

Fearlessly Embrace the Research Adventure

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Background: "Fearlessly Embrace the Research Adventure" is a workshop designed to empower alcohol and other drug (AOD) nursing and allied health staff by demystifying research and highlighting its relevance in nursing practice. Recognising the pivotal role these professionals play in advancing healthcare through evidence-based practices, this interactive workshop aims to clarify the distinction between Quality Improvement (QI) and research while exploring the intricate world of ethics and governance in research.

Description of Model of Care/Intervention: The workshop aims to help nursing and allied health staff understand the importance of research in AOD services and patient outcomes. It will clarify the differences and similarities between QI and research and explain their objectives and methodologies. The workshop will also delve into the ethical considerations and regulatory frameworks that govern research activities, providing insights into the complex landscape of research ethics and governance.

Effectiveness/Acceptability/Implementation: Through practical strategies, training insights, and available resources, nursing and allied health staff will be equipped with the necessary tools to fearlessly navigate their research endeavours. The workshop will also highlight the potential of harnessing existing data for QI activities, demonstrating the value of utilising findings to drive improvements in patient care. By the end of the workshop, participants will gain a clearer understanding of the differences between QI and research and the critical role that ethics and governance play in these endeavours.

Conclusion and Next Steps: Nursing and allied health staff will be inspired to confidently embark on their unique research journeys, armed with the knowledge and resources to navigate challenges and contribute to evidence-based nursing practices. The presentation will empower participants to embrace research as an integral part of their professional identity and enhance patient care through informed decision-making and continuous improvement.

Implications for Practice or Policy: The workshop underscores the importance of integrating QI and research into clinical practice and policy development to drive improvements in healthcare delivery. By fostering a culture of research literacy and ethical conduct among nursing and allied health staff, AOD services can advance the evidence base for clinical interventions and ultimately improve patient outcomes on a broader scale.