



Multidisciplinary teams:
Uniting for Better Care

**Pathways to Progress:
Healthcare Access in Rural Victoria**

Abstract title: Can a podcast increase a clinicians understanding of the key components needed for working collaboratively in a mobile allied health workforce?

Presented by: Jane Dow

Authored by: Jane Dow, Renee De Wit

Working collaboratively has been proven to show direct results that improve the quality of healthcare and clinician work satisfaction. Working in the community poses challenges to working in a traditional model of collaboration, however by exploring the key components of interprofessional practice with our team we aim to strengthen our collaborative culture.

This presentation will explore whether the delivery of education, via a podcast platform, can be an effective way of improving the perceived value of collaborative care and increase a clinician's understanding of the components that make up good interprofessional practice. We used a mix methods design, using qualitative and quantitative methods via a survey. The survey was distributed to experienced allied health clinicians (>5 years) working for one organisation across 5 regional Victorian towns and their surrounding catchment areas, prior to listening to the podcast and after.

Acknowledging the activity's limitations the preliminary data suggests providing education via a podcast platform may be a useful, low-cost way to promote working collaboratively in a mobile allied health workforce

How this relates to rural healthcare access in Victoria:

Increasingly clients in the community are being serviced by multiple teams, multiple clinicians in varied environments. The World Health Organisation in 2010 has called for healthcare providers to improve how they work together collaboratively. Rural and regional clinicians face unique challenges in being able to work collaboratively, and may have restricted access to ways to improve collaborative care. This novel way of delivering education regarding collaborative practice frameworks, and may be a way to start conversations about how they may develop a better understanding within their own organisations to foster a collaborative practice culture and skills.