the advent of electronic medical records provide us with greater opportunities for data collection?
Developing a national allied health data set

Catherine Stephens, Mary Haire, Jan Erven

The National Allied Health eHealth Collaborative (NAHEHC) has commenced work on a national allied health dataset specification to enable consistent collection of allied health activity and clinical data.

The project builds on the National Allied Health Classification (CaseMix) Committee’s development of the Australian Allied Health Classification System (1997), including national allied health activity descriptors, the profession specific clinical interventions and an Allied Health Minimum Data Set. The Health Activity Hierarchy followed in 2001 and this data set is widely used across Australia to measure allied health activity.

With the move towards electronic clinical records, NAHEHC aims to refine this work and expand the data set to include clinical data items prior to seeking its endorsement as a national allied health data standard.

Benefits

The availability of standardised clinical data will:
- more accurately identify the cost of allied health services and their contribution to health outcomes
- inform clinical practice
- improve data sharing and benchmarking of services
- identify service providers for demand to facilitate workforce planning.

Work to date (see diagram)
- Reviewed existing activity and clinical datasets (AHMDS and jurisdictions)
- Developed high level clinical data elements
- Consulted stakeholders, with preliminary feedback indicating support for a nationally consistent clinical data set

Next Steps (initially within public sector)
- Further development of high level clinical data elements, their definitions and underlying values
- Development of profession-specific datasets
- Broad stakeholder consultation
- Submission to National Health Information Standards and Statistics Committee for approval as a national data standard

Challenges

- Addressing inconsistencies across existing data sets and data definitions
- Agreeing on common data needs across a broad range of allied health professions
- Implementing the dataset across the allied health workforce at a national level

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Developing a National Allied Health Dataset
Catherine Stephens
Jan Erven
ABF Conference 2015
Nationally consistent allied health data collection – the next steps

Presenter: Kristy Perkins¹

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¹The Allied Health Professions’ Office of Queensland
4 Draft National Best Practice Data Sets

- 3 x setting based NBPDSs
  - Allied health admitted patient care national best practice data set
  - Allied health non-admitted patient care emergency department national best practice data set
  - Allied health non-admitted patient national best practice data set

- 1 x ‘other’ NBPDS
  - Allied Health Non-Individual Patient Attributable and Non-Clinical Activity National Best Practice Data Set
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<td>Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY</td>
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Where we left off in 2017

The “to do” list
• Consultation
• Submission to NHISSC
• AIHW workplan
• Approval
And then!

• In December 2018, the AH NBPDS were endorsed by the National Health Data and Information Standards Committee.
• Became available on METeOR in February 2019.
The National Best Practice Data Sets!

Nationally approved and standardised data sets:

• Allied health admitted patient care national best practice data set
• Allied health non-admitted patient care emergency department national best practice data set
• Allied health non-admitted patient national best practice data set
• Allied health non-individual patient attributable and clinical support activity national best practice data set

• https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/345165
Are We There Yet?
The data sets are really just the beginning

- Code sets – development, trial and standardisation
- Means of collection (electronic medical records)
- Engagement with the private sector
- Inclusion in MHR
- Collation at local, and potentially jurisdictional and national levels
The data sets are a tool (not a burden!)

The data sets:
• are not mandatory
• can be used in part
• include data that can pulled from other sources
• can be used for short/defined periods of time
• provide the opportunity to collect standardised clinical data including outcomes
Acknowledgements

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- NAHDIN

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