

Harnessing insights from inside the homoeopathic profession in Australia

Planners for public health and policy makers are able to ensure public safety and optimal public health and patient outcomes by integrating knowledge of the workforce and their practice into public health policies (Ijaz et al, 2021, Steel et al, 2018). As such, it is a desired outcome for the homoeopathic community that this knowledge is formalised and regularly published for policy makers in Australia through the implementation of a workforce survey undertaken annually.

The drive to develop more insight into the homoeopathic workforce stemmed from the 2021 Melting Pot series hosted by The Aurum Project. During these sessions, members asked questions such as:

- Is our membership in growth or decline?
- What skills do we have?
- What are our practice methods?
- Can we make a living from homeopathic practice?

In 2022, The Aurum Project and the Australian Register of Homoeopaths collaborated to develop the rationale, research proposal, methodological framework, ethics application and workforce survey questionnaire. It is proposed that the workforce survey will be completed annually by homoeopaths at the time of registration renewal, in order to establish a baseline of information about the homoeopathic profession in line with other health profession surveys in Australia.

THIS PAPER PRESENTS:

- The process involved in developing the research proposal
- Aims and objectives of the workforce survey
- Survey questions
- Implementation of the survey
- Preliminary findings of the 2023 workforce survey