

Building research capacity in allied health

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**Government
of South Australia**

SA Health

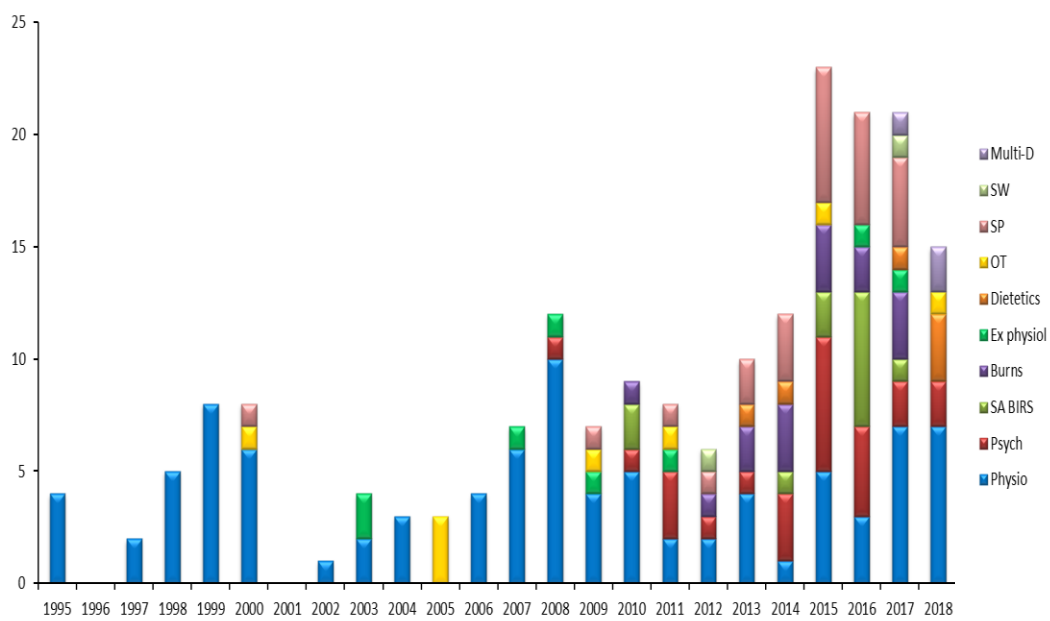
BACKGROUND

RAH Physiotherapy Department initiative:

- commenced in 1995.
- research coordinator role (12 hours/week).
- aimed at fostering clinical research, building research capacity within PT department.

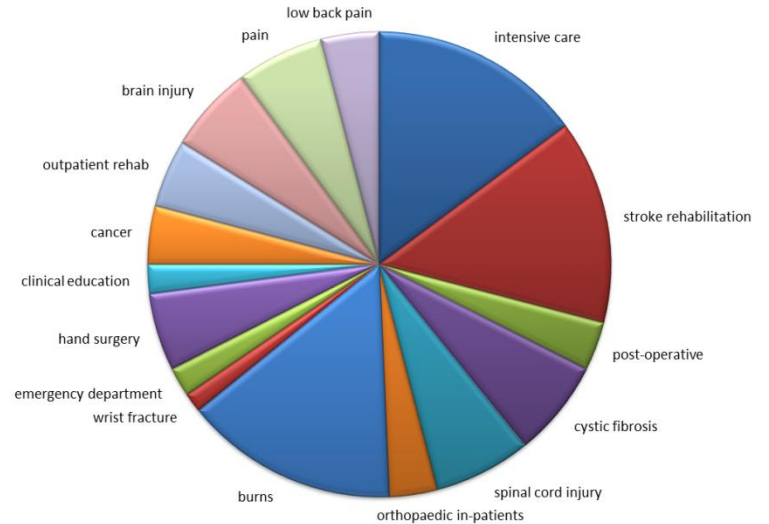
Expanded to all of AH, CALHN-wide:

- 2015 (12 hours/week).



~ 181 publications: 113 clinical, 20 lit reviews.
 Patient-centred, clinically relevant.
 Large number/variety of staff.
 Collaboration: hospital, university.
 Research degrees.

Difficulties: slow recruitment, resource issues,
 lack of career opportunities, level of research,
 over-reliance on KS.



LESSONS

- Appoint the right person.
- Focus on staff interested in research and high-volume areas.
- Simple research designs for novice researchers.

CONCLUSION

- Identifying a clinician with research interest/expertise and quarantining time to enable a research co-ordinating role successfully fostered clinically relevant research and built research capacity within PT and, arguably, AH departments.