Australian health libraries’ contributions to hospital accreditation: results of a national research project

Project team
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Outline

1. What is the HeLiNS research project?
2. Progress to date
3. Preliminary results
4. Next steps
HeLiNS

Health Libraries for the National Standards ALIA research grant 2016 awarded to:
  • Health Libraries Australia
  • Health Libraries Inc.

Purpose: to explore and record the contribution that health libraries make to the achievement of hospital accreditation.
HeLiNS Project Team

• Project Coordinators: Ann Ritchie & Michele Gaca
• Study 1 Leader: Gemma Siemensma
• Study 2 Leader: Jeremy Taylor
• Project Officer: Cecily Gilbert

National Reference Group

• 13 members representing all states & territories
Objectives

1. Explore ways in which health libraries assist their organisations in achieving accreditation

2. Design expert searches that will assist organisations in keeping current with the latest research-based literature (evidence) pertinent to the NSQHS Standards

3. Assess the availability of resource materials referenced in NSQHS Standards documentation
Australian health library landscape 2016

1322 hospitals Australia-wide\(^1\)
  - 698 public / 624 private
  - 6 states / 2 territories

328 health libraries (95 in hospitals)\(^2\)
  - Metropolitan – regional – rural breakdown
  - Size matters: L, M, S

1250 health library workforce\(^2\)

1. AIHW 2015
2. ALIA HLA Census 2014
National Safety & Quality Health Services
Methods

Two component studies:

Study 1
Survey of hospital libraries asking how they contribute to their hospitals’ accreditation

Study 2
Assessment of availability of resource materials referenced in NSQHS Standards documentation
Progress to date

✓ Established National Reference Group
  ✓ Conducted monthly teleconferences on strategy & methodology

✓ Completed Study 1, part 1 – survey

✓ Completed Study 2, part 1 – data analysis

✓ Provided initial quarterly report to ALIA (funding body)
Study 1: preliminary results

- 67.37% response rate (64 of a possible 95\(^1\))
- All states represented
- Metropolitan (63%), regional (32%), rural (5%)

1. ALIA HLA Census 2014
Activities supporting Standards

Traditional library services
• Lit searches (n=25)
• Collection management (n=20)
• Training (n=19)
• Doc Del (n=19)
• Alerts (n=16)

Multiple mentions
• Research support
• Reference
• LibGuides
• Dedicated subject guides for each standard
• Evidence summaries
Governance for Safety and Quality in Health Service Organisations

Standard 1

Notable activities

* A range of library services - eg Guidelines, policies, procedures relating to governance documentation
* Digital Repository for reporting of research.
Notable activities
* Consumer Engagement Program sits under the Library & Literacy Department – includes WISE program (Written Information Simply Explained)
* Health Literacy Champions Program (6 modules)
* Patient information delivered via Patient Portal
* Words for Wellbeing Program (public library partnership)
Preventing and Controlling Healthcare Associated Infections

Standard 3

Notable activities
* Dedicated Hand Hygiene search filters in JBI and CINHAL
Medication Safety
Standard 4

Notable activities
* Hospital wide survey on use of medication resources
* Host the state wide antimicrobial tool in library’s Digital Repository
Patient Identification and Procedure Matching
Standard 5

Notable activities
* Working on animated tool with Quality Department – will be launched in May
**Clinical Handover**

*Standard 6*

**Notable activities**

*Helped create eLearning package on Clinical Handover for the organisation’s LMS*
Blood and Blood Products
Standard 7
Preventing and Managing Pressure Injuries

Standard 8

Notable activities
* Dedicated Pressure Injuries and search filter in JBI & CINAHL
Recognising and Responding to Clinical Deterioration in Acute Health Care

Standard 9

Notable activities
*Working with Advanced Care Planning Team on information literacy project
Preventing Falls and Harm from Falls
Standard 10

Notable activities:
* Falls prevention display during Falls Week
* Dedicated Falls Injuries search filters in JBI & CINAHL
Study 2: Methodology

Asked respondents to assess the availability of resource materials in NSQHS Standards documentation (306 references).

Population = 95 hospital libraries in Australia\(^1\)

Sample stratified proportionately within 8 states/territories by size (S,M,L) and location (metro/rural/regional):
→ 54 libraries invited to participate
→ 32 responded, approx = 60% RR

\(^1\) HLA Census 2014
Study 2 sample: Libraries stratified by state

![Graph showing library services and data submitted by state.]

- **Total no. library services**
- **Invited to study**
- **Data submitted**
State-wide portals provide between 25% and 80% of references. Less than 50% references are available on OA.
Comparison of models: national and state

Number of citations available from libraries (average) and state portals (total)

[Bar chart showing the comparison between national and state models for various states and portals.]
Next steps

Study 1 (part 2)
• In-depth case studies (interviews) to explore some of the notable examples

Study 2 (part 2)
• Expert search strategies

Implications for hospital libraries
• We can't guarantee uniform access to NSQHS resources across Australia – this is a barrier to maintaining and improving the quality of care.