

Thought Leadership Case Study



Leading the way on health workforce sustainability

Kronos wanted to be seen as a long term thought leader in health workforce management among healthcare decision makers. We recommended they partner with a non-aligned health workforce organisation (the Australian Health Workforce Institute) to develop research into the Australian healthcare workforce.

This Australian-first meta-research was designed to summarise the current state of the workforce and set the scene for a second phase solution workshop. It achieved incredible success with briefings held with the NSW, Queensland and Victorian health departments and 14 other health decision makers. The media launch created intense discussion/debate across over 300 broadcast and print stories leading to more than 40 requests for a copy of the Kronos research from Australia's healthcare sector and strong support for the solution workshop.



Australia faces nurse shortage

SYDNEY: Action rather than more research is needed to solve the unsustainable drain of nurses from Australia's healthcare system, the authors of a new report say.

The Australian Health Workforce Institute and management company Kronos Incorporated yesterday released the findings of a three-month research project into nursing in Australia.

The research showed the average age of nurses had increased from 40 to 45, while the percentage of registered nurses over the age of 55 rose from 11 to 20 per cent between 1999 and 2005.

The trend was complicated by the fact that 14 per cent of the workforce retires every five years, with 90 000 nurses expected to retire between now and 2020.

The research also found one in five nurses worked 45 hours or more a week, 49 per cent of nurses were working part-time.

The Australian Nursing Federation said the report provided further evidence of the inadequacies of national nursing workforce planning.

Nurses doing the work of doctors

Kate Sikora and Sue Dantery

Nurses could soon be asked to perform tasks such as diagnosing patients, prescribing drugs, performing minor surgery and delivering babies, a report to be released today says.

The report, by the Australian Health Workforce Institute and management company Kronos Incorporated, says that nurses are already being asked to perform tasks that are traditionally the domain of doctors.

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2UE (Sydney)
13:00 News - 22/10/2008 1:01 PM
Newsreader

A new Kronos report on the Health Care Industry suggests nursing will be at further risk unless there are systemic changes. It is predicted that in only 2 years there will be 40,000 fewer nurses and another 60% will retire by 2026.

Interviewees: Sharon Lowry, Asia Pacific Health Care Manager