

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION AIC 2016: #96

1. Title:

Development of the Translating Allied Health Knowledge (TAHK) benchmarking tool

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3. Key words:

Knowledge translation, allied health, standard implementation measurement, benchmarking

4. Abstract text:

a. Background and aims

Benchmarking is an ongoing, systematic process for measuring and comparing work processes, which has been found to be an effective approach to improving quality and effectiveness in clinical health care. The Translating Allied Health Knowledge (TAHK) framework was initially proposed in 2013, as part of the first authors PhD study on knowledge translation in occupational therapy. It was developed from a comprehensive literature review of the knowledge translation literature in allied health, and was designed to highlight processes and practice characteristics rather than specific methods.

b. Methods

This presentation will describe the formulation of a benchmarking tool from the TAHK framework. The framework was initially piloted via consultation with a steering committee, and feasibility testing with clinicians. The psychometric properties of the resulting benchmarking tool was then undertaken with experts from all Victorian allied health training programs. Finally, the standardized benchmarking tool was distributed across Victoria to build a baseline of allied health knowledge translation activities in this locality, and explore their relationship to a range of organizational contexts.

c. Results

The results from each stage of this tools development will be presented, including quantitative and qualitative findings.

d. Conclusion

The TAHK benchmarking tool is the only measure currently available which addresses implementation processes and mechanisms across different contexts in allied health. The comprehensive process of development described in this presentation supports its broader adoption across allied health disciplines and services.