

Tools and Resources that Cross Distances to Improve Hospital Care for People with Diabetes

Problems to solve

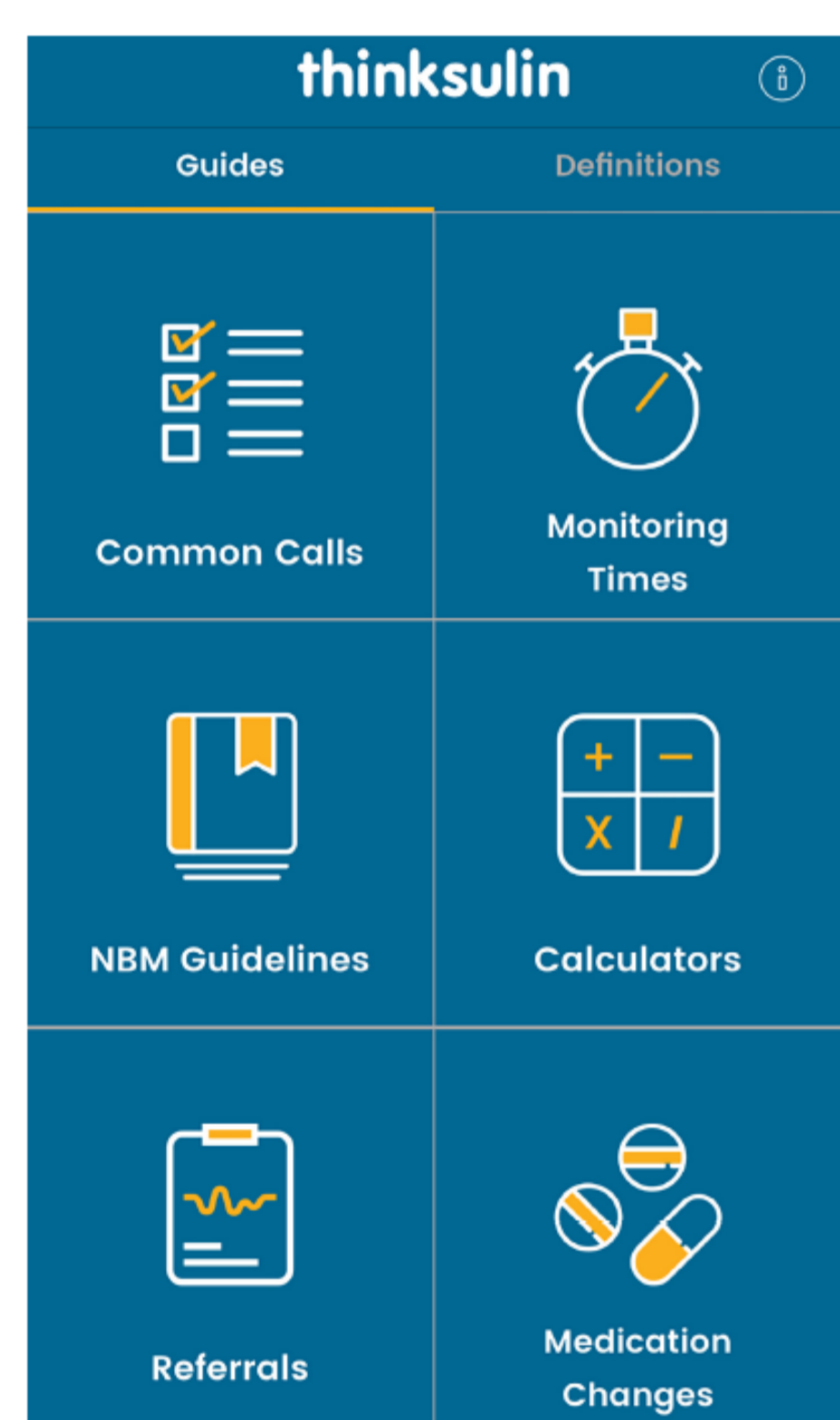
- Up to one in four people in hospital has diabetes
- People with diabetes requiring insulin are often admitted to rural hospitals for treatment of conditions other than diabetes
- Unstable blood glucose is commonly observed amongst these patients, which can lead to adverse events
- Insulin is a high risk medication meaning when errors occur the consequences can be severe
- There is variable access to specialist diabetes services in rural areas
- Evaluation found a lack of understanding of best practice diabetes care for people requiring insulin in NSW hospitals outside specialist teams
- Insulin and glycaemia management is often the responsibility of Junior Medical Officers (JMOs) and nurses

Our Approach

- Our aim was to increase the knowledge, confidence and skills of staff caring for people with diabetes in hospital
- The Diabetes and Endocrine Network partnered with JMOs and nurses to develop a capability building program

Three Approaches to Capability Building

1. Thinksulin – a clinical decision support app that provides JMOs and nurses with vital information in the palm of their hand



Thinksulin app icon

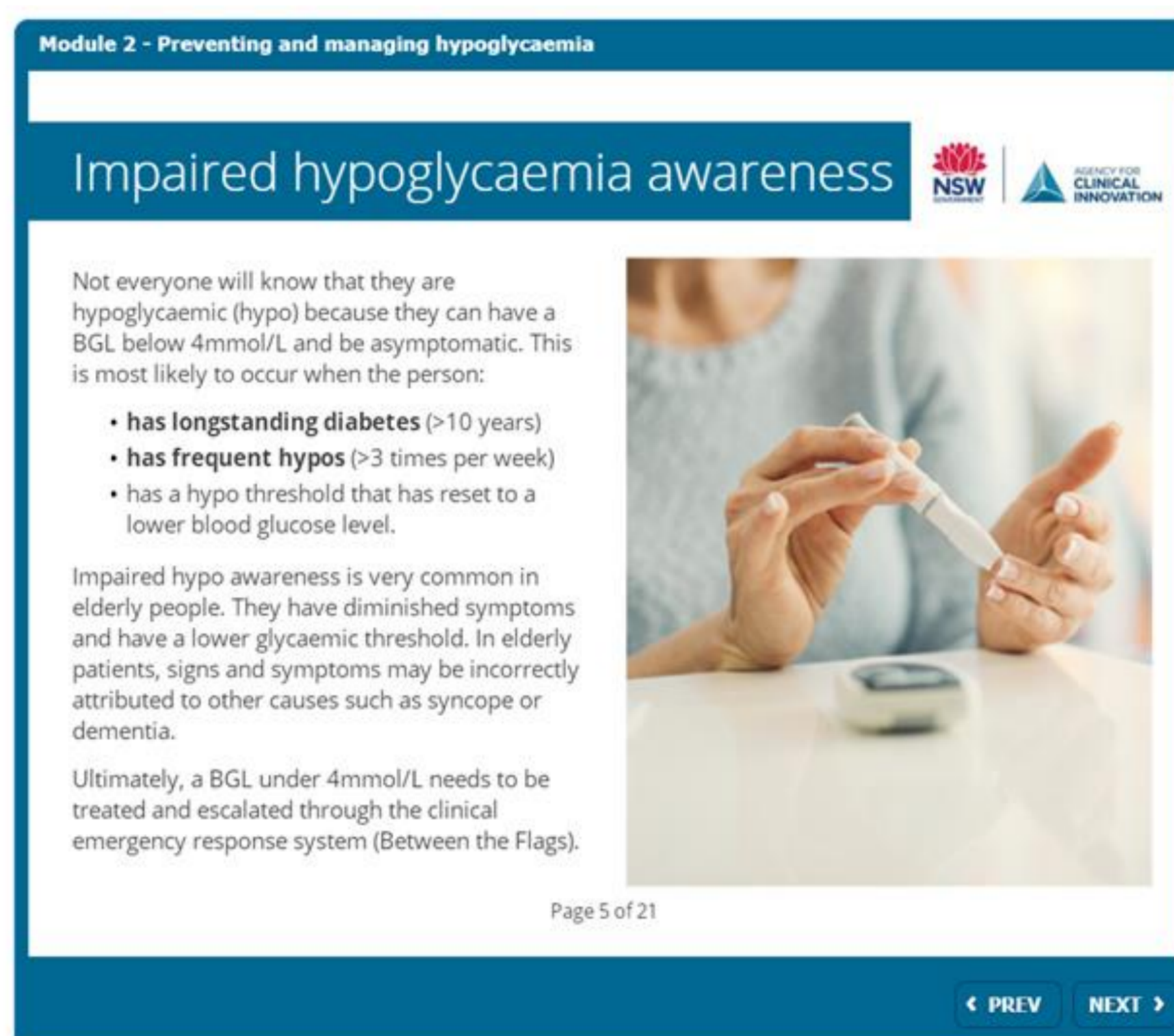


<https://aci.health.nsw.gov.au/go/thinksulin-ios>

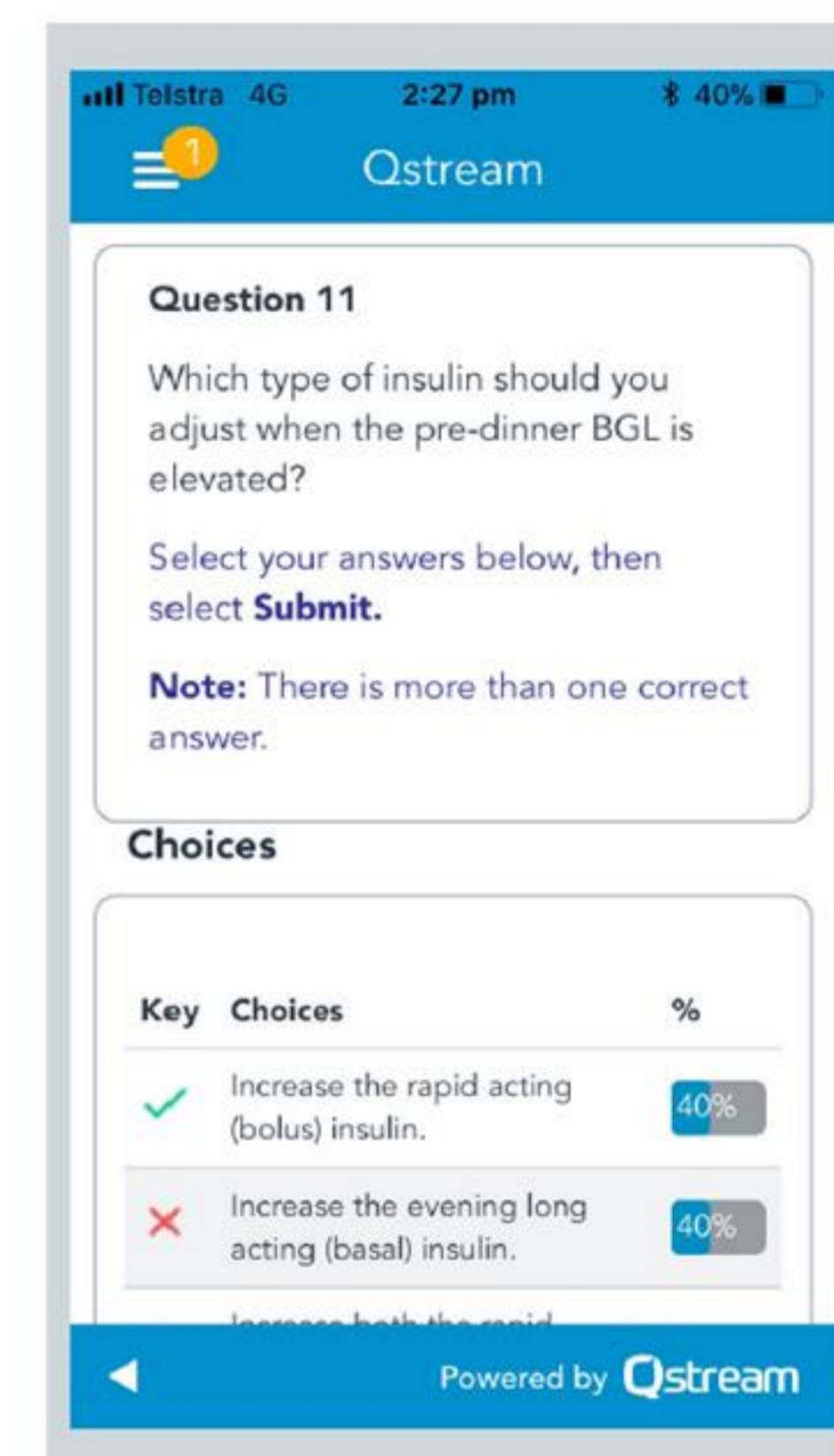


<https://aci.health.nsw.gov.au/go/thinksulin-play>

2. eLearning – a pathway of modules available on My Health Learning that supports understanding and application of best practice care

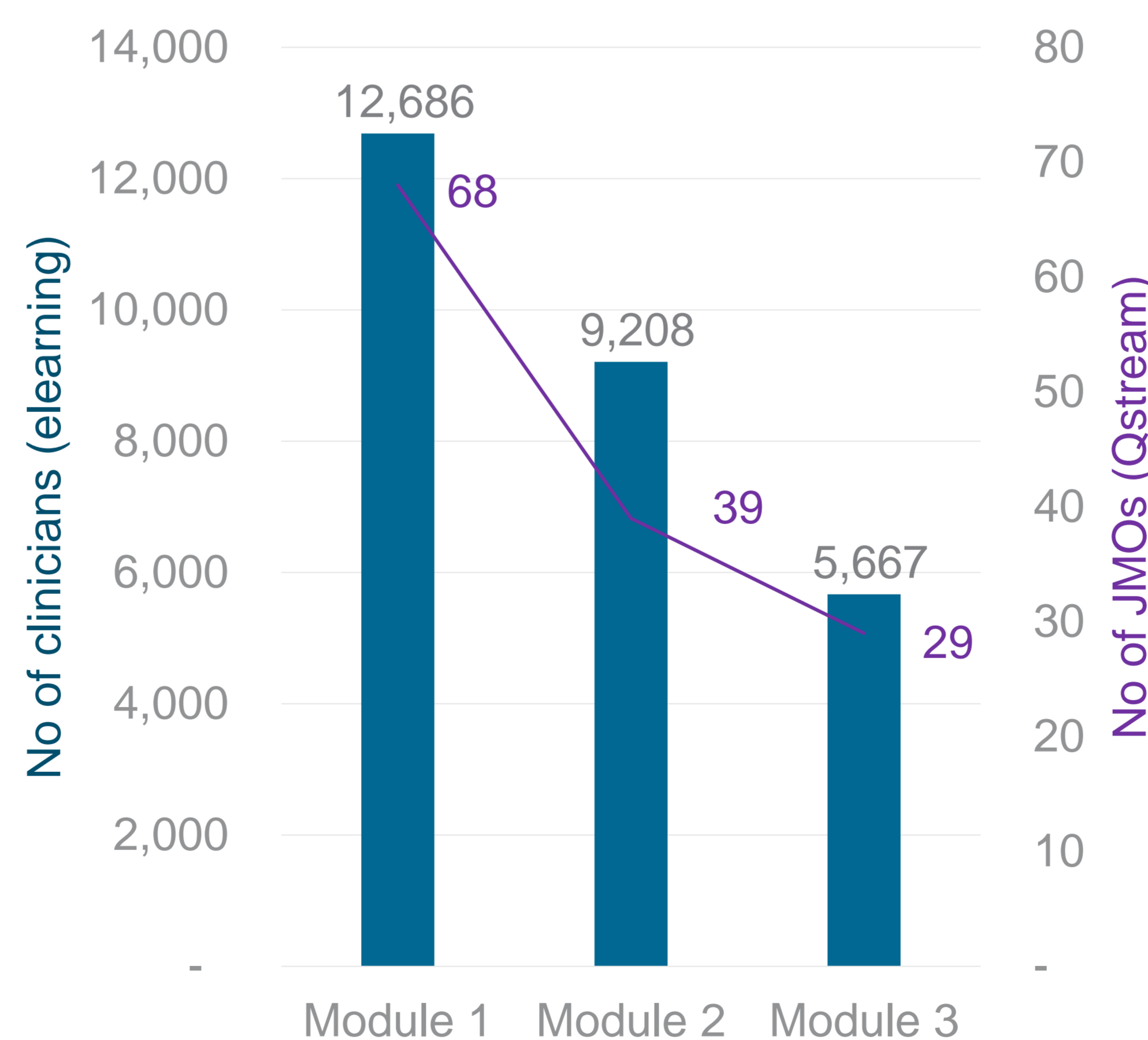


3. Qstream solution – ongoing space-based training that supports reinforcement of learning



Outcomes

- Thinksulin has been downloaded 5,400 times and recorded 18,000 sessions since launch in June 2018
- Over 12,000 staff across NSW have completed at least one eLearning module



Take Home Messages

App technology and eLearning tools can be an effective way of enhancing the knowledge and confidence of the JMO and nursing workforce when caring for people with diabetes in rural hospitals.

Partnering subject matter experts with end users is an innovative and effective model.

We should involve junior doctors more frequently in statewide improvement projects.

More information

For more details visit <https://aci.health.nsw.gov.au/go/learning-diabetes>

