

SEXUAL HEALTH WORKFORCE BULLETIN: A PLATFORM TO CAPTURE SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH INFORMATION IN THE TIME OF COVID-19.

Authors:

Ma L¹, Smith C¹, Cornelisse V^{1,2}, Ingram S¹, Maunsell S¹, Pakes M¹, Fiona T¹, Jessica M¹

¹Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis & Sexual Health Medicine, ²Kirketon Road Centre

Background/Purpose: Australia recorded its first case of COVID-19 in late January 2020; since then, it has changed the way we all live and work. The sexual health sector brought in rapid changes to service delivery, including telehealth and other innovations in response to lockdowns and travel restrictions. As part of our response, ASHM established the *Sexual Health Workforce Bulletin: Love in the Time of COVID-19* to capture and share information on changes within the sector.

Approach: The bulletin has been developed by the ASHM Sexual Health Program with expert input by members of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) Australasian Chapter of Sexual Health Medicine (AChSHM) and the ASHM Taskforce on BBVs, Sexual Health and COVID-19. Working closely with other sexual and reproductive health organisations, ASHM provided Australia's sexual health workforce with updated information on changes in clinical practice, health service innovation, medical education, emerging research, and other useful resources.

Outcomes/Impact: ASHM has collaborated with more than 20 sexual, reproductive, and transgender health organisations nationwide across 10 bulletins to date. Together we distributed new and updated resources, new research, education and training opportunities, referral pathways, service utilisation, and COVID-19 information within the sector.

The latest bulletin was distributed to approximately 8,000 individuals and organisations across the Australasian region.

At the end of 2020, we produced a special edition titled "retrospective edition", it received compelling submissions from 10 organisations, reflecting on the changes, challenges, successes, adaptations, and innovations that they experienced working in sexual, reproductive, and transgender health in 2020. This edition had a greater than 70% open rate.

Innovation and Significance: The Sexual Health Workforce Bulletin provides a centralised platform for the sexual and reproductive health sector to contribute, distribute, share, and obtain information.

In a "new normal" post-COVID-19 world, this bulletin will continue to be a valuable engagement tool for ASHM's Sexual Health Program and the broader sector.

Disclosure of Interest Statement:

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.