Pain Medicine

The Workforce

The Pain Medicine specialist can act as a consultant to other physicians and/or as the principal treating physician. The care provided by a Pain Medicine specialist includes prescribing medication, coordinating rehabilitative services and performing pain-relieving procedures. The Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA), Faculty of Pain Medicine is accredited by the Australian Medical Council (AMC) to deliver pain medicine training.

Workforce Characteristics in 2015

Supply and Distribution

Metropolitan Sydney

- 46 headcount
- 30 hours per week
- 52 years average age
- 24% aged over 60

Non-Metropolitan Sydney

- 20 headcount
- 28 hours per week
- 54 years average age
- 20% aged over 60

Total NSW Workforce by Sector (percent)

- 41% Public only
- 35% Private only
- 21% Public and Private
- 3% Other

Hours By Sector

- 50% Public
- 27% Private
- 17% Other

Trainees

Advanced Trainees in NSW:

- 2015: 10
- 2016: 12
- 2017: 12

NSW Trainees as % of Australia 2017: 31.6%

Proportion female Trainees in Australia 2017: 25.0%

Data sourced: The National Health Workforce Dataset – Australian Government Department of Health; The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA); The Medical Education and Training in Australia Report (MET).
The Future in NSW - Workforce Planning to 2030

Workforce projections are provided for a low and high demand scenario. Where requirements for both scenarios are met without the need for additional fellows, the projected “No Growth” scenario workforce data is provided.

**Estimated Demand Growth**
- Between 2.8% (low demand scenario)
- to 3.5% (high demand scenario).

**Estimated Workforce Size**
- In 2030, 98 to 108 headcount (assuming all additional fellows will enter the workforce).

**Estimated Additional Fellows**
- The high demand scenario requires additional fellows. Trainee numbers need to increase by approximately 1 per annum to meet projected 2030 requirements.

**Estimated Workforce Average Age**
- In 2030, 55.3 to 55.9 years.

**Estimated percentage over 60 years**
- In 2030, 27.4% to 30.0% of workforce over 60 years.

**Estimated Additional Fellows Requirements**
- The high demand scenario requires additional fellows.
- Trainee numbers need to increase by approximately 1 per annum to meet projected 2030 requirements.

**Estimated Workforce Size**
- In 2030, 98 to 108 headcount (assuming all additional fellows will enter the workforce).

**Workforce Planning Priority and Assessment Framework**

- **Priority for Workforce Planning:**
  - REASONABLE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Rating Key:** Minimal Factor < Minor Factor < Moderate Factor < Major Factor

**Workforce Modelling Considerations**
- Workforce modelling is based on current models of care. Any change in the models may impact on requirements.
- Any changes to current training programs will affect the workforce modelling outcome.
- Workforce modelling is based on current workforce hours profile by age co-hours. Any changes to hours worked by future clinicians will affect the model.
- There is an accepted error rate of plus or minus two per cent within workforce modelling.
- The model does not address any mal-distribution either by location (rural or regional) or sector (public or private).