**Sport & exercise medicine**

2016 Factsheet

Sport and Exercise Physicians are specialists in the comprehensive management of musculoskeletal problems and medical illness in the active population as well as exercise prescription in the management and prevention of chronic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease and osteoarthritis.  All Sport and Exercise Physicians have experience looking after elite athletes in team environments and apply these multi-disciplinary principles to the management of all patients, whether they are recreational athletes, manual workers or those with or without chronic diseases simply wanting to safely manage their activity levels.

A minimum of four years full-time advanced training through the Australasian College of Sport and Exercise Physicians is required to specialise in this area.

# Workforce

In 2016, there were 120 sport and exercise medicine specialists employed in Australia, of whom 91.0% worked in the private sector. The majority (91.0%) of sport and exercise medicine specialists who completed the 2016 National Health Workforce Survey indicated they were clinicians.

# Demographics of clinicians

Males represented 77.2% of clinicians in 2016 and had an average age of 54.4 years. Females represented 22.8% of clinicians and were on average 3.3 years younger than male clinicians.

Over 39% of clinicians were aged 50-59 years and 31% were aged 40-49 years.

# Distribution of clinicians

In 2016, the majority of clinicians (95.0%) were located in a major city or a location considered as MMM1 (major city) under the Modified Monash Model classification system.

Over 35% of clinicians indicated their principal place of practice was in New South Wales. The Australian Capital Territory had a relatively high proportion of clinicians compared to its population size.

The Australian Capital Territory had the highest ratio of clinicians with 2.0 per 100,000 population. The national average for 2016 was 0.4 clinicians per 100,000 population.

# New fellows

In 2015, there were 2 new fellows, a decrease of 50% (2) from 2014. There were no female new fellows in 2015.

# Vocational training

In 2016, there were 42 vocational trainees. The number of female trainees has increased every year since 2013 from 5 to 17. Between 2013 and 2016, the total number of trainees increased by 40%.

# Vocational intentions

In 2016, there were 37 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in sport and exercise medicine. A HNS is a medical practitioner employed in a salaried position mainly in a hospital. They do not hold a specialist qualification and are not training to obtain one. They include career medical officers, hospital medical officers, interns, principal house officers, resident medical officers and registrars.

# References

1. National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS): Medical Practitioners 2016.
2. Australian Medical Association (AMA) Career Pathways Guide.
3. Medical Education and Training Report 1st edition (Unpublished).
4. ABS 3101.0 – Australian Demographics Statistics. Released 22/09/16.
5. National Medical Training Advisory Network (NMTAN) – Prevocational Doctor Factsheet Methodology Paper.

# Copyright

© 2017 Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Department of Health

This work is copyright. You may copy, print, download, display and reproduce the whole or part of this work in unaltered form for your own personal use or, if you are part of an organisation, for internal use within your organisation, but only if you or your organisation:

1. do not use the copy or reproduction for any commercial purpose; and
2. retain this copyright notice and all disclaimer notices as part of that copy or reproduction.

Apart from rights as permitted by the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth) or allowed by this copyright notice, all other rights are reserved, including (but not limited to) all commercial rights.

Requests and inquiries concerning reproduction and other rights to use are to be sent to the Communication Branch, Department of Health, GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, or via e-mail to corporatecomms@health.gov.au.