

Sexual health medicine

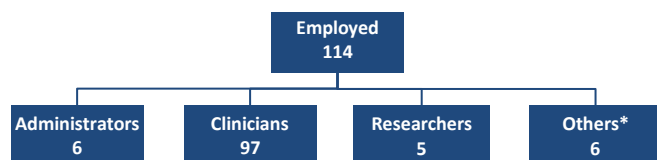
2016 Factsheet



Sexual health medicine is the specialised area of medical practice concerned with healthy sexual relations, including freedom from sexually transmissible infections (STIs), unplanned pregnancy, coercion, and physical or psychological discomfort associated with sexuality. A minimum of three years full-time advanced training through the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Australasian Chapter of Sexual Health Medicine is required to specialise in this area.

Workforce

In 2016, there were 114 sexual health medicine specialists employed in Australia, of whom 28.1% worked in the private sector. Over 85% of sexual medicine specialists who completed the 2016 National Health Workforce Survey indicated they were clinicians.



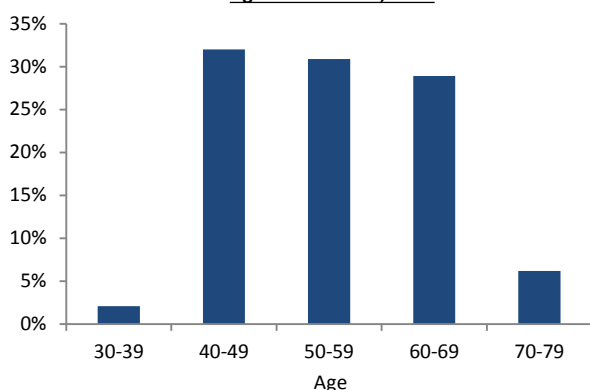
* Includes educators, teachers and roles reported by survey respondents that did not fit predefined survey categories.

Demographics of clinicians

Males represented 45.4% of clinicians in 2016 and had an average age of 56.3 years. Females represented 54.6% of clinicians and were on average 2.2 years younger than males.

Category	% of clinicians	Average age	Average hours per week
Male	45.4%	56.3	26.6
Female	54.6%	54.1	27.2
Clinician total	100.0%	55.1	26.9

Ages of clinicians, 2016



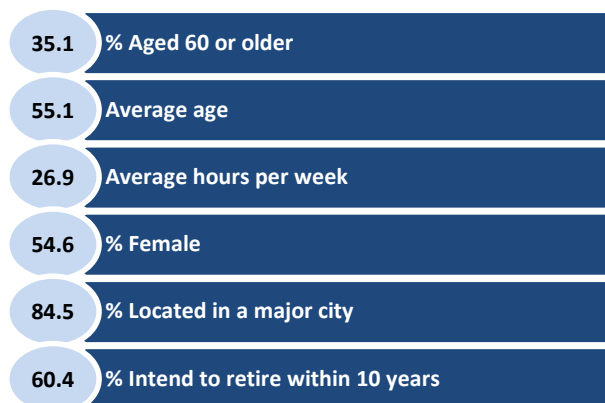
Distribution of clinicians

In 2016, the majority (84.5%) of clinicians were located in a major city or a location considered as MMM1 under the Modified Monash Model classification system.

Location of clinicians by remoteness, Modified Monash Model (MMM*)							
MMM category	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
%	84.5	8.3	6.2	-	-	1.0	-

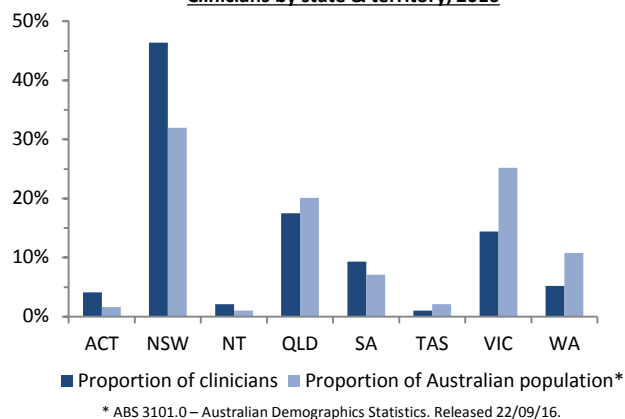
* Further information on the Modified Monash Model is available at doctorconnect.gov.au

Quick facts of clinician workforce



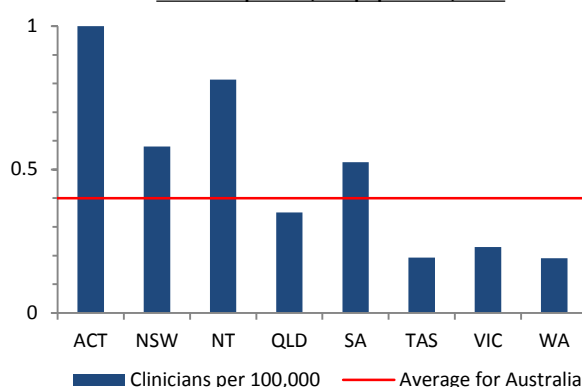
Nearly half of all sexual health medicine clinicians indicated their principle place of practice was located in New South Wales.

Clinicians by state & territory, 2016



The Australian Capital Territory had the highest ratio of clinicians in 2016 with 1.0 per 100,000 population. The Northern Territory had the second highest ratio with 0.8 per 100,000 population.

Clinicians per 100,000 population, 2016



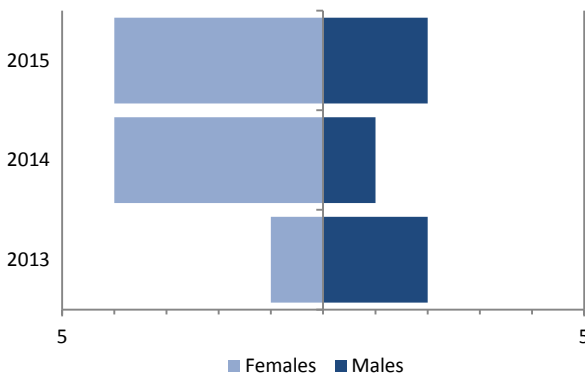
New fellows

The number of sexual health medicine new fellows in 2015(6) was double the number in 2013(3). The number of overseas trained new fellows who obtained their specialist qualification outside of Australia in 2015(4) was four times higher than the number in 2013(1).

Number of new fellows, 2013-15			
	2013	2014	2015
Trained in Australia	2	3	2
Overseas trained	1	2	4
Total	3	5	6

In 2015, 66.7% of new fellows were female.

New fellows by gender, 2013-15



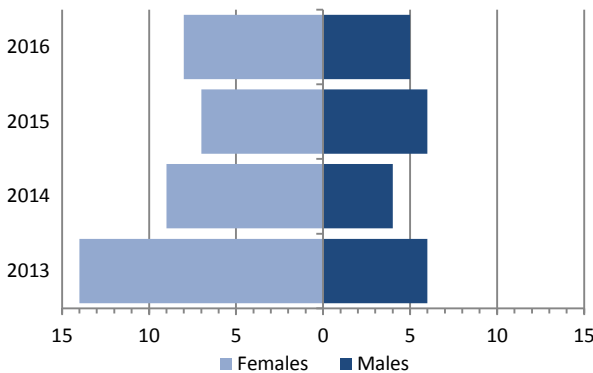
Vocational training

Female trainees outnumbered male trainees in every year between 2013 and 2016. During this period, the total number of trainees decreased by 35.0%.

Trainee numbers, 2013-16

Year	Females	Males	Total
2013	14	6	20
2014	9	4	13
2015	7	6	13
2016	8	5	13
Change 2013-16 (%)	-42.9%	-16.7%	-35.0%

Vocational trainees, 2013-16

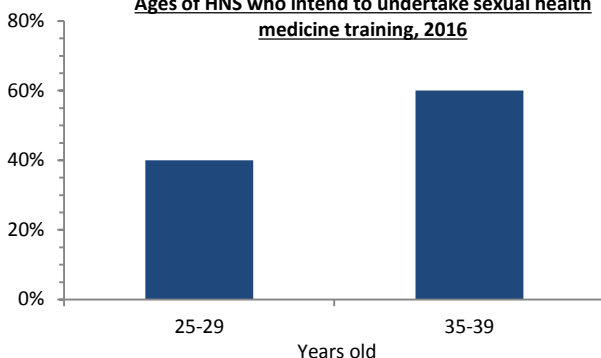


Vocational intentions

In 2016, there were 5 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS*) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in sexual health medicine. They were aged between 25 and 39 years old.

* A HNS is a medical practitioner employed in a salaried position mainly in a hospital. They do not hold a specialist qualification and are not training to obtain one. They include career medical officers, hospital medical officers, interns, principal house officers, resident medical officers and registrars.

Ages of HNS who intend to undertake sexual health medicine training, 2016



Workforce dynamics indicator*

The workforce dynamics indicator highlights areas of concern in the future. The indicators measured and their current status is highlighted in the table below.

Note: The workforce dynamics indicators are for workforce assessment purposes only and are not intended to guide future training numbers.

* Further information on the workforce dynamics Indicator is available at health.gov.au



Indicator	Description	Status
Ageing of workforce	Workforces with higher average ages are more susceptible to higher exit rates due to retirements.	Orange circle
Replacement rate	This measure indicates whether trainee numbers are sufficient to replace the numbers leaving the workforce.	Green circle
Reliance on Overseas Trained Specialists (OTS)	Workforces with high proportions of OTS are of concern because they depend on a supply stream affected by immigration policies that change.	Red circle
Duration of training program	This measure indicates how long it takes to train a replacement workforce.	Orange circle

References

- 1) National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS): Medical Practitioners 2016.
- 2) Australian Medical Association (AMA) Career Pathways Guide.
- 3) Medical Education and Training Report 1st edition (Unpublished).
- 4) ABS 3101.0 – Australian Demographics Statistics. Released 22/09/16.
- 5) National Medical Training Advisory Network (NMTAN) – Prevocational Doctor Factsheet Methodology Paper.

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