



Establishing PRACI: the world's largest complementary healthcare practice-based research network

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Overview

- Local context
- PRACI design
- Establishing PRACI
- Outcomes to date



Understanding Australian CM



- Australia
 - Geographical spread
 - Urban:Rural divide
 - No dedicated CM research funding
- Complementary medicine practice is variable
 - Regulatory oversight
 - Clinical environments and business models
 - community-based
 - Independent vs shared
 - Attitudes to research
 - Attitudes to authority
 - Research exposure and training
 - Integration with existing health services, systems and structures



CIM PBRNs

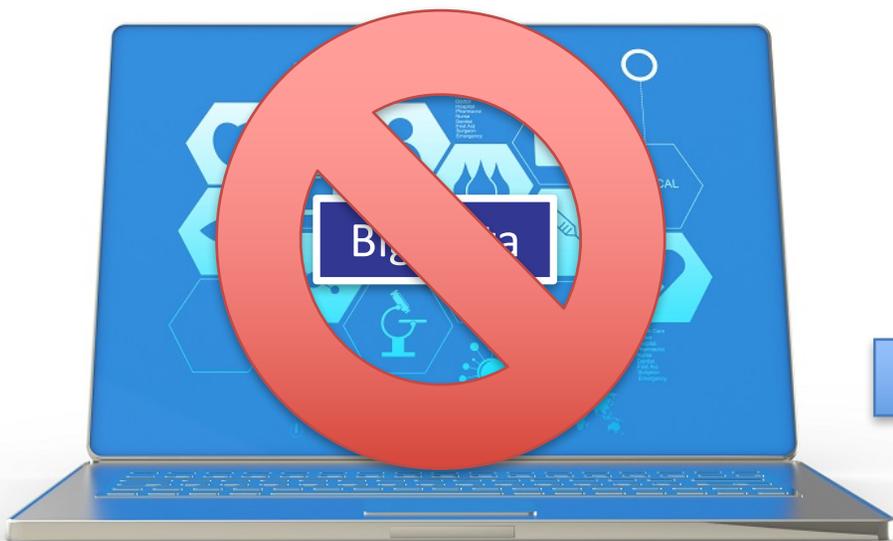
- International CIM PBRNs
 - Chiropractic = 4
 - Osteopathic = 2
 - Integrative medicine = 1
 - Complementary medicine = 1
- Total number of practitioner members
 - Bravenet (Integrative medicine) = 14
 - PRACI = 1056



Growing research through connecting practice



PRACI design



Substudy design

PRACI



Diverse research approaches



Basic science

- Laboratory
- In vitro
- In vivo
- Animal studies

Clinical trials

- Randomised
- Placebo
- Patient-reported outcomes

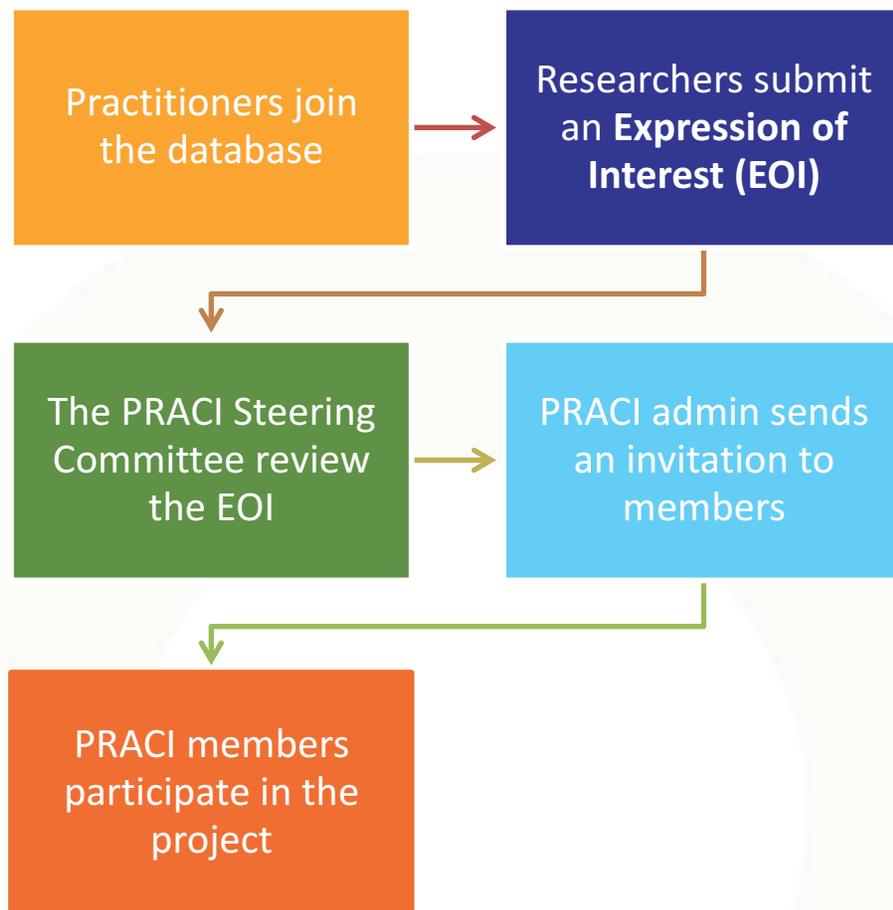
Epidemiology

- Case-control
- Cohort
- Cross-sectional
- Economics

Sociology

- Ethnography
- Grounded theory
- Case study

PRACI design



Core principles for PRACI:

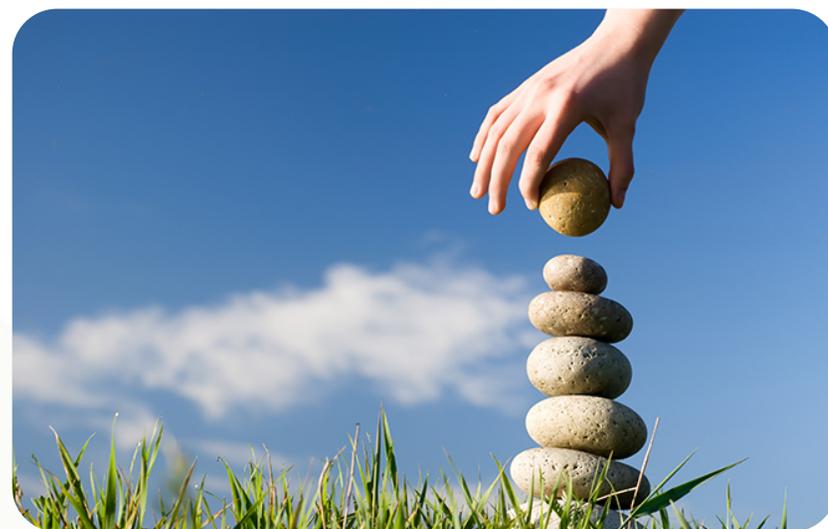
- Privacy and confidentiality
- Optional involvement in each project
- Research projects are reviewed for rigour and alignment with PRACI mission



What have we achieved so far?



- PRACI membership
- Substudies
- CPD points for members
- Key support partners
- Ambassador videos
- Publications

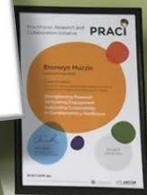
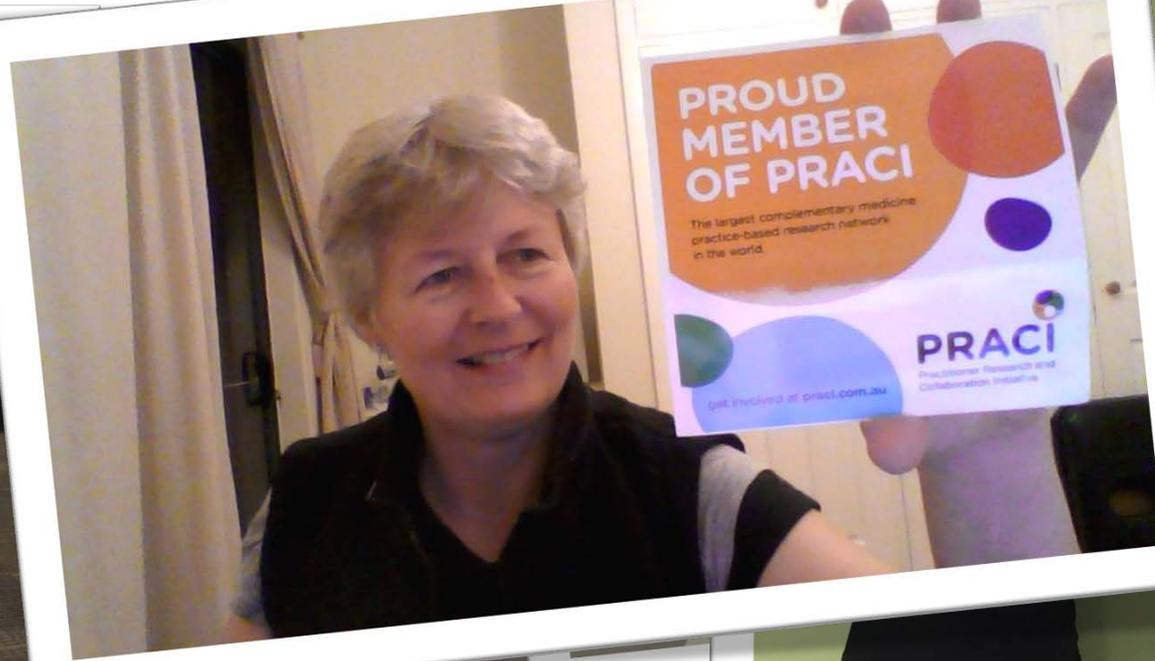
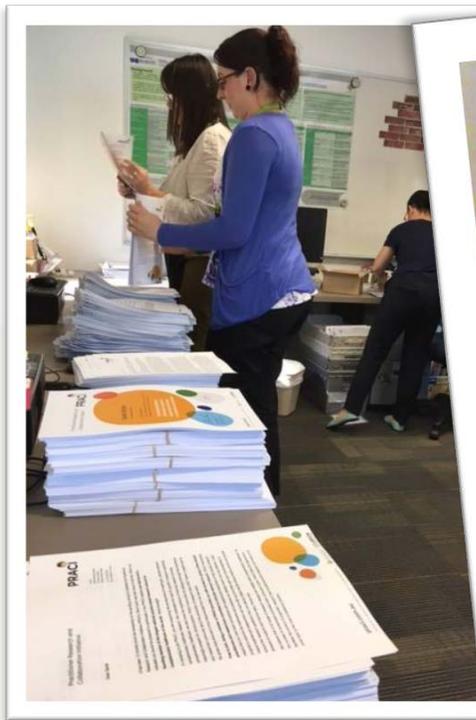


Branding

- Logo
- Website
- Social media
- Stickers, Posters, Pens



PRACI membership



CPD Points for membership



Professional Association	CPD points for PRACI membership
Massage & Myotherapy Australia	15 points per sub-study 10 points for being a member of PRACI 40 points for Conducting a Research Project
Reflexology Association of Australia	1 point per hour (max of 10 points) for sub-study
National Herbalists Association of Australia	1 point per 6 hours for sub-study
Australian Traditional Medicine Society	1 point per 2 hours (max of 8 points) for sub-study
Complementary Medicine Association	1 point per hour (max of 10 points) for sub-study
Australian Naturopathic Practitioners Association	1 point per hour for sub-study
Australian Institute of Kinesiologists	1 point per hour (max 5 points) for sub-study
Australasian Association of Ayurveda	1 point per hour (max 10 points) for sub-study 10 points for Conducting a Research Project
Australian Acupuncture & Chinese Medicine Association	1 point per hour for sub-study
Australian Register of Homoeopaths	1 point per hour for sub-study

If your professional association is not on this list, please contact them directly to enquire as to how many CPD points you will earn.



PRACI Ambassador Series



The Practitioner Research and Collaboration Initiative (PRACI)



Profession	<i>n</i>	Profession	<i>n</i>
Massage therapy	601	Aromatherapy	74
Naturopathy	281	Homeopathy	71
Nutrition	158	Chinese herbal medicine	66
Reflexology	Current membership = 1056 clinicians		81
Acupuncture	124	Kinesiology	46
Western herbal medicine	129	Yoga	41
Myotherapy	66	Ayurveda	12

The world's largest complementary healthcare PBRN



Substudies



1. *Herbal Medicine and the treatment of cyclic perimenstrual pain and discomfort*
 - CI: Carole Fisher (University of Technology Sydney)
2. *Comparative effectiveness study of the clinical and cost outcomes on massage for the management of chronic low back pain in Australia*
 - CI: Dr Amie Steel (Endeavour/University of Technology Sydney)
3. *The practice of yoga in Australia: A workforce study*
 - CI: Dr Sridhar Maddela (University of Technology Sydney)
4. *An exploration of Complementary and Alternative Medicine use for the management of acute respiratory tract infections in children*
 - CI: Sandra Lucas (University of South Australia)
5. *Medical conditions and symptoms presenting to practitioner of Complementary Medicine in Australia. A snapshot across CM modalities.*
 - CI: Dr Michael Watson (Endeavour College of Natural Health)
6. *Treating people with arthritis in traditional Chinese medicine: an examination of the perceptions of traditional Chinese medicine practitioners.*
 - CI: Lu Yang (University of Technology Sydney)
7. *The rationale, practices and knowledge of Australian naturopaths, Western herbal medicine practitioners and nutritionists associated with recommending gluten free diets: A national survey*
 - CI: Dr Joanna Harnett (University of Sydney)
8. *Exploring the contribution made by Australian Naturopaths to the management of individuals with cardiovascular disease and/or known CVD risk factors*
 - CI: Dr Joanna Harnett (University of Sydney)

Key support partners



Publications



Advances in Integrative Medicine 1 (2014) 113–118

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Advances in Integrative Medicine

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/aimed

Developing a multi-modality complementary medicine practice-based research network: The PRACI project

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Commentary

Australian Journal of Herbal Medicine 2015 27(3)

The importance of the PRACI project for grass roots complementary medicine practice: A call for practitioner involvement

Rebecca Reid¹
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Steel et al. *BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine* (2017) 17:87
DOI 10.1186/s12906-017-1609-3

BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine

RESEARCH ARTICLE Open Access

An Overview of the Practitioner Research and Collaboration Initiative (PRACI): a practice-based research network for complementary medicine

Amie Steel^{1,2*}, David Sibbritt², Janet Schloss¹, Jon Wardle², Matthew Leach³, Helene Diezel¹ and Jon Adams²

1. Steel, A., Sibbritt, D., Schloss, J., Wardle, J., Leach, M., Diezel, H., & Adams, J. (2017). An Overview of the Practitioner Research and Collaboration Initiative (PRACI): a practice-based research network for complementary medicine. *BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine*, 17(1), 87.
2. Reid, R., & Steel, A. (2015). The importance of the PRACI project for grass roots complementary medicine practice: A call for practitioner involvement. *Australian Journal of Herbal Medicine*, 27(3), 101.
3. Steel, A., Adams, J., & Sibbritt, D. (2014). Developing a multi-modality complementary medicine practice-based research network: The PRACI project. *Advances in Integrative Medicine*, 1(3), 113-118.



Get involved



www.praci.com.au

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Acknowledgements:



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