

Rural Health and Research Congress #RHRC2019

Workshop

Working together in research







1

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Outline of the workshop

- *Review findings from research capability project*
- *Group discussion and brainstorming*
- *Outline ED Demand Project to date*
- *Discussion led by facilitators from each table and any additional thoughts to include in the development of the ED Demand Project*



2

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Research Capability in rural NSW 2014-18







3

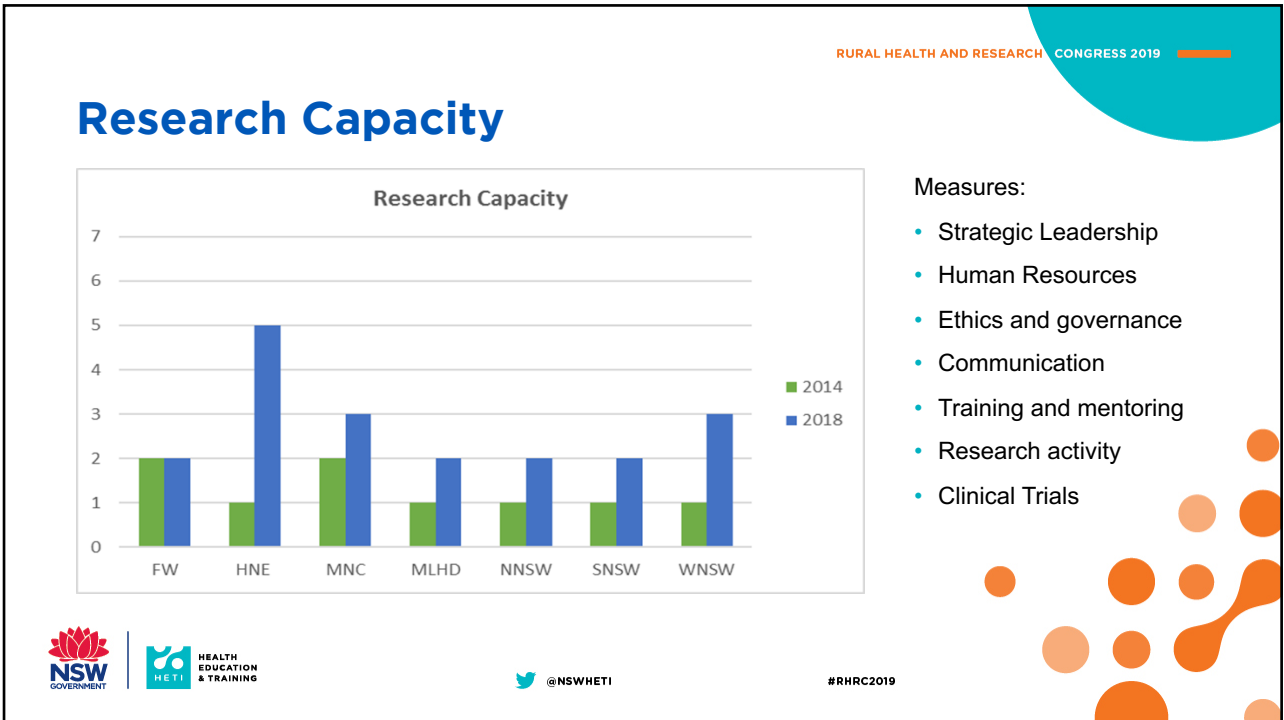
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Changing rural research environment in NSW

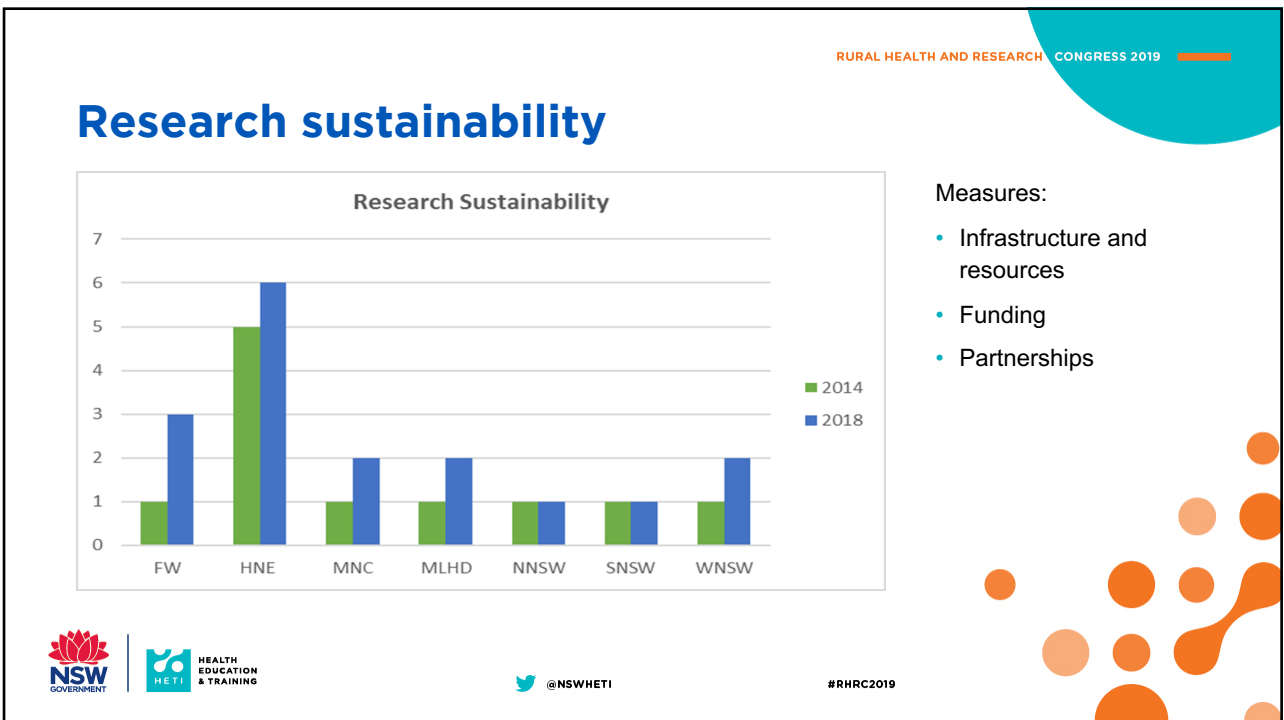
- *Need for greater investment in health service led research*
- *Importance of investing in research in rural NSW*
 - *Inform and support delivery of health care relevant to rural NSW*
 - *Recruit and retain staff to rural NSW*
- *Development of NSW Rural Health Research Alliance*
 - *Collaborative of seven rural LHDs*
- *Investment in dedicated positions to provide research leadership in the LHDs*



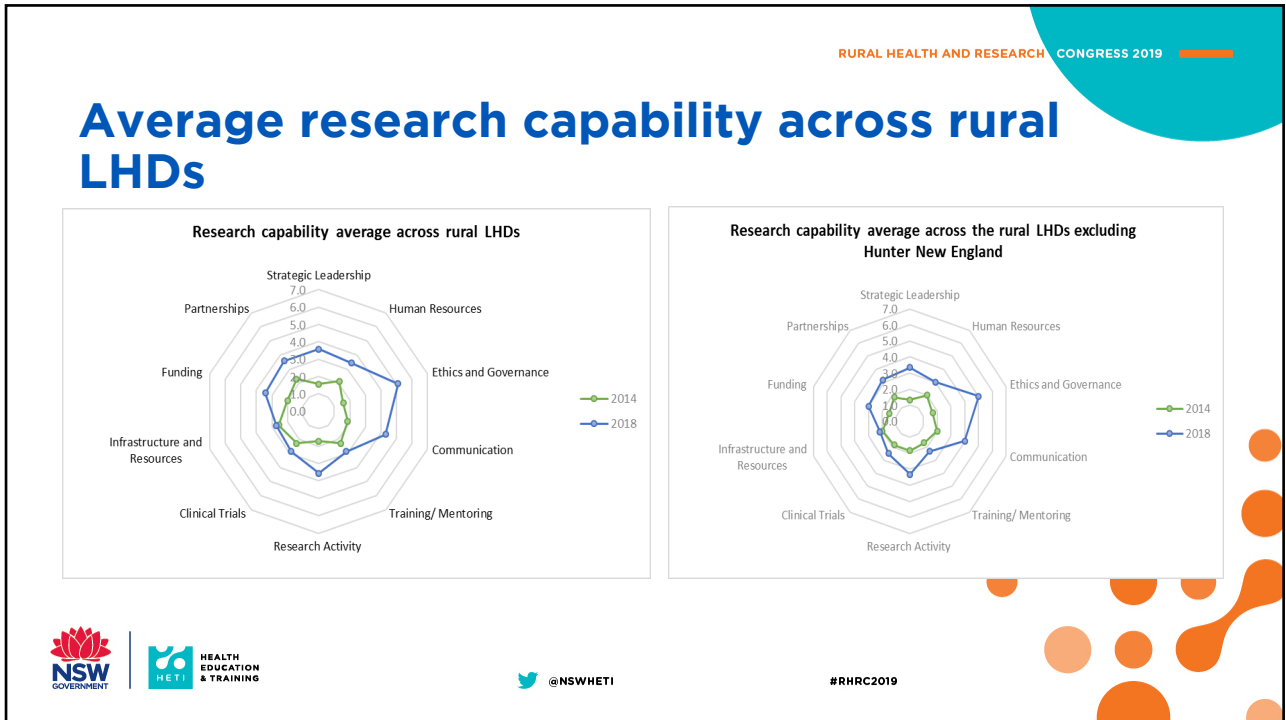
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5



6



7

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Next step

- *Research project involving all seven rural LHDs*
- *Need to find an area that is relevant to all LHDs*

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8

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Group work: ED Demand Project



9

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Scenario

- *Increasing demand on Emergency Departments is being experienced by health services around the world. However, the cause is not well understood*
- *The Bureau of Health Information have verbally reported in NSW over the last 10 years:*
 - *ED presentations have increased by 49%*
 - *GP presentations have increased by 25%*
 - *Population growth has increased by 13%*
- *Bureau of Health Information Quarterly report for Jan - Mar 2019 showed:*
 - *Presentations to EDs had increased by 5.9% compared to same time last year*
 - *Presentations were up more than 10% in 15 EDs with eight being in rural LHDs*



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10

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Group activity

Concept:

To develop greater understanding of what is driving increasing demand in emergency departments in rural NSW

Got an idea



Find some friends



Create a Plan



Get support



Make it happen






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11


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Where are we at..

Key activities setting up the project

- *Identified common challenge - all LHDs experiencing increasing demand*
- *Aligned project to the premiers priorities*
- *Looked at current performance data to establish the problem*
- *Examined current research/ literature*
- *Identified and met with key stakeholders:*
 - *ACI / BHI*
 - *Researchers working in this area*
 - *Alliance development committee*
 - *Data custodian - SAPHaRI*
- *Draft project plan and research protocol. To be presented to rural CEs next week*

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12

Draft Project outline

- *Multi phased sequential explanatory approach where the next phase of the research is informed by the current project.*
- *The initial research project will be a retrospective descriptive study*
- *The current working aim of project:*
 1. *Assess the patterns and trends in ED presentations across NSW by LHD (2012-2019);*
 2. *Compare urban and rural ED presentations on a range of specified variables;*
 3. *Determine demographic factors associated with presentation to EDs;*
 4. *Establish 'hot spots' across rural LHDs and investigate the potential causal factors for increasing or changing demand; and,*
 5. *Use of data to inform planning to improve, change or modify current services*



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13

Discussion led by facilitators on what each group discussed



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14