Abstract title: Delivery of a Multidisciplinary Psychiatry Education Program for an MMM 5 Health Service

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West Wimmera Health Service provides high-quality hospital care, residential aged care, disability services and community health facilities to more than 16,000 people in the West Wimmera region. The West Wimmera Health Service's main hub is in Nhill, classified as MMM5 under the Modified Monash Model. This site has 33 acute hospital beds,26 aged care hostel and nursing home beds (including specific aged care dementia and psychogeriatric care), specialist hospital surgery and a dental clinic.

Since January 2023, Associate Professor Hieu Pham (Mildura Base Public Hospital and Deputy Director of Monash Rural Health North West Victoria Regional Training Hub) and psychiatric nurse Erin Fisher, have worked with Cheree Schneider (Executive Director of Clinical Services at West Wimmera Health Service), to deliver a program to the multidisciplinary staff, including the heads of all departments, nursing and allied health staff and executive (non-clinical) from the West Wimmera Health Service focused on medicine of the mind (psychiatry) and build literacy to support and empower the health service's capability with mental health. Increased mental health services were identified as an area in most need of improvement in Hindmarsh Shire in the community's health and wellbeing profile, produced by the West Wimmera Health Service in 2021.

The program is delivered over Zoom every four to six weeks and a twice yearly face-to-face session. The program is also open to any local GPs to attend. The program has worked to build capacity in the whole community and reduce stigma, and participants' feedback is overwhelmingly positive.