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
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
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
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
Standard 1: Governance for safety and quality in health service organisations

Notable activities

* A range of library services - eg Guidelines, policies, procedures relating to governance documentation
* Digital Repository for reporting of research.
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

![Bar chart showing library services and data submitted by state](chart.png)

- Total library services: 95
- Invited to study: 54
- Data submitted: 32

Legend:
- Blue: Total no. library services
- Red: Invited to study
- Green: Data submitted

States:
- NSW
- VIC
- QLD
- WA
- TAS
- ACT
- SA
- NT
State-wide portals provide between 25% and 80% of references
Less than 50% references are available on OA
Comparison of models: national and state
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

✓ Study 2, part 2 - Proposal for expert searches

✓ Provided 3 quarterly reports to ALIA (funding body)
Next steps

Study 1 (part 2)
Collating the 6 in-depth case studies post interviews:
• Health Literacy Champions Program
• Digital Repository for reporting research output
• Words for Wellbeing Program (public library partnership
• Dedicated search filters in JBI and CINAHL
• Hosting of a state-wide antimicrobial tool
• Hospital-wide survey on the use of medication resources

Study 2 (part 2)
• Collating a list of expert search strategies to be tested independently
Search topics

- Pressure injuries in hospitals
- Falls prevention
- Medication safety
- Deteriorating patient
- Blood transfusions
- Wound management
- Clinical handover