

Beyond the Big Smoke: a mixed-modality symposium to foster regional, rural and remote pharmacy research and education

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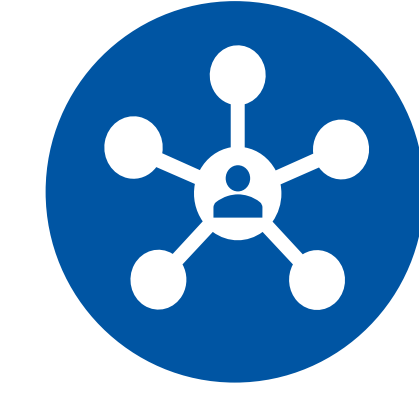
BACKGROUND



Rural and remote pharmacy is a recognised specialty practice area.



Targeted education for this specialty group is sparse.



There exists a lack of local research support to undertake quality improvement (QI) and research projects.

OBJECTIVE

1. Deliver education on research methodology for rural, regional and remote (RRR) pharmacy practitioners.
2. Provide a platform for RRR pharmacy practitioners to showcase local research and QI initiatives.

ACTION

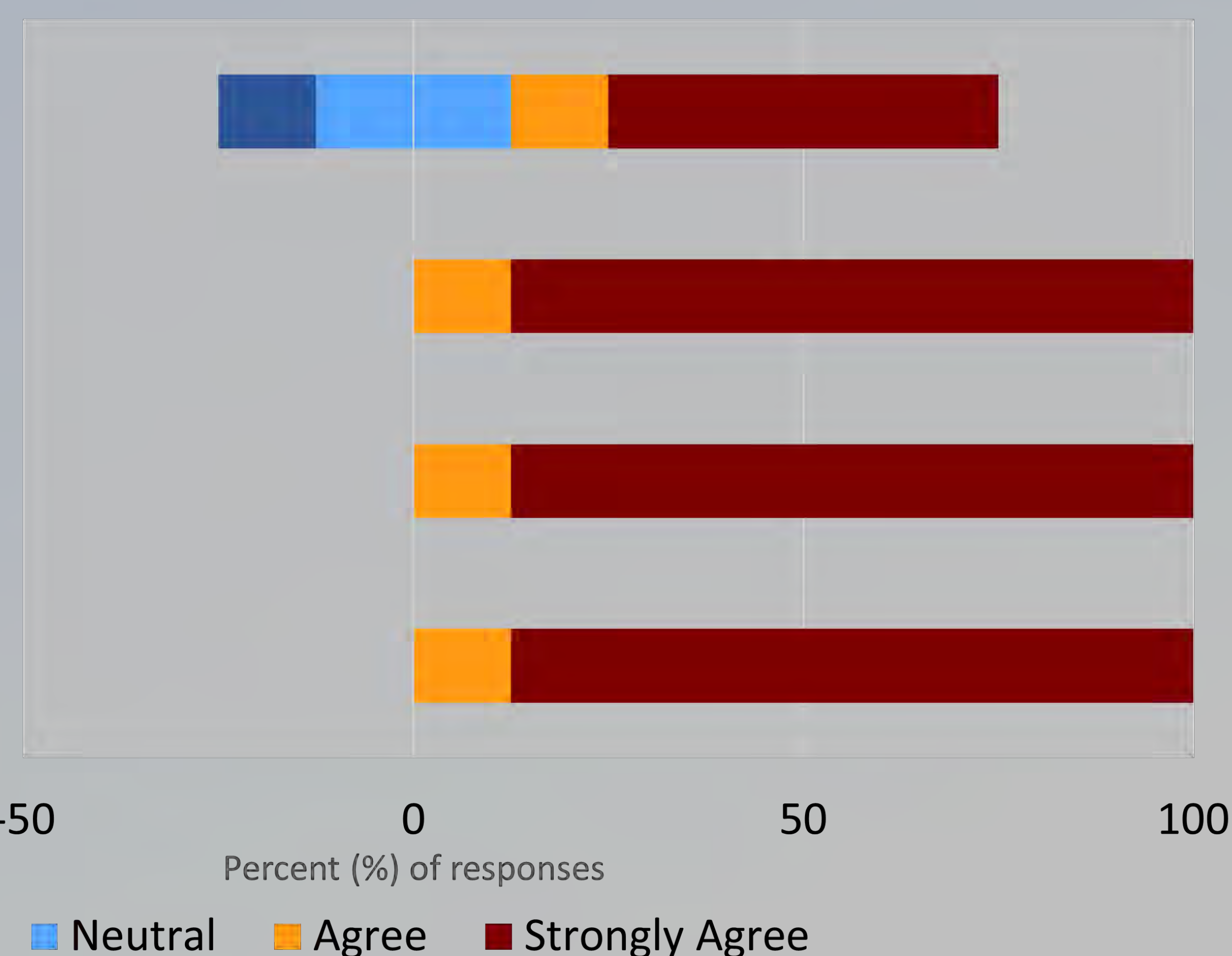
A full-day, mixed-modality symposium for Queensland-only pharmacy practitioners was held, focusing on QI and research skills. Experts provided lectures and interactive workshops. Six rural and regional practitioners were also invited to present local initiatives.

EVALUATION

Feedback from Attendees

100% of respondents were interested in attending future RRR pharmacy events

- Attending the symposium improved my relationships with other clinicians outside my local district.
- It is important there are specific pharmacy education events for RRR clinicians.
- It is important to offer F2F pharmacy events in regional areas
- It is important to include an online option for all F2F pharmacy education events



“This workshop was an excellent initiative for RRR clinicians. It was highly inspiring and a great opportunity to network”

“Great guest speakers. Loved the abstract selection and meeting others who are doing innovative work in rural QLD”

Post-symposium evaluation survey response rate was 27% (n=8)

DISCUSSION

It is important to appreciate RRR pharmacy as its own specialty practice area with unique challenges and rewards.

Investing in tailored education events for this group provides connection, recognition and inspiration, and will translate to a stronger workforce capability and performance.

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