Additional File 3: Survey of CoP members to map the current structure, available expertise and knowledge exchange

To be administered as an online survey

You are being asked to complete this online survey because you are a member of a community of practice that is participating in a research project conducted by the University of New South Wales. This survey typically takes about 20 minutes to complete.

The information you provide by completing this questionnaire will only be seen by members of the research team. Unlike with the more common form of surveys, we are asking for your name to allow us to use social network analysis methods to examine professional and social connections and knowledge exchange that occur within the CoP. The names will be removed and replaced with an alphanumeric code at a professional level (e.g. Doctor 1, Nurse 1, etc.), when entering and analysing data. The unit of analysis is the community of practice and not the individual member; you will not be identifiable from the public reporting of the findings.

Social network analysis methods have been used in the healthcare sector to examine relationships among healthcare providers without compromising privacy, as demonstrated by the following examples:

- Cott C. "We decide, you carry it out": A social network analysis of multidisciplinary longterm care teams. *Soc Sci Med*. 1997; 45(9), 1411-1421.

More details on the project are available in the information sheet that can be accessed through this link. Please do not hesitate to contact any member of the research team if you have any concerns or would like to discuss any aspect of the research.

Thank you for your time.

I. DEMOGRAPHICS

1. Your name ..................................................

   Your name will be replaced by a unique identifier during data entry. Data will be analysed at an aggregated level and no individual will be identifiable in the reporting of findings.
2. What is the name of the community of practice through which you were invited to participate? 

3. What is your sex?  
   Male  
   Female 

4. What age group do you belong to?  
   <20 years  
   20 – 34 years  
   35 – 49 years  
   50 – 69 years  
   70 + years 

5. What is the name of your primary workplace/practice? 

6. In which State or Territory is this workplace/practice located? 

7. In which city or town is this workplace/practice located? 

8. What is the position that you currently hold at your primary workplace/practice?  
   Nursing Unit Manager  
   Clinical Nurse Consultant  
   Clinical Nurse Specialist  
   Registered Nurse  
   Enrolled Nurse  
   Nurse educator  
   Student Nurse  
   Senior Allied Health staff  
   Member of the allied health team  
   Resident Medical Officer  
   Registrar  
   Staff specialist  
   VMO  
   Hospital scientist  
   Academic  
   Executive / Senior Management /Management position  
   Administrative/project staff  
   Other – please specify  

10. How many years have you been working in this profession?  
   ............ years  
   OR  
   ............ months if less than a year 

11. How long have you been a member of this CoP?  
   ............ years  
   OR  
   ............ months if less than a year 

12. Are you considered an expert in an area relevant to the CoP?  
   Yes/No  (If no, skip Q14)
13. If yes, what is your area of expertise? ........................................

14. Which of the following best describes the frequency with which you read the CoP newsletter?

□ I usually read each issue in detail
□ I usually skim the contents of the newsletter and read only contents that I have a particular interest in
□ I usually leave it for reading later but more often than not, never get back to it
□ Rarely / never

15. How often do you participate in the following activities organised by the CoP?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Every session</th>
<th>More often than not</th>
<th>Not often</th>
<th>Never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Face to face seminars</td>
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<td>Web seminars</td>
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<td>Face to face meeting of CoP members</td>
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<td>Teleconference of CoP members</td>
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<td>Blog discussions</td>
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<td>Email discussions via Listserve</td>
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II. INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE WITHIN THE COP

The next set of questions asks about exchange of information and knowledge to and between members of the CoP and about interactions that you have with other members of the CoP. The names are provided to help identify interactions and will be removed for data analysis and reporting. The analysis will be done at a CoP level and not an individual level. No person will be identifiable from the reporting of the results.
Please use the table that accompanies each question when responding to each question. When filling in this table, please:

- Provide a response against all names in the table.
- Select the ‘self’ option against your own name.

This table will follow each question

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Self</th>
<th>Rarely/Never</th>
<th>Yearly</th>
<th>Monthly</th>
<th>Weekly</th>
<th>Daily</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name 1</td>
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Note: The time frame of a year was chosen to allow capture of activities such as face-to-face seminars that may not be held frequently.

16. In the last year, on average, how often have you met face-to-face with the following people?
17. In the last year, on average, how often have you communicated via telephone or email with the following people? We are interested in virtual communication initiated by either party.
18. In the last year, on average, how often have you socialised (e.g. had lunch or coffee) with the following people? (table)
19. In the last year, on average, how often have you asked this person for help or advice on a work-related matter? (table)
20. In the last year, on average, how often have you received information from the following people that has changed or influenced your work practice? (table)
21. How does interacting with each person below typically affect your energy levels? (table with not at all, not much, uncertain, somewhat, very much options against each name).
22. Did you know this person socially and/or professionally prior to joining this CoP? (Table with yes / no options against each name)
23. In your opinion, what can the CoP do to help improve the work that you and your organisation provide in delivering healthcare?
24. Are there any comments you would like to make in relation to assessing the value of the CoP in improving healthcare practice?

This is the end of the survey. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.