
WORKSHOP ABSTRACT

Could greater uptake of the National Clinical Assessment Framework for children and young people in out-of-home care achieve better value health care?

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Background: The Commonwealth Department of Health's 2011 National Clinical Assessment Framework for children and young people in out-of-home care (OOHC) aimed to guide state and territory jurisdictions to develop appropriate policies to improve consistency of health care assessments and services, early detection of health problems, roles of clinicians and use of standardised assessment tools. The Framework also provided the first national guidance about the eligibility of children and young people in out-of-home care for planned, systematic health care subsidised under the Medicare Benefits Schedule.

A handful of Australian research studies have reported on clinical findings from systematic health assessments of small cohorts of the OOHC population and some have analysed the timeliness of assessment processes. However, to our knowledge there has been no research or evaluation in relation to the diffusion, dissemination or implementation of the Framework or its utility or scalability for supporting better value health care.

Aims and Objectives: This roundtable aims to explore experiences in dissemination and uptake of the Framework and identify research and evaluation questions which might usefully be carried forward.

Target Audience: The intended audience includes all those with an interest in better value health care for vulnerable populations, paediatric care, implementation science, integration of health and social care, health policy and health policy and services research.

Learnings/Take away: Participants will be able to share information about activities in different jurisdictions which incorporate or could potentially use the Framework, explore barriers and enablers and collectively identify ideas for future dissemination and implementation. Questions may also be framed for future research.

Preferred length: 90 minutes

Format: Speakers/ small group facilitators:

- Mick Geary, CEO Banyule Community Health, Victoria
- Craig Hocking, Senior Program Advisor, Department of Health & Human Services Victoria
- Ryan Mills, Clinical Chair, Child Protection Clinical Partnership, Queensland Health (roundtable chair)

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- Helen-Louise Usher, Partnerships Manager, Queensland Children's Hospital

- Susan Webster, Honorary Research Fellow, University of Melbourne

5-minute presentations will briefly summarise key learnings from research and current practice. Presentations will provoke structured small-group and plenary discussions around specific questions.

Dr Ryan Mills: Overview of the National Clinical Assessment Framework for CYP in OOHC, its relationship to better value health care and implementation experiences captured in Australian research. Discussion: Would these Framework implementation experiences be similar in your organisation/ area/jurisdiction? What factors contribute to this situation?

Helen-Louise Usher: Framework dissemination with GPs; barriers and enablers. Discussion: What other methods have been or could be used to disseminate the Framework? To paediatricians, psychologists and clinical nurses? What are your views on the clinical roles described in the Framework?

Craig Hocking: Embedding the Framework in an area-based integrated care initiative in a rural/regional setting; how many different people need to reach agreement? Discussion: Who has a stake in the Framework? Who needs to be more involved in dissemination, implementation and evaluation?

Mick Geary: Embedding the Framework in a large community health service; barriers and enablers. Discussion: How much can one organisation do without area/state/national support?

Susan Webster: Research and evaluation questions arising from roundtable discussions.