The Workforce

The practice of Neurology encompasses the diagnosis and management of diseases affecting the central, peripheral and autonomic nervous systems and muscles.

In the 2010 calendar year, there were 154 Neurologists who primarily worked within NSW. This workforce had the following characteristics:

**Average Age:** 51 years

**Females:** 19.5% of the workforce

**Average Hours:** Neurologists worked an average 43.5 hours per week (of a standard 40 hour week)

**Over 50s:** Approximately 51% were aged 50 years and over and 21% of the workforce were older than 60 years

Source: AIHW (2012) 2010 Medical Workforce Profile extracts for NSW (unpublished data)

Trainees and New Fellows

**Advanced Trainees (AT)**: 78 ATs in Australia in 2012 with an average of 83 between 2011 and 2012

**Females**: Data on Female AT numbers is not available

**New Fellows**: Nationally, an average of 15 new Fellows per year from 2007-2011 (28% female)

**Medical Specialty College**: Royal Australasian College of Physicians (www.racp.edu.au)

**HETI Supported Training**: Not part of Health Education and Training Institute Training Networks (www.heti.nsw.gov.au)

Source: Medical Training Review Panel (MTRP) * Basic Physician Training must be completed before entering Advanced Training

Retirement Intentions in NSW

**1-2 Years**: 4.5% of Neurologists intend to retire within 1-2 years

**3-5 Years**: 11.7% of Neurologists intend to retire within the next 3-5 years

**6-9 Years**: 4.5% of Neurologists intend to retire within the next 6-9 years

Source: AIHW (2012) 2010 Medical Workforce Profile extracts (unpublished data)
Supply and Distribution

**Distribution:** Neurologists are located mainly within metropolitan Sydney Local Health Districts (LHDs) and Hunter New England LHD.

**Rural & Regional:** There are small numbers (<=5) of Neurologists located in rural and regional LHDs. Higher proportion of non-metropolitan Sydney Neurologists indicate intention to retire within the next 5 years (17.4%).

### The Future in NSW – Workforce Planning to 2025

**Estimated Demand Growth:** Between 1.5% to 2.7% to 2025

**Estimated Workforce Size:** In 2025, 244 Full Time Equivalents

**Additional Fellows:** All demand scenarios require no additional trainees

**Range:** No additional new trainees required

### Workforce Planning Priority and Risk Rating

- **Ageing:** The risk associated with the workforce aged over 60 and 70.
- **Small Workforce Size:** The risk associated with the sustainability of small workforces.
- **Retirement Intentions:** The risk associated with the retirement intentions of the current workforce.
- **New Fellow Requirements:** The risk associated with the requirement to recruit additional trainees, based on workforce planning to 2025.
- **Training Supervision:** The risk associated with the availability of the existing workforce to provide supervision to new trainees.

### Future Workforce Considerations

- Development of Acute Thrombolysis Centres for management of acute stroke symptoms
- Addressing rural and regional workforce maldistribution