

“Moments of Choice”:

Findings from an evidence review of trainings for healthcare workers to support dignified, equitable, inclusive, and stigma-free healthcare

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Background:

Access to stigma-free and person-centred care are commitments within Commonwealth and jurisdictional health strategies in Australia. However, how these commitments translate to capacity development for- and implementation by- the healthcare workforce is unclear.

Approach:

A rapid review was conducted as part of a larger project aimed to co-develop evidence-based resources that strengthen and support healthcare workers in delivering dignified, equitable, inclusive, and stigma-free healthcare. The rapid review was based on a published protocol and carried out in accordance with Cochrane guidelines (PROSPERO ID 596762). Peer-reviewed articles providing primary data on curriculum, capacity building, professional development, and trainings on inclusive and stigma-free care for healthcare workers in Australia, and published since 1 January 2018, met inclusion criteria.

Preliminary results:

The following databases were searched: Medline, Cinahl and Scopus. After removing duplicates, 3657 articles were left for abstract screening. Preliminary findings show that most studies represent metropolitan data, with less studies in rural and remote areas. Most trainings are educational, and in the fields of nursing, rehabilitation and mental health. Components of effective initiatives in changing attitudes and increasing awareness identified include community-involvement, use of a conceptual framework, contact strategies and testimonials, and interactive learning sessions.

Implications:

The findings from this rapid review provide evidence-based recommendations for the design of trainings for healthcare workers in providing dignified, equitable, inclusive, and stigma-free healthcare. Findings will help inform the tailoring of trainings to diverse contexts, by identifying components that strengthen the effectiveness of initiatives, as well as motivations and barriers among healthcare workers to provide dignified, equitable, inclusive, and stigma-and discrimination-free services. The review is useful for informing the development of training materials and educational resources to

strengthen inclusive and stigma-free health services in Australia, and has informed a co-design process to develop pilot training materials in regional NSW.

Disclosure of Interest Statement

The authors report no conflict of interest.