

SECURING AN INTERPROFESSIONAL FUTURE

FOR AUSTRALIAN HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND PRACTICE – THE SIF PROJECT

WHERE DID WE START?

Australian interprofessional education for collaborative practice is changing

From its historical position on the edges of the curriculum, interprofessional education for collaborative practice (IPE) is increasingly identified as essential for the achievement of collaborative practice capabilities central to safe, effective, patient-responsive and sustainable health services. However, within the Australian higher education and health contexts there has been no structure, process or arrangements to bring all key stakeholders together to sustainably improve and develop Australian interprofessional education and interprofessional and collaborative practice (IPCP).

SIF AIMED TO CHANGE THIS

Establishing a national approach to IPE governance and development

Building on the findings of Australian research conducted over the last ten years, and working in collaboration with many key national bodies from all relevant sectors, the SIF Project has sought to establish an enduring national, inclusive and system-wide framework and approach to the governance and further development of Australian IPE (Figure 1).

Figure 1. National Interprofessional Education for Collaborative Practice Governance and Development Framework

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

Progress to date (Final report, 2020)

1. Finalising an Australian Interprofessional Education for Collaborative Practice Governance and Development Framework will guide future development.
2. Establishing two leadership elements of the Governance and Development Framework:
 - A national auspicing group, the 'Collaborating Organisations'. This group comprises the Australian and New Zealand Association for Health Professional Educators, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association, and the Consumers Health Forum of Australia.
 - A second and more operationally focused collaboration, the 'National Advisory Group on Interprofessional Education for Collaborative Practice', is in the process of formation. This will include organisations and individuals with expertise in various aspects of interprofessional education and collaborative practice.
3. Finalising a 'National Work Plan' that will reflect key interprofessional directions and tasks that have been identified across a broad range of Australian studies and consultations.

4. Establishing an Australasian Knowledge Repository for IPE and IPCP. The Australian and New Zealand Association for Health Professional Educators is managing this development.
5. A literature review and discussion paper with recommendations on how the concept and practice of 'governance' is and may be used in the future to enhance the development of Australian IPE.

WHERE TO FROM HERE?

During the rest of 2019, information dissemination will address:

- IPE development goals
- How the National Advisory Group will work
- How organisations and individuals can become involved

WANT TO KNOW MORE NOW?

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