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INTRODUCTION TO THE AUSTRALIAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

PROFESSOR KATHY EAGAR

DATE
1 May 2015
AHSRI, Innovation Campus, University of Wollongong

COST
$418 inclusive of GST

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This one day course will introduce participants to key aspects of the organisation, funding and governance of health services in Australia. It will outline the role of the Commonwealth and State governments and consider the roles of both the public and private sectors.

Aspects of recent health system reforms will be briefly considered. These include activity based funding of public hospitals, public reporting of health system performance and the redevelopment of the primary care sector. The interface with the aged care and disability sectors will be considered as well as contemporary controversial issues including GP co-payments and paying for performance.

SUITEABLE FOR
Clinicians, managers, researchers and others interested in public policy who need to have a basic understanding of the organisation, funding and governance of the Australian health system.
LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course participants will be able to:

1. Describe and understand the key aspects of the organisation and governance of health services.
2. Describe and understand key aspects of the funding of health services.
3. Describe and understand key aspects of the 2013 national health reform agreement and how it has been implemented.
4. Discuss contemporary controversial issues relating to the organisation and funding of health care.
FUNDING AND GOVERNANCE OF THE AUSTRALIAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

PROFESSOR KATHY EAGAR

DATES
8-9 October 2015
Sydney Business School, Circular Quay

COST
$880 inclusive of GST

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This two day course will explore key aspects of the organisation and funding of health services. Day one of the course will introduce participants to key aspects of the organisation, funding and governance of health services in Australia. The role of the Commonwealth and State governments will be considered as well as the roles of both the public and private sectors.

Aspects of recent health system reforms will be briefly considered on day one. These include activity based funding of public hospitals, public reporting of health system performance and the redevelopment of the primary care sector. The interface with the aged care and disability sectors will be considered as well as contemporary controversial issues including GP co-payments and paying for performance.

These issues will be explored in more detail on day two. Casemix classification and payment models and their national implementation will be described and explored in detail. In addition, national approaches to measuring patient outcomes and to the public reporting of performance will be discussed.

SUITABLE FOR
Clinicians, managers, researchers and others interested in public policy who need to have a basic understanding of the organisation, funding and governance of the Australian health system.
LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course participants will be able to:

1. Understand the key aspects of the organisation and governance of health services.
2. Understand key aspects of the funding of health services.
3. Understand key aspects of the 2013 national health reform agreement and how it has been implemented.
4. Describe the key casemix classifications used in Australia and how they are used in activity based funding models.
5. Understand national approaches to measuring patient outcomes and to the public reporting of performance will be discussed.
6. Discuss contemporary controversial issues relating to the organisation and funding of health care.

LECTURER

PROFESSOR KATHY EAGAR

kathyeagar@optusnet.com.au

Professor Kathy Eagar is Professor of Health Services Research and Director of the Australian Health Services Research Institute (AHSRI) at the University of Wollongong Australia.

Kathy has over thirty years’ experience in the health and community care systems, during which she had divided her time between being a clinician, a senior manager and a health academic. She has authored over 350 papers on management, quality, outcomes, information systems and funding of the Australia and New Zealand health and community care systems. AHSRI has a team of over 50 researchers covering 19 disciplines and includes eight research centres including the Centre for Health Service Development (CHSD), the Australasian Rehabilitation Outcomes Centre (AROC), the Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration (PCOC) and the National Casemix and Classification Centre (NCCC).

In 2008 Kathy was awarded an honorary fellowship of the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Royal Australasian College of Physicians and in 2010 she was awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association in recognition of a significant, long-term contribution to the Association as well as to healthcare in Australia.
INNOVATIVE TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES FOR QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

DR HELEN HASAN

DATE
20 April 2015
AHSRI, Innovation Campus, University of Wollongong

COST
$418 inclusive of GST

COURSE DESCRIPTION
All good research aims to be 'scientific' using methods that are rigorous and acceptable to collect and analyse data. Best known of the qualitative methods involves conducting, transcribing and coding interviews, possibly using Nvivo, often using a grounded theory approach to developing themes that contribute to our understanding of the phenomenon of study. Aided by computer applications there are now many more efficient ways to collect and analyse qualitative data and, with the expansion of Internet, existing collections of 'big data' is everywhere. This workshop will introduce participants to a range of computer aided techniques for collecting and analysing quantitative data such as Q methodology, automated content analysis with Leximancer, data capture applications, idea categorisation and concept modelling tools. The emphasis will be on where such techniques are best utilised and how to effectively apply them.

SUITABLE FOR
This workshop will suit researchers wanting to expand their knowledge of qualitative methods. It can be undertaken as a short course without assessment (Certificate of Attendance applies) or as an accredited unit as part of the Masters of Public Health offered by the Menzies School of Health Research.
LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. To appreciate the importance of choosing appropriate research methods for the study of phenomena where traditional quantitative approaches are not suitable or possible.

2. To examine the variety of quantitative data collection and analysis methods and understand their suitability for the study of different types of phenomena.

3. To acquire basic skills in the application of quantitative data collection and analysis using a range of computer aided techniques such as Q methodology, automated content analysis with Leximancer, data capture applications, idea categorisation and concept modelling tools.

LECTURER

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR HELEN HASAN

hasan@uow.edu.au

Dr Helen Hasan is Associate Professor of Information Systems (IS) and currently a member of the Australian Health Services Research Institute at the University of Wollongong. She has published extensively in IS and related areas of Human Computer Interaction and Knowledge Management using frameworks based on Complex and Activity Theories. At the university Helen manages a Usability Laboratory (ATUL) and the Social Innovation Network who’s ‘Grey’ and ‘Green’ Themes dominate her current interests. One of her ‘grey’ projects investigates the use of IT by the elderly for their social wellbeing. Her ‘green’ theme takes a holistic approach to IS support for sustainable development. Helen has led several government-funded, cross-institutional research projects and conducts industry-based consulting. She leads local, national and international special interest groups on Green IS. In 2012, Helen received the Vice–Chancellor’s Award for Research Student Supervisor of the year.
CASEMIX AND PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS FOR HEALTH SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION

MS JENNY McNAMEE AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JANETTE GREEN

DATES
10th & 11th August 2015
Sydney Business School Circular Quay

COST
$880 inclusive of GST

COURSE DESCRIPTION

DAY ONE
Overview of the incentives and challenges associated with the current health system environment and that impact on;

- Clinical operations policy.
- Organisational performance management.
- Financial management.

An outline and examination of the data available for use in analysis, and the selection of appropriate statistical analytical methods.

DAY TWO
For the key issues of health service operational and financial performance, and health policy, an examination of the following will be covered;

- Evaluation and measurement of performance.
- Identifying the factors that influence organisational outcomes.
- Modelling improvements using analytical methods.
- The translation of information into actions.
- The measurement of improvement or translation.
SUITABLE FOR

Hospital and Local Health District based business managers and service managers, performance analysts.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. To provide students an overview of the Australian health system and its flow-through implications for funding, performance management and local policy setting.

2. To equip students with the knowledge of the appropriate data set and analytical methodology for the evaluation and management of health services.

LECTURERS

MS JENNY McNAMEE

jmcnamee@uow.edu.au

Jenny joined the National Casemix and Classification Centre (NCCC) in September 2010. Her most recent management experience are in the areas of health system performance management, casemix/clinical costing and episode based funding in the NSW public health sector. For the 10 years prior to 2008, Jenny managed casemix and performance at Sydney Children’s Hospital. Here she developed a specialisation in paediatric casemix issues, and worked closely with Children’s Hospital’s Australasia in the establishment of a national performance and casemix benchmarking program and was involved in a number of paediatric casemix development activities. Jenny was responsible for the co-ordination of the 2012 AR-DRG Classification System Development Program, being managed on behalf of the University of Wollongong under contract to the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing.
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JANETTE GREEN
janette @uow.edu.au

Associate Professor Green, as Principal Research Fellow (Applied Statistics) at the Australian Health Services Research Institute, is the Director of the Centre for Applied Statistics in Health within AHSRI. She has extensive experience in classification development and has undertaken projects in costing, benchmarking, outcome measurement and program evaluation, utilising national and international data from a variety of sources, including primary health, disability, community care, emergency department, rehabilitation and palliative care. She has undertaken a substantial amount of work with assessment tools, particularly in the area of children with disabilities. She undertook the statistical analysis and class finding for all versions of the Australian National Sub-acute and Non-acute Patient Classification (AN-SNAP) and has developed casemix classifications in a number of other areas such as disability, mental health, ambulatory and sexual health care.

More recently she has managed a team of statisticians in a number of projects, including the development of Version 7 of the Australian Refined Diagnosis Related Groups (AR-DRGs), in conjunction with ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS Eighth Edition which was released for implementation in 2013. Her background is in mathematical statistics and she has taught a variety of statistics subjects at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and has conducted a number of workshops for health professionals on the use and interpretation of statistics. Green has international collaborations with Canada, Europe, the UK and the USA and is one of the three Asia Pacific representatives on the Executive Committee of Patient Casemix Systems International (PCSI).
HEALTH OUTCOMES: AN OVERVIEW AND INTRODUCTION

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JAN SANSONI

DATE
1 day course, specific date TBA
Please email juliedc@uow.edu.au to register an expression of interest
The course will take place in Canberra

COST
$418 inclusive of GST

COURSE DESCRIPTION
THE HEALTH OUTCOMES JIGSAW
This section of the course will provide a brief overview of both the Australian and international focus on health outcomes. Definitions and a health outcomes framework will be explored. The health outcomes focus will be discussed in relation to population health and health gain, quality improvement activities, best practice guideline development and benchmarking activities that may be undertaken by health and community care organisations. The consumer/client focus of health outcomes will be discussed. Practical exercises will be used and a case-study on “Whose Outcomes?” will be used to stimulate discussion and debate these issues.

SELECTING INSTRUMENTS AND MEASURES: SOME PRACTICAL EXAMPLES
The constructs of well-being, quality of life and health related quality of life will be reviewed through a range of practical exercises. Participants will be asked to complete some health related quality of life measures in order to discuss some of the practical and research issues that arise when using these instruments for patient/client based assessments. The typology of measures and indicators will be briefly examined as will the psychometric properties that apply to instruments (reliability, validity, responsiveness to change). The group will discuss issues that are relevant to the selection of measures and instruments used to ascertain health outcomes within the context of quality improvement and health service evaluation. Utility instruments used for cost utility analysis will be briefly discussed.
LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Explore the definitions, frameworks and research designs that are used to evaluate health outcomes at the individual, community, clinical and population health levels.

2. Discuss the constructs of well-being, quality of life, health-related quality of life and health status that are often used in health outcomes research.

3. Consider the criteria that are relevant to the selection of measures and instruments used to ascertain health outcomes within the context of quality improvement and health service evaluation.

SUITABLE FOR

Any individuals interested in widening their knowledge base on health outcomes evaluation.
MANAGING AND MEASURING HEALTH OUTCOMES

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JAN SANSONI, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR KATE SENIOR AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR BRUCE SHADBOLT

DATES
3.5 day course, specific dates TBA
Please email juliedc@uow.edu.au to register an expression of interest
The course will take place in Canberra

COST
$1760 inclusive of GST

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This three and a half day interactive workshop will provide an overview of both the Australian and international focus on health outcomes. The origins of this movement and its relationship to evidence based health care will be discussed. Definitions and frameworks to evaluate health outcomes at the individual, community, clinical and population health level will be explored. The relationship of the health outcomes approach to quality improvement and best practice activities, guideline development and service benchmarking activities that may be undertaken by health and community care organisations will be examined. The health outcomes focus will be discussed in relation to population health and health gain and health performance frameworks. Issues concerning the linking of health outcomes to resource allocation and health service funding will be examined.

The consumer/client focus of health outcomes will be discussed as will the constructs of well-being; quality of life and health related quality of life. Practical exercises and case studies will be used to help students identify relevant domains for health outcomes assessment and to identify indicators and measurement tools that can be used to assess health outcomes in a range of service settings. There will also be some focus on frameworks, indicators, measurement tools and assessment methods that may be particularly relevant to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, other cultural groups, and related health and community services.
Students will be asked to complete and to administer some commonly used surveys and rating scales (health status, health related quality of life, utility, well-being, functional skill and condition/disease specific measures) in order to discuss some of the practical and research issues that arise when using such instruments for patient/client based assessments. Issues concerning the construct of health implicit in such measures and the cultural applicability of these measures will be discussed. The typology of measures and indicators and the relevant application of various measures will be identified through practical exercises. The group will discuss criteria that are relevant to the selection of measures and instruments and in the undertaking of systematic reviews of instruments. The development of outcomes measurement suites for different health conditions will be examined.

Students will be introduced to the basic concepts applying to psychological measurement (reliability, validity, responsiveness) and discuss a range of qualitative and quantitative research designs and strategies that would be relevant to undertaking a health outcomes project in their field of interest. Research designs that can enable the translation of evidence into practice will be discussed.

**SUITABLE FOR**

This workshop will suit those who wish to receive a thorough grounding in the health outcomes approach. It can be undertaken as a short course without assessment (Certificate of Attendance applies) or as an accredited unit as part of the Masters of Public Health offered by the Menzies School of Health Research.
LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course participants will be able to:

1. Explore the definitions, frameworks and research designs that are used to evaluate health outcomes at the individual, community, clinical and population health levels.

2. Discuss the constructs of well-being, quality of life, health-related quality of life and health status that are often used in health outcomes research.

3. Consider the criteria that are relevant to the selection of measures and instruments used to ascertain health outcomes within the context of quality improvement and health service evaluation.

4. Discuss the different types of validity and reliability that may apply to standardised instruments and the importance of these psychometric criteria in selecting and evaluating instruments for health outcomes assessment.

5. Undertake a systematic review of a standardised health scale that has been used for outcomes assessment.

6. Explore the development of outcome measurement suites for a range of health conditions.

7. Discuss experimental designs that can enable the translation of evidence into practice.

8. Discuss the types of economic evaluation and the use of multi-attribute utility measures in undertaking economic evaluation of health interventions.

9. Discuss the cultural applicability of some commonly used measures for people from diverse cultural backgrounds. Discuss the development and application of health outcomes measurements for particular population groups, including indigenous Australians.

10. Describe the use and value of health status and health-related quality of life assessments for the Australian health system.

11. Discuss the value of health outcomes assessment for the Australian health system.
LECTURERS

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JAN SANSONI
janet.sansoni@grapevine.com.au
Associate Professor Jan Sansoni is the Director of the Australian Health Outcomes Collaboration (AHOC) at the Australian Health Services Research Institute at the University of Wollongong. The Collaboration provides research support to the health and community care industry by assisting individuals, services and government departments with outcomes evaluation of health care interventions services and programs. Jan Sansoni is a psychologist with a background in psychological measurement and program evaluation, and has substantial experience in health outcomes research and education. She has undertaken research consultancies for governments and the private sector in diverse areas which include aged care assessment, continence management, dementia, chronic disease management, hospital quality and safety, oncology, pharmaceutical evaluation, social isolation and women’s health. She has been an invited keynote speaker at international conferences in the United States of America, New Zealand and Hong Kong and many Australian health conferences.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR KATE SENIOR
ksenior@uow.edu.au
Kate Senior has a PhD in anthropology from the Australian National University. Her PhD involved a study of people’s understandings of health and illness and their relationships with their health services in a remote Aboriginal community in Arnhem Land. Kate was the leader of the youth health and well-being team at the Menzies School of Health Research, and before that was the coordinator of the public health program at Menzies School of Health Research and a lecturer in anthropology at Charles Darwin University. Kate currently works at the School of Health and Society in the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Wollongong.
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR BRUCE SHADBOLT
bruce.shadbolt@act.gov.au

Associate Professor Shadbolt is a leading epidemiologist/biostatistician in scientific methodology and the translation of clinical research into practice. He was one of the pioneers in establishing health outcomes research in Australia, co-convening the Australian Health Outcomes Conference series over 12 years from 1997-2008. This series significantly impacted on the direction of clinical research in Australia and internationally, as well as, started a dialog around the translation of this type of research into practice. Dr Shadbolt has worked tirelessly with numerous clinical areas and health services to establish a seamless environment for the generation of clinical research and the translation of sound clinical research evidence into practice. Areas of interest include neonatology, orthopaedics, gastroenterology, ophthalmology, oncology, rheumatology, endocrinology, pathology, haematology, mental health, and workforce well-being. He teaches evidence-based medicine at the Australian National University’s Medical School graduate program, and supervises various post graduate and medical student projects each year, many of which have resulted in significant improvements in patient outcomes and health service efficiencies.
TO REGISTER
OR LEARN MORE

For more information about the AHSRI Education Program


OR CONTACT

Registration Enquiries

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University of Wollongong,
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The University of Wollongong attempts to ensure the information contained in this publication is correct at the time of publication (February, 2015); however, sections may be amended without notice by the university in response to changing circumstances or any other reason. UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG CRICOS: 00102E.