

Residential aged care: Stagnant or stimulating for future graduates?



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Brightwater Care Group

- Established in 1901
- Not-for-profit organisation in Western Australia
- Aged care and disability service provider in addition to commercial services in linen and catering
- 23 facilities, a retirement village and community care services
- Employs over 2000 people



Interprofessional Education Program at Brightwater

- Project is part of the NHMRC Cognitive Decline Partnership Centre (CDPC)
- Conducted at one of Brightwater's residential aged care sites – Madeley (110 beds)
- Final year university students from various health specific disciplines across 3 universities undertake their clinical placement
- Placement length varies from 2 to 10 weeks
- Facilitated by interprofessional coordinators in an interprofessional environment
- Provides theory and training in working with people experiencing cognitive decline
- During 2013 and 2014 there were 125 students

Student Activities in 2014

Additional Weeks of Care



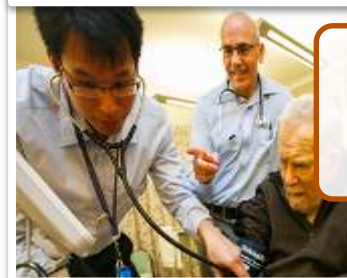
284

Orientation



27

Case Studies & GP Rounds



48

IPE Education Sessions



141

Student Led Staff Training



6

Student Led Resident Programs



394

How are we measuring outcomes?

Residents
& Families



Staff



Students



Students

1. Readiness for
Interprofessional Learning
Scale (RIPLS)
(Pre & Post)

2. Interprofessional
Education Feedback Form
(Post)

3. Student Education
Evaluation Form
(Post)

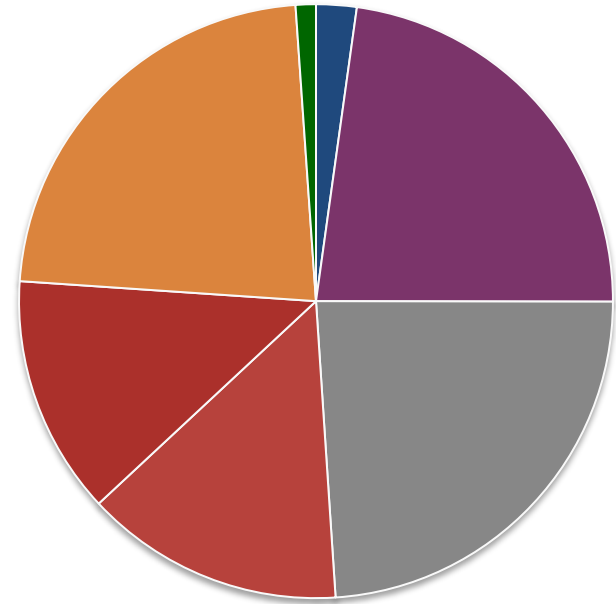
4. The Tool for
Understanding Resident's
Needs as Individual
Person (TURNIP)
(Pre & Post)

5. Semi-Structured
Interviews and Focus
Groups
(Post)

1. Readiness for Interprofessional Learning Scale (RIPLS)

- Originally developed by Parsell and Bligh, to evaluate attitudes and perceptions of students regarding IPE
- Assess if the readiness increases Pre and Post IPE placement
- 19 item, 5 point Likert scale, 4 subscale
- 2013/14 response rate 73.6% (n=92)
- Mean age was 24.1, 33.7% Male; 66.3% Female
- 37.5% had previous IPE learning experience

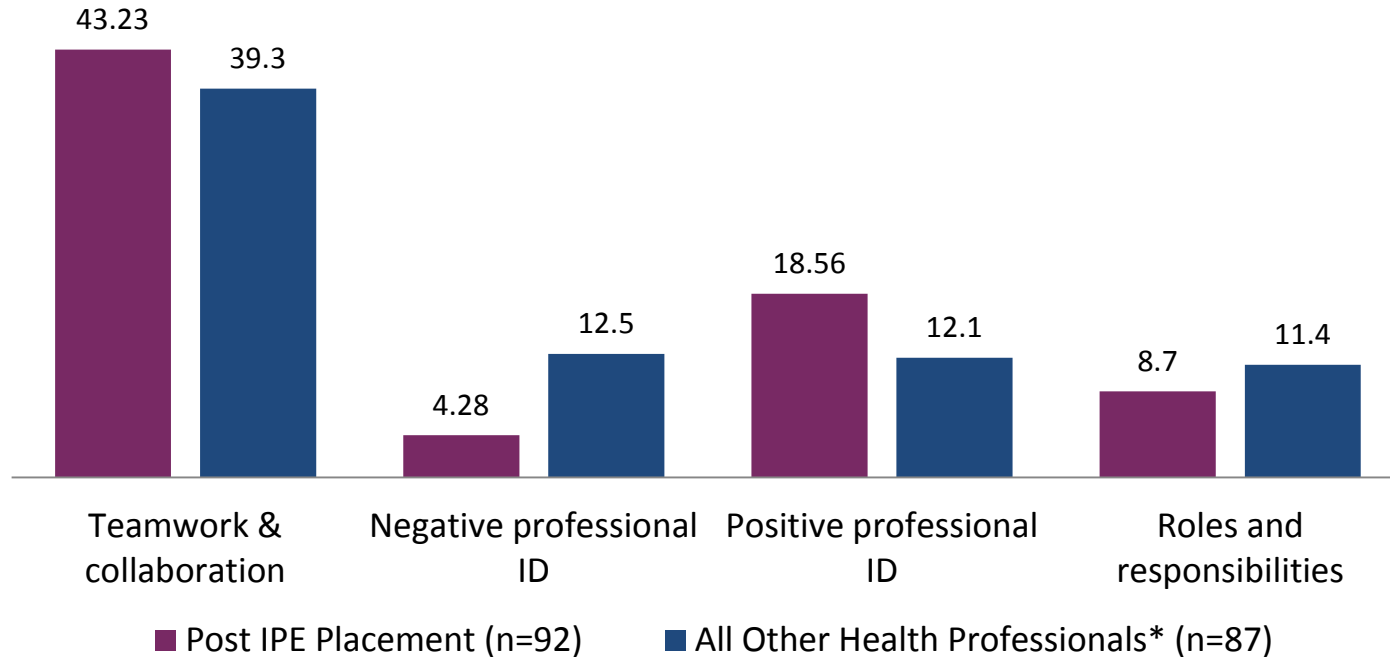
Respondents by Discipline



RIPLS (n=92)

Subscales	Range of Possible Score	Pre	Post	Difference	Positive Direction of change
1. Teamwork & collaboration High score implies that students agree with the importance of cooperative learning with students from other professions	5-45	41.51	43.23	1.7	Yes
2. Negative professional Identity High score implies that students do not value cooperative learning with other health care professionals	3-15	4.49	4.28	-0.21	Yes
3. Positive professional Identity High score implies that students value shared learning experiences such as improving communication, problem solving and team skills	4-20	17.74	18.56	0.83	Yes
4. Roles and responsibilities High score implies an unclear or distorted perception of one's own role and that of others	3-15	9.24	8.70	-0.54	Yes

RIPLS Subscales



Student Quotes from the RIPLS Post Survey

IPE has been invaluable in helping me understand the roles of Allied Health professionals and how to work as a team. I will, in future, know when/to whom to report health statuses out of my scope. I will carry this throughout my working career.

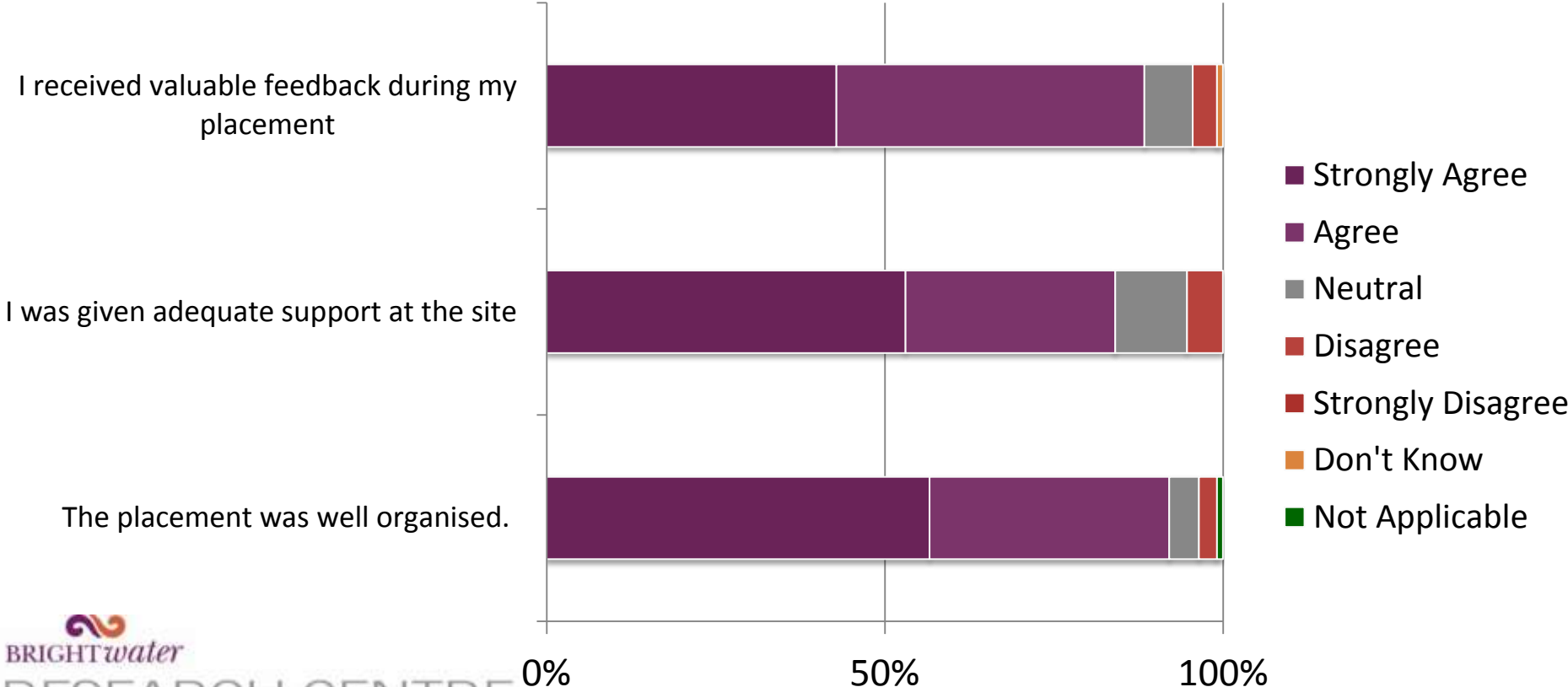
I am very grateful for this clinical placement within aged care. It definitely has enhanced my nursing skills and [I have] become more confident to work in aged care in the near future. The enhancing experience of interprofessional learning and share skills and knowledge with my IPE peers has been beneficial.

2. Interprofessional Education Feedback Form

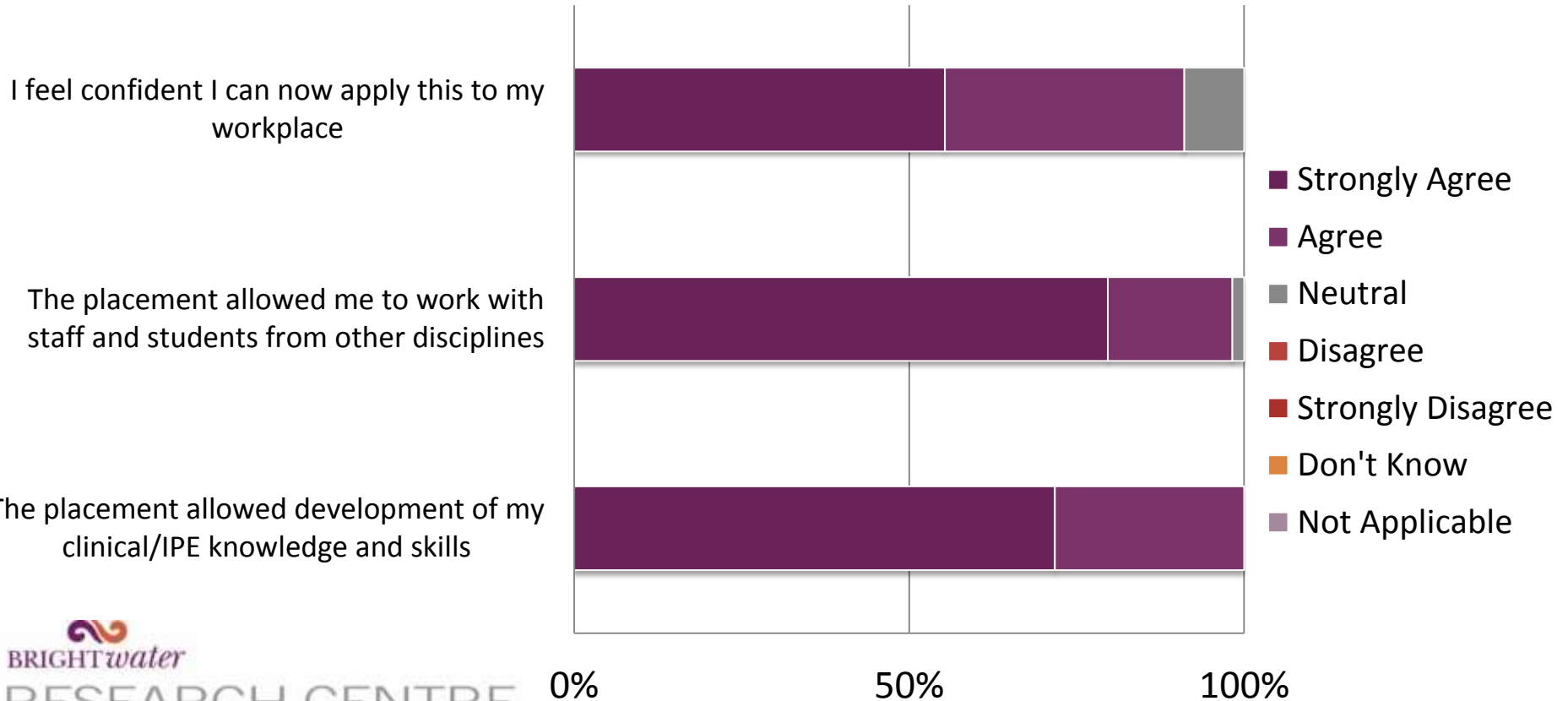
- Developed by Brightwater Care Group as a continual improvement tool for the program
- Administered post placement
- Consists of open and closed questions
- 2013/14 response rate 90.4% (n=113)



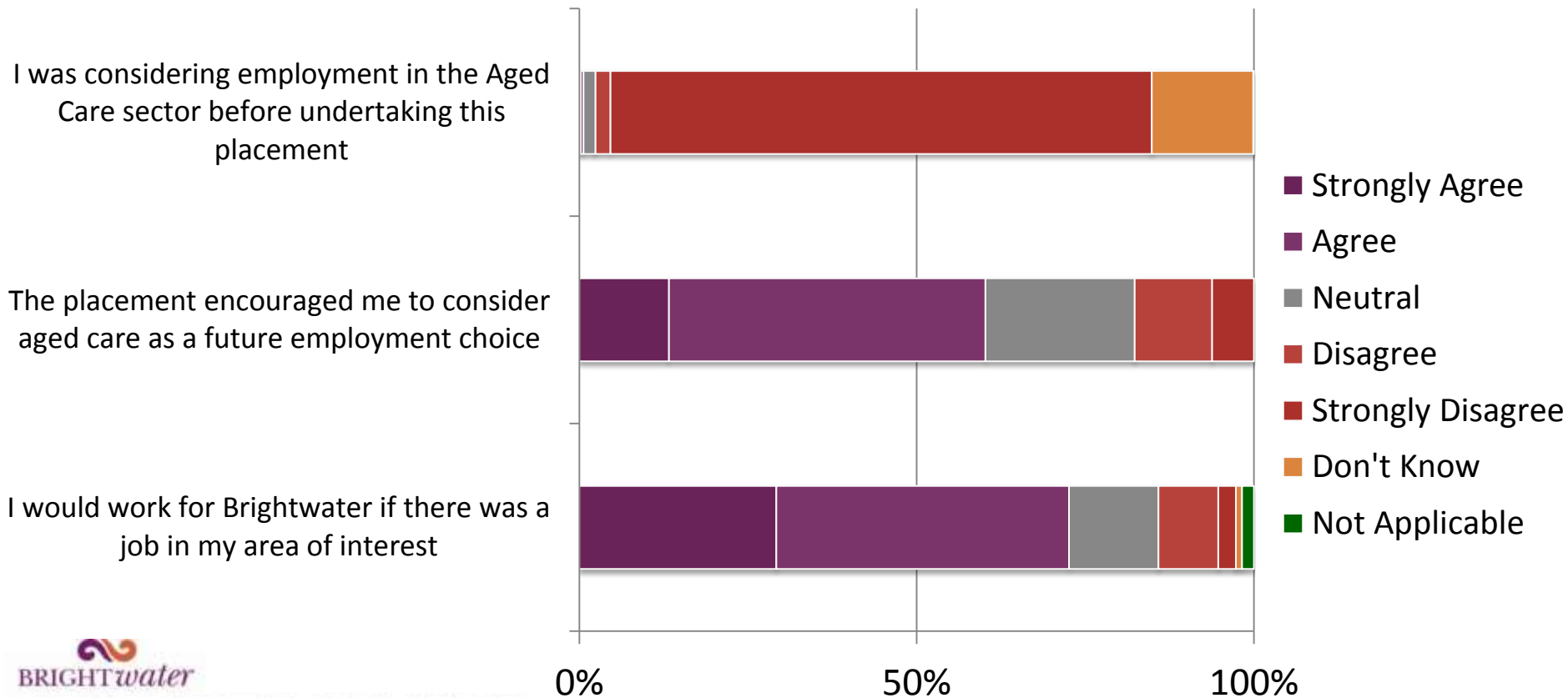
Organisational Support for Facilitating Learning



Interprofessional Learning



Future Employment in Aged Care



Suggestions from Students

- More education on IPE concepts early in program
- Increased time with other disciplines
- Increased time with supervisor
- Opportunities for ongoing IPE project work
- Increased length of placement
- Increased promotion to Universities



Workforce

- This experience will help shape the workforce for the future
- 7 past participants are currently employed with Brightwater:
 - 1 x Speech Pathologist
 - 3 x Care Workers (still completing nursing studies)
 - 1 x Registered Nurse
 - 1 x Occupational Therapy (OT)
 - 1 x Community Support Worker (recent OT graduate)
- A workforce competent in aged care will result in improved outcomes for residents

Outcomes for IPE at Brightwater

Short Term:

- Improve knowledge for students and staff
- Demonstrate and learn interprofessional practice
- Change students perceptions of aged care and working with older adults
- Increase the wellbeing of residents

Long Term:

- Collaborative practice ready workforce
- Workforce ready to provide quality care for people with cognitive and related functional decline
- People with cognitive and related functional decline having a high quality of life and improved health outcomes

Questions?

Acknowledgements:

Residents who have participated in the IPE program

Staff from the Brightwater Madeley facility

University of Western Australia, Curtin University and The University of Notre Dame staff and students

Brightwater Research Centre Staff

Helping Hand, Hammond Care, Alzheimer's Australia Consumer Dementia Research Network



Further Information:

Website: <http://www.brightwatergroup.com/Research/ageing-and-dementia.html>

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