



Background

The Mental Health Professionals Network (MHPN), together with its principal partners, the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, the Australian Psychological Society and the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses has been funded \$15 million by the Australian Government to support the development of interdisciplinary mental health collaboration in the primary care sector. The purpose of the Mental Health Professionals Network is to improve *consumer outcomes* in the *primary care* sector by fostering a *collaborative clinical approach* to the provision of *mental health care*.

Workshop and Networks

The MHPN offers an interdisciplinary workshop and networking opportunity, along with ongoing support to local groups of mental health professionals across Australia. The networks promote a collaborative approach through:

- facilitated discussion of case studies developed by a multidisciplinary team of clinicians;
- consideration of the skills and expertise of various mental health clinicians involved in primary care; and
- promotion of referral pathways for collaborative care.

Networks will be made up of psychiatrists, general practitioners, psychologists, mental health nurses, paediatricians, occupational therapists and social workers working within a local geographical area.

Expressions of Interest

MHPN seeks expressions of interest from primary mental health care clinicians interested in participating in, or facilitating a small local network. The role of facilitators is to guide the process using a standardised manual within their local clinical network. Facilitators with a background in mental health are welcome, and will ideally have experience in guiding collaborative learning opportunities. To express your interest, email contactus@mhpn.org.au or phone (03) 8662 6602.

Remuneration

Private practice clinicians and facilitators participating in an MHPN workshop will be remunerated.

Continuing Professional Development

MHPN workshops are an APS endorsed activity and attract 2 generalist points for any APS member. Members of the College of Health Psychologists can claim 2 specialist PD points for each workshop attended.

