

Workshop 1: National Health Workforce Planning Approaches

A brief paragraph summary:

The workshop will outline the approach to national workforce planning adopted by the Australian Government Department of Health (Health). We will look at each of the variables that are used as inputs into the modelling of a sustainable health workforce into the future. This will be done through a step-through process unpacking each of the layers that are at play in the space of modelling a workforce and determining future needs. It will showcase:

- The online data tool that is available on the Health website enabling users to extract data on various regulated health professions and;
- The challenges of quantifying the non-regulated professions;
- Components that can be considered for needs based assessment.
- The national reform agenda of the workforce strategy in relation to allied health workforce implication, in particular NDIS and aged care.

The workshop will also include a breakout session to ascertain more local issues that will not be prominent at a national level such as political, economic, social and technological driver of demand which will look at current practices and then those aiming for best practice through simulation scenarios.

Main presenters/facilitators

Lynne Gillam, Assistant Secretary, Health Workforce Reform Branch, Department of Health
Maureen McCarty, Director, Workforce Data Analysis Section, Department of Health
Michelle Taitz, Assistant Director, Workforce Data Analysis Section, Department of Health

Biographies of the main presenters/facilitators

Maureen McCarty

Maureen McCarty has over 25 years' experience in health service delivery and workforce planning in both the public and private sectors. She is currently the Director of Workforce Data Analysis and Planning in the Commonwealth Department of Health, Health Workforce Division.

The area manages the National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS), online data tool and also produces all the Department's supply and demand studies, which include the Australia's Future Health Workforce Reports.

Prior to this Maureen worked as the managed the workforce planning program for Health Workforce Australia which produced Australia's first major, long-term national projections for the health workforce out to 2025.



Michelle Taitz

Michelle Taitz, Assistant Director Workforce Data Analysis Section, the Australian Government Department of Health has been involved in workforce planning and modelling the health workforce at a local, state and national level for the last 10 years. She currently oversees the analysis of supply and demand projections, the development of alternative scenarios and the provision of advice to policy makers and other stakeholders to inform decision making on a range of workforce matters.

Prior to Health Michelle worked at Health Workforce Australia where she developed techniques for workforce modelling activities and providing medium to long-term national workforce planning projections, including the use, development and future enhancement to the workforce modelling tool. Culminating in the release of Health Workforce 2025 series for Doctors, Nurses and Midwives in 2012.

She has a keen interest in developing methods to model multidisciplinary care required to support the changing paradigms of the Australian population.



Lynne Gillam

TBA