

Victorian Training Program in Community Child Health

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CENTRE FOR
Community
Child Health



Murdoch Childrens
Research Institute



Structure community paediatrics in Victoria

No 'AHS' or regional community based child development teams led by paediatricians

RCH

- Centre CCH
- Department Developmental Medicine

MMC – Developmental Disability clinic

Sunshine Hospital – multidisciplinary clinics

CHCs – 2 FT paed, several sessional paed



History of VTPCCH

- 1977 - 3x Community paed reg, experience in SMS, ECDP, DD institution - special health Dept funds
- 1982 – Fellow in Ambulatory Paed RCH, Community Outreach Program
- 1985 – Community paed reg at RCH, MMC
- 1989 – + 3x DHS funded (from SMS)
- 1994 – Geelong position funded DHS
- 1994 – **VTPCCH Seminar program** weekly all trainees from all locations
- 2001 – ASTPRA fund 1x at Shepparton



History of VTPCCH cont'd

- 2001-03 – Commonwealth funding 3x RCH as pilot community training
- 2004 – removal of RCH reg, cost save
- 2006 – +2 EFT at MMC, 6m CCH, EM
- 2008 – ESTP, +3 RCH, +1 Shepp, +1 Sunshine
- 2008 - 13 in Vic, 19 trainees (+3 mat leave)
- 2009 - ? 13 ? 8 Depends on ESTP applicn
- Joint selection process, 5 health services, metro, regional, rural



Funding

- Salaries only, +/- on costs
- No admin support, professional or clerical
- Supplemented over the years by DEM sessions, university teaching, M/C rebates, OMZTP
- International fellows either compete for positions (NZ, Ireland) or bring own funding eg Thailand, Malaysia



Structure VTPCCH at RCH

50% time in specialty DB clinics at CCCH

50% time in community setting

- DHS EI teams (non medical)
- CHCs
- LG child and family teams (non medical)

Weekly seminar program –all trainees

Documents for training goals, curric, admin etc



Community settings

- Ad hoc
- Disadvantaged, multicultural areas
- Provide desk, telephone, computer, filing cabinet, room for assessment
- May use several clinical sites eg MCHC
- No money changes hands



Community liason

- Time consuming!
- Personal contact, personnel change!
- Involve in orientation program
- Bi annual meetings to monitor progress



Seminar program

Wednesday 2-5pm, 2x hourly topics, group supervision (videoconf to Shepp)

Content within SAC CCH curriculum framework

- DB paediatrics, clinical and theory
- Public health – 1 week intensive MPH
- Centre CCH programs in early childhood, community development
- Professional development



Further opportunities for training

- ESTP enables a second year AT position
- MD, PhD
- Link with child protection training
- Overseas links



Feedback from trainees

- Excellent clinical experience
- Develop knowledge local services
- Team work
- Time management
- Distance supervision – junior consultant
- Emphasis on training time
- Excellent research support
- Peer group
- Greatly valued with the communities served



Evaluations of VTPCCH

- 2004 – Commonwealth DoHA – very positive outcomes
- 2007 – SAC CCH – Program of Excellence



Who are we training

- Future clinical, research, educational and advocacy leaders in CCH
- General paediatricians (30-40% DBP)
- Specialty paediatricians (mandatory training, good clinical experience)



Over the years - 225 in 25 years

- ~50% general paediatricians
- ~30% community paediatricians
- ~20% specialist paediatricians
- Currently 2 x PhD, 2-3 x projects potential PhD



Flexibility required

- Community settings
- Funding
- CCH and General Paediatrics
- Individual interests of trainees eg CCH/MH position
- Relevance to practice

