MEDINFO23

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Nurses transforming digital health - *From idea to action!*

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Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association

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apna
Supporting nurses in primary health care

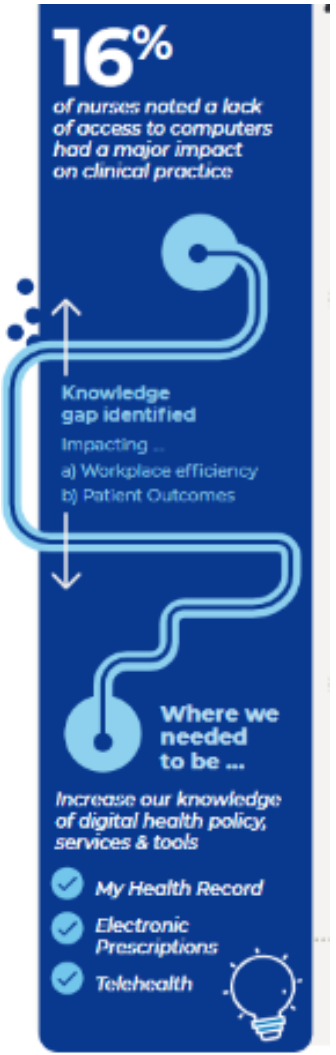
Australia's health workforce

- 450,000 nurses in Australia
- 96,000 work in primary health care settings

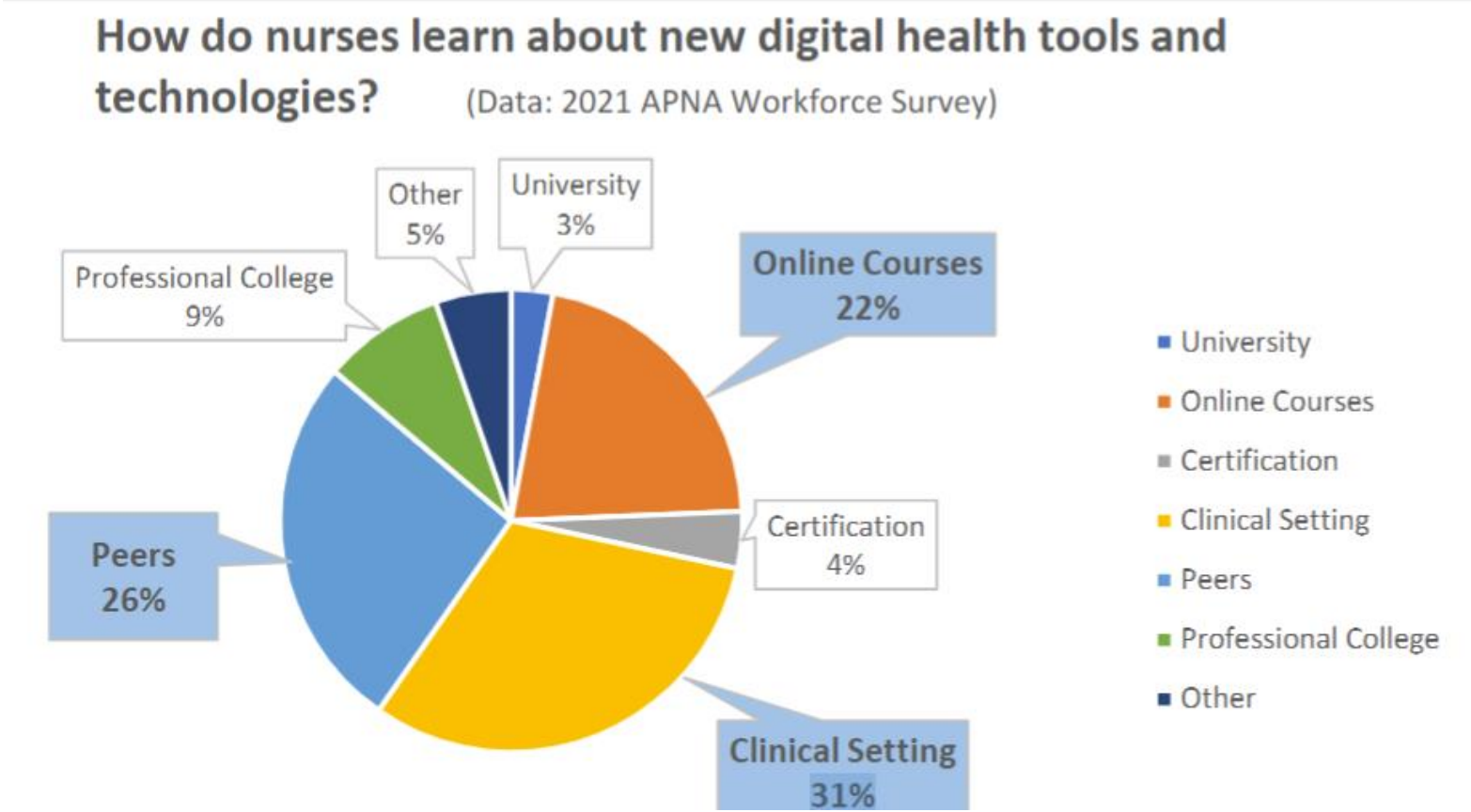
In the beginning …

- Digital knowledge gap identified*
  - ➔ Decreased workplace efficiency
  - ➔ Negative impact on patient outcomes
- Solution
  - Increase the use of digital health policy, services and tools in routine practice

*2019 APNA Workforce Survey



Learning styles …



Something had to be done …

APNA engaged nurses to become advocates and enablers; to educate and empower their peers, other health professionals and consumers.

APNA Digital Health *Nurse Transformers* is born!

- Educators
- Early adopters
- Change enablers

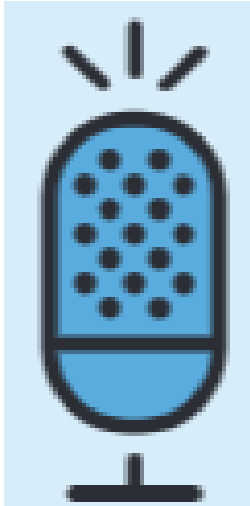
What we did #1 … Upskilled Nurses

- Presentation Skills training
- My Health Record training

✓ **Nurses empowered to lead, educate peers, and increase positive patient experiences**

What we did #2 … Created communication channels

- Community of Practice
- Nursing Australia podcasts
- Networking opportunities



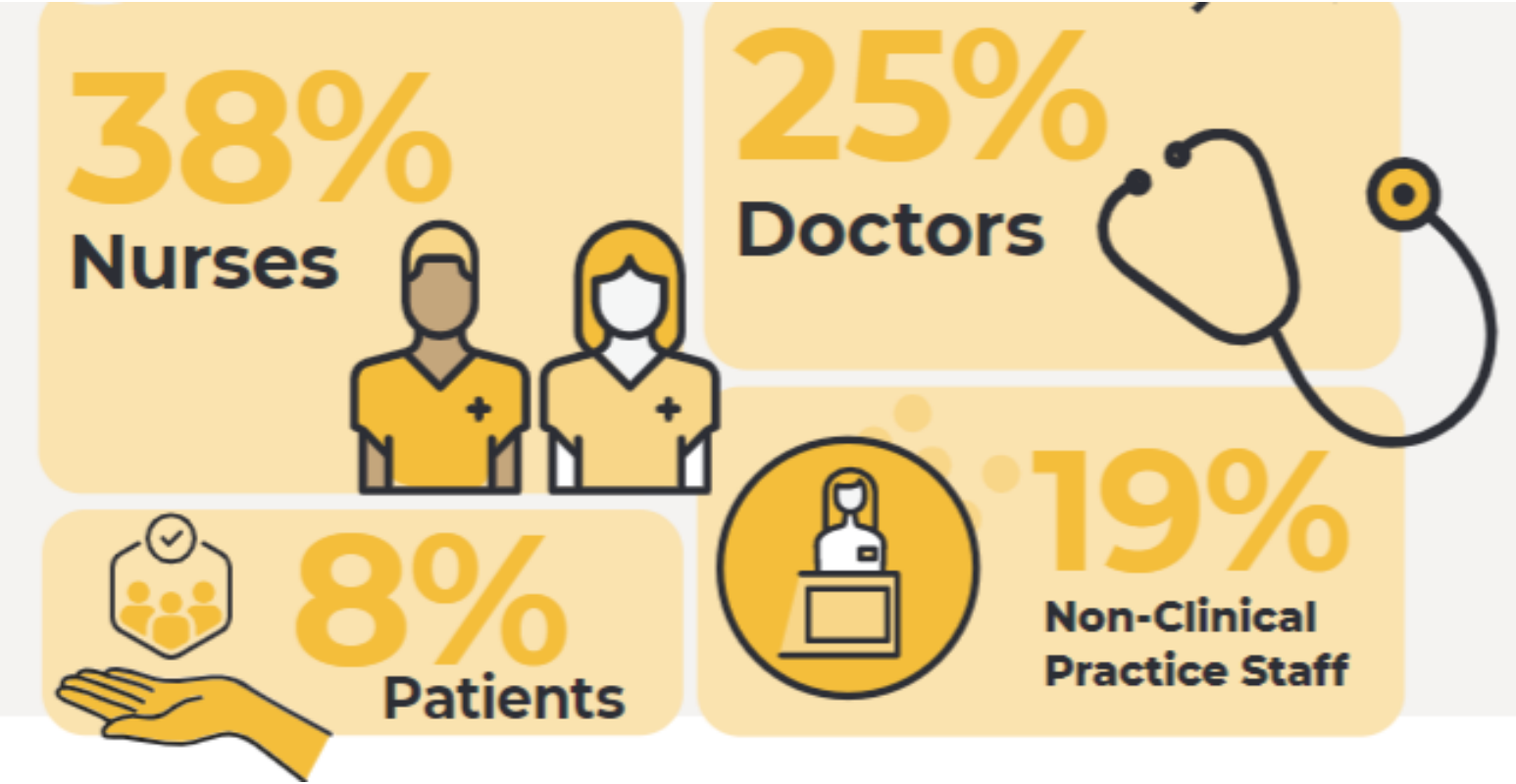
✓ **Increased understanding and application of digital health technologies**

What we did #3 … Raised the PHC nurse voice

- Professional advisory groups
- Career enabling framework
- National digital health events

✓ **Stronger Primary Health Care nursing representation**

Who we reached ...



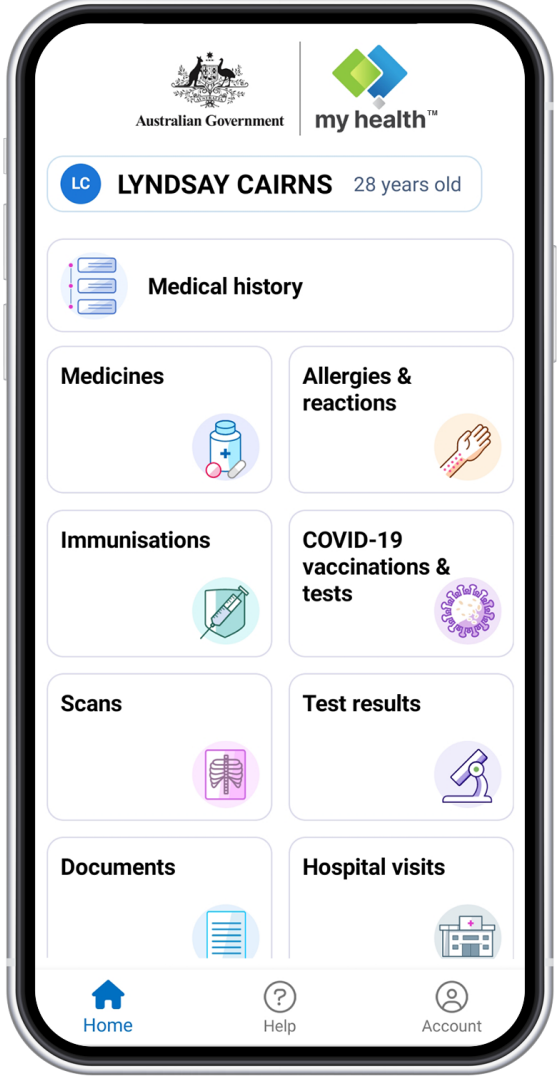
Where to next? …

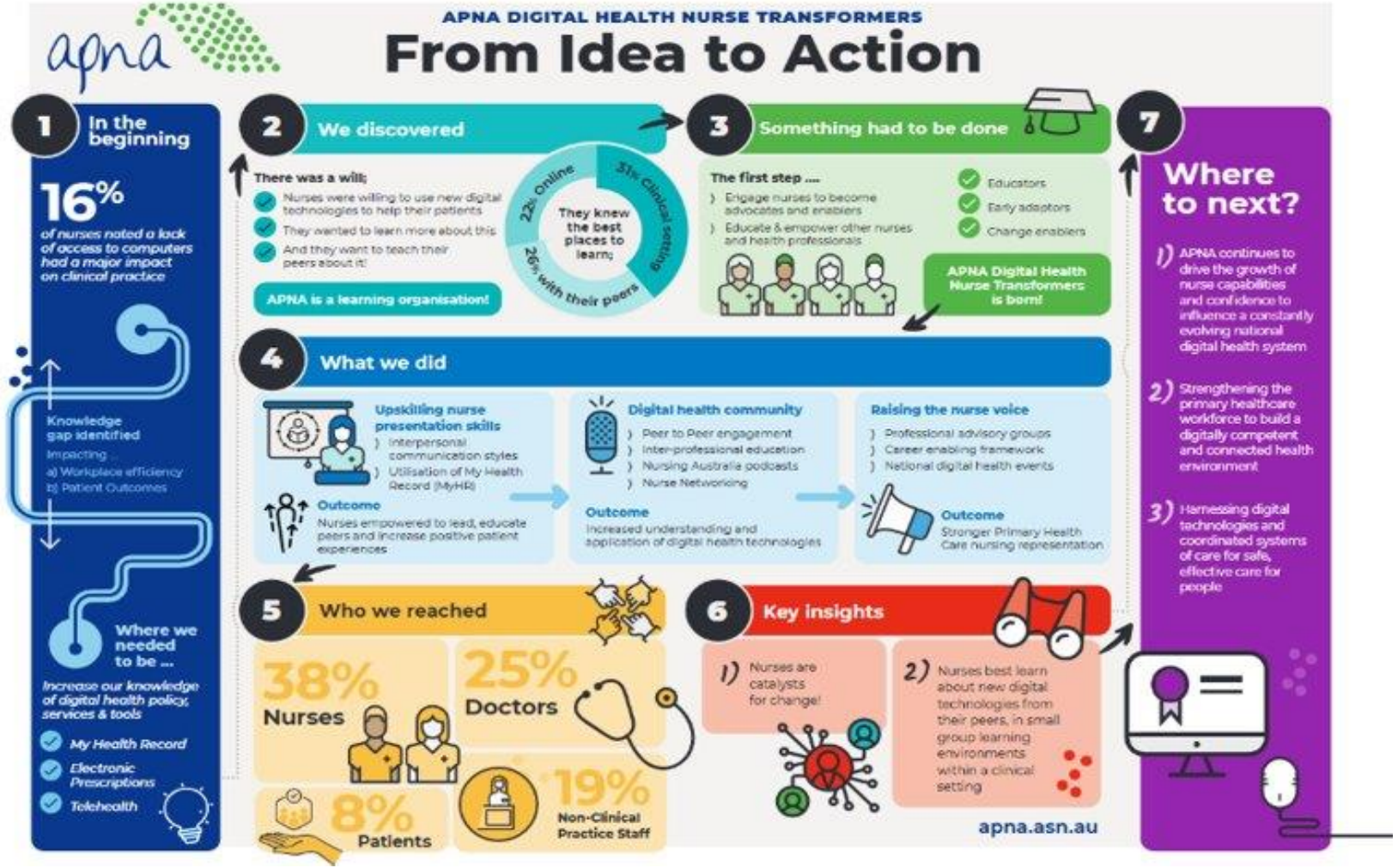
Nurses are catalysts for change!

Nurse Transformers project may have ended, but the ripple effect continues …

my health

Health information in the palm of your hand.




APNA DIGITAL HEALTH NURSE TRANSFORMERS
From Idea to Action
1 In the beginning
16%
of nurses noted a lack of access to computers had a major impact on clinical practice
Knowledge gap identified
Impacting ...
a) Workplace efficiency
b) Patient Outcomes
Where we needed to be ...
Increase our knowledge of digital health policy, services & tools
My Health Record
Electronic Prescriptions
Telehealth
2 We discovered
There was a will;
Nurses were willing to use new digital technologies to help their patients
They wanted to learn more about this
And they want to teach their peers about it!
APNA is a learning organisation!
They knew the best places to learn;
22% Online
31% Clinical setting
26% With their peers
3 Something had to be done
The first step ....
Engage nurses to become advocates and enablers
Educate & empower other nurses and health professionals
Educators
Early adaptors
Change enablers
APNA Digital Health Nurse Transformers is born!
4 What we did
Upskilling nurse presentation skills
Interpersonal communication styles
Utilisation of My Health Record (MyHR)
Outcome
Nurses empowered to lead, educate peers and increase positive patient experiences
Digital health community
Peer to Peer engagement
Inter-professional education
Nursing Australia podcasts
Nurse Networking
Outcome
Increased understanding and application of digital health technologies
Raising the nurse voice
Professional advisory groups
Career enabling framework
National digital health events
Outcome
Stronger Primary Health Care nursing representation
5 Who we reached
38% Nurses
25% Doctors
19% Non-Clinical Practice Staff
8% Patients
6 Key insights
1) Nurses are catalysts for change!
2) Nurses best learn about new digital technologies from their peers, in small group learning environments within a clinical setting
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7 Where to next?
1) APNA continues to drive the growth of nurse capabilities and confidence to influence a constantly evolving national digital health system
2) Strengthening the primary healthcare workforce to build a digitally competent and connected health environment
3) Harnessing digital technologies and coordinated systems of care for safe, effective care for people

Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association

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