

A workforce survey investigating scope of practice and demographics of Australian Emergency Department Physiotherapists

Participant information and consent

What is the research about?

A research survey investigating the scope of practice, workforce demographics and experiences of Emergency Department (ED) physiotherapists. The purpose of the study is to establish an accurate picture of ED physiotherapists; investigating the scope of practice, workload priorities and the self-perceived optimisation of their role, both currently and into the future.

Who is conducting the research?

The research is being carried out by co-investigator Tina Vickery as part of a Master of Research award; Dr Lindsey Brett, Chief investigator and student supervisor, and Associate Professor Taryn Jones, Associate supervisor and co-investigator. The research team is affiliated with the Department of Health Professions, Macquarie University. The research is not supported by a funding grant, scholarship or commercial sponsorship.

Who can participate in the research?

To be eligible to participate in this research, you must meet the following inclusion criteria:

- AHPRA Registered physiotherapist
- Currently working in an Australian ED and ED extension wards such as Short Stay Units

Participants who meet the following criteria will be excluded from the study:

- Physiotherapy students.

What does participating in the research require, and are there any risks involved?

If you decide to participate survey, you will be asked to:

- Read the information provided carefully
- Agree to participate
- Complete the online survey hosted by REDCap

The survey will comprise of a series of questions being a combination of multiple-choice and short answer format. It is anticipated you will need up to 15minutes to complete the survey. While there is no clear benefit or risk to individuals participating in this survey, participants have the opportunity to contribute to the body of research which aims to better understand ED physiotherapy. There will be no further obligations to participate after the completion of the survey. If you feel some of the questions asked are stressful or upsetting, or you do not wish to answer a question, you may skip it and go to the next question, or you may abort the survey entirely.

What will happen to the information I provide?

Throughout the survey, no personal identifiable data will be collected, and no individual will be identified in any publication of the results. You will not be asked for your name, email, DOB or other personally identifiable data. Any information or details gathered in the course of the study are confidential, except as required by law. Only members of the research team, listed here, will have access to the survey data. The data will be collected using online survey tool, REDCap. Any data downloaded from the platform will be stored in password protected files on a restricted drive hosted by Macquarie University and deleted 5 years after any publications related to the research.

How and when will I find out what the results of the study are?

Through the course of the study, no personal contact details (email, address or phone numbers) will be collected, this means the research team will be unable to contact you for further data collection or to provide you with the results of the research. A summary of the results and findings of the research may be published in academic publications, professional associations or presented at conferences. A summary of the results of the research can be made available to you on request by emailing co-investigator, Tina Vickery (tina.vickery@hdr.mq.edu.au). There is no anticipated use of the data collected beyond what is described here.

What if I want to withdraw from the research study?

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary: you are not obliged to participate. If you decide to participate, you are free to withdraw at any time without having to give a reason and without consequence prior to completing the study survey. Once you have completed the survey it is not possible to withdraw due to the non-identifiable nature of survey responses. Researchers are unable to identify your questionnaire for removal.

What should I do if I have further questions about the research or my involvement in the study?

If you would like further information regarding the study or have questions relating to your participation in the study, you may contact the following members of the research team:

Ms Tina Vickery

Dr Lindsey Brett

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What if I have a complaint or concern about the research study?

This study has been approved by the Macquarie University Human Research Ethics Committee, Reference No: 5202090921827, Project ID: 9098. If you have any complaints or reservations about any ethical aspect of your participation in this research, you may contact the Committee through the Director, Research Ethics & Integrity (telephone (02) 9850 7854; email ethics@mq.edu.au). Any complaint you make will be treated in confidence and investigated, and you will be informed of the outcome.

Can I keep a copy of the Participant information and consent detailed here?

Yes, please download the attached PDF version of the participant information and consent

[Attachment: "2020.11.02_PICF_Downloadable PDF.pdf"]

[Attachment: "Ethics approval Letter.pdf"]

I have read (or, where appropriate, have had read to me) and understand the information above and any questions I have asked have been answered to my satisfaction

- ☐ I agree to participate in this research, knowing that I can withdraw from further participation in the research at any time without consequence. I have been given a copy of this form to keep.
- ☐ I do not wish to participate in the research.

Screening Questions

Do you currently work or provide services in an Australian Emergency Department (ED) in the role of a physiotherapist?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

- Please note for the purpose of this study, Short Stay Units and ED extension wards are included within the overarching term of ED

Are you currently a physiotherapy student

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

A workforce survey investigating the scope of practice and demographics of Australian Emergency Department physiotherapists.

What is your age (in years)

Please select your gender

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ non-binary/gender diverse ☐ Prefer not to say ☐ My gender is not listed

My gender is not listed, I identify as:

What type of entry level training program did you graduate from to become a physiotherapist?

- ☐ Undergraduate Bachelor degree (4 years) (with or without honours)
☐ Post graduate master of physiotherapy (2 years)
☐ Post graduate extended masters or Doctor of physiotherapy (3 years)
☐ Other

You listed your entry level program as "other"
Please provide the name or type of your entry level program:

What year did you graduate from
[entry_level_program]?

- ☐ 1950
- ☐ 1951
- ☐ 1952
- ☐ 1953
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- ☐ 2013
- ☐ 2014
- ☐ 2015
- ☐ 2016
- ☐ 2017
- ☐ 2018

- ☐ 2019
☐ 2020

How many years have you been working in ED?

In which state are you currently working as an ED physiotherapist?

- ☐ ACT
☐ VIC
☐ NSW
☐ QLD
☐ SA
☐ NT
☐ WA
☐ TAS

Do you work in more than one health district/service as an ED physiotherapist?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

If you work in more than one health district, please answer the following questions in relation to the district in which you work the most hours.

Which Hospital or Health District do you work in as an ED physiotherapist?

- ☐ Canberra Health
☐ Other

Which Hospital or Health District do you work in as an ED physiotherapist?

- ☐ Albury Wodonga Health
- ☐ Alexandra District Health
- ☐ Alfred Health
- ☐ Alpine Health
- ☐ Austin Health
- ☐ Bairnsdale Regional Health
- ☐ Ballarat Health
- ☐ Barwon Health
- ☐ Bass Coast Health
- ☐ Beaufort & Skipton Health
- ☐ Beechworth Health Service
- ☐ Benalla Health
- ☐ Boort District Health
- ☐ Calvary Health Care Bethlehem
- ☐ Castlemaine Health
- ☐ Central Gippsland Health Service
- ☐ Cohuna District Health
- ☐ Colac Area Health
- ☐ Djerriwarrh Health
- ☐ Dunmunkle Health Service
- ☐ East Grampians Health Service
- ☐ East Wimmera Health Service
- ☐ Eastern Health
- ☐ Echuca Regional Health
- ☐ Edenhope and District Memorial Hospital
- ☐ Gippsland Souther Health Service
- ☐ Goulburn Valley Health
- ☐ Great Ocean Road Health
- ☐ Heathcote Health
- ☐ Hepburn Health Service
- ☐ Hesse Rural Health
- ☐ Heywood Rural Health
- ☐ Inglewood and District Health
- ☐ Kerang District Health
- ☐ Kilmore and District Health
- ☐ Kooweerup Regional Health Service
- ☐ Kyabram and District Health Service
- ☐ Kyneton District Health Service
- ☐ Latrobe Regional Hospital
- ☐ Maldon Hospital
- ☐ Mallee Track Health and Community Service
- ☐ Mansfield District Hospital
- ☐ Maryborough District Health Service
- ☐ Melbourne Health
- ☐ Mercy Health
- ☐ Mildura Hospital
- ☐ Monash Health
- ☐ Moyne Health Services
- ☐ NCN Health
- ☐ Northeast Health Wangaratta
- ☐ Northern Health
- ☐ Omeo District Health
- ☐ Orbost Regional Health
- ☐ Peninsula Health
- ☐ Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute
- ☐ Portland District Health
- ☐ Robinvale District Health Services
- ☐ Rochester and Elmore District Health Services
- ☐ Royal Children's Hospital
- ☐ Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital
- ☐ Rural North West Health
- ☐ Seymour Health
- ☐ South Gippsland Health
- ☐ South West Healthcare
- ☐ St Vincent's Health
- ☐ Stawell Regional Health
- ☐ Swan Hill District Health
- ☐ Tallangatta Health Service
- ☐ Terang & Mortlake Health Service

- ☐ The Queen Elizabeth Centre
- ☐ The Women's
- ☐ Timboon and District Healthcare Service
- ☐ Tweddle Child and Family Health Service
- ☐ Upper Murray Health and Community Services
- ☐ West Gippsland Healthcare Group
- ☐ West Wimmera Health Service
- ☐ Western District Health Service
- ☐ Western Health
- ☐ Wimmera Health Care Group
- ☐ Yarram and District Health Service
- ☐ Yarram and District Health Service
- ☐ Yarrawonga District Health
- ☐ Yea and District Memorial Hospital
- ☐ Other, not listed

Which Hospital or Health District do you work in as an ED physiotherapist?

- ☐ Central Coast Local Health District
- ☐ Northern Sydney Local Health District
- ☐ Sydney Local Health District
- ☐ South Eastern Sydney Local Health District
- ☐ Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District
- ☐ South West Sydney Local Health District
- ☐ Western Sydney Local Health District
- ☐ Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District
- ☐ Northern NSW Local Health District
- ☐ Mid North Coast Local Health District
- ☐ Hunter New England Local Health District
- ☐ Western NSW Local Health District
- ☐ Far West Local Health District
- ☐ Murrumbidgee Local Health District
- ☐ Southern NSW Local Health District
- ☐ Sydney Children's Hospitals Network (Randwick and Westmead)
- ☐ Other, not listed

Which Hospital or Health District do you work in as an ED physiotherapist?

- ☐ Cairns and Hinterland Health Service
- ☐ Central Queensland Health Service
- ☐ Central West Health Service
- ☐ Children's Health Queensland Health Service
- ☐ Darling Downs Health Service
- ☐ Gold Coast Health Service
- ☐ Mackay Health Service
- ☐ Metro North Health Service
- ☐ Metro South Health Service
- ☐ North West Health Service
- ☐ South West Health Service
- ☐ Sunshine Coast Health Service
- ☐ Torres and Cape Health Service
- ☐ Townsville Health Service
- ☐ West Moreton Health Service
- ☐ Wide Bay Health Service
- ☐ Other, not listed

Which Hospital or Health District do you work in as an ED physiotherapist?

- ☐ Barossa Hills Fleurieu Local Health Network
- ☐ Central Adelaide Local Health Network
- ☐ Eyre and Far North Local Health Network
- ☐ Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network
- ☐ Limestone Coast Local Health Network
- ☐ Northern Adelaide Local Health Network
- ☐ Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network
- ☐ Southern Adelaide Local Health Network
- ☐ Women's and Children's Local Health Network
- ☐ Yorke and Northern Local Health Network
- ☐ Other, Not listed

Which Hospital or Health District do you work in as an ED physiotherapist?

- ☐ Alice Spring Hospital
- ☐ Darwin Hospital
- ☐ Katherine District Hospital
- ☐ Palmerston Health
- ☐ Tennant Creek Hospital
- ☐ Grove District Hospital
- ☐ Not listed

Which Hospital or Health District do you work in as an ED physiotherapist?

- ☐ East Metropolitan Health Service
- ☐ North Metropolitan Health Service
- ☐ South Metropolitan Health Service
- ☐ Kimberly Health Service
- ☐ Pilbara Health Service
- ☐ Midwest Health Service
- ☐ The Wheatbelt Health Service
- ☐ The Goldfields Health Service
- ☐ South West Health Service
- ☐ The Great Southern Health Service
- ☐ Other, Not listed

Which Hospital or Health District do you work in as an ED physiotherapist?

- ☐ North-West Health Service
- ☐ North Health Service
- ☐ South Health Service
- ☐ Other, Not listed

What classification is your ED physiotherapy position?
If you also hold a an additional responsibility, please tick both options.

- ☐ Level 1
- ☐ Level 2
- ☐ Level 3
- ☐ Level 4
- ☐ Level 5
- ☐ Level 6
- ☐ Deputy Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ ED Unit Head or Team Leader (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Unsure

What classification is your ED physiotherapy position?

If you also hold a an additional responsibility, please tick both options.

- ☐ Grade 1
- ☐ Grade 2
- ☐ Grade 3A
- ☐ Grade 3
- ☐ Grade 4
- ☐ Grade 5
- ☐ Grade 6
- ☐ Grade 7
- ☐ Assistant Physiotherapy Manager (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Physiotherapy Manager (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ ED Unit Head or Team Leader (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Unsure

What classification is your ED physiotherapy position?

If you also hold a an additional responsibility, please tick both options.

- ☐ Level 1
- ☐ Level 2
- ☐ Level 3
- ☐ Level 4
- ☐ Level 5
- ☐ Level 6 - Clinical Specialist
- ☐ Level 7
- ☐ Level 8 - Discipline Specific Director / Advisor
- ☐ Deputy Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ ED Unit Head or Team Leader (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Unsure

What classification is your ED physiotherapy position?

If you also hold a an additional responsibility, please tick both options.

- ☐ Health Practitioner one (HP1)
- ☐ Health Practitioner two (HP2)
- ☐ Health Practitioner three (HP3)
- ☐ Health Practitioner four (HP4)
- ☐ Health Practitioner five (HP5)
- ☐ Health Practitioner six (HP6)
- ☐ Health Practitioner seven (HP7)
- ☐ Health Practitioner eight (HP8)
- ☐ Deputy Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ ED Unit Head or Team Leader (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Unsure

What classification is your ED physiotherapy position?

If you also hold a an additional responsibility, please tick both options.

- ☐ Allied Health Professional one (AHP-1)
- ☐ Allied Health Professional two (AHP-2)
- ☐ Allied Health Professional three (AHP-3)
- ☐ Allied Health Professional four (AHP-4)
- ☐ Allied Health Professional five (AHP-5)
- ☐ Allied Health Professional six (AHP-6)
- ☐ Deputy Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ ED Unit Head or Team Leader (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Unsure

What classification is your ED physiotherapy position?
If you also hold a an additional responsibility, please tick both options.

- ☐ Professional Stream one (P1)
- ☐ Professional Stream two (P2)
- ☐ Professional Stream three (P3)
- ☐ Senior Professional Stream one (SP1)
- ☐ Senior Professional Stream two (SP2)
- ☐ Deputy Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ ED Unit Head or Team Leader (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Unsure

What classification is your ED physiotherapy position?
If you also hold a an additional responsibility, please tick both options.

- ☐ Health Professional - Level 1
- ☐ Health Professional - Level 2
- ☐ Health Professional - Level 3
- ☐ Health Professional - Level 4
- ☐ Health Professional - Level 5
- ☐ Deputy Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ ED Unit Head or Team Leader (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Unsure

What classification is your ED physiotherapy position?
If you also hold an additional responsibility, please tick both options.

- ☐ Allied Health Professional Level 1
- ☐ Allied Health Professional Level 2
- ☐ Allied Health Professional Level 3
- ☐ Allied Health Professional Level 4
- ☐ Allied Health Professional Level 5
- ☐ Allied Health Professional Manager Level 5
- ☐ Allied Health Professional Specialist level 5
- ☐ Deputy Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Department Head (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ ED Unit Head or Team Leader (in addition to maintaining clinical load)
- ☐ Unsure

What is the nature of your current employment as an ED physiotherapist

- ☐ Permanent - Full Time
- ☐ Permanent - Part Time
- ☐ Temporary - Full Time
- ☐ Temporary - Part Time
- ☐ Casual

On average, how many hours do you work in ED per fortnight ?

In your position, do you cover a clinical caseload outside of the ED?
If so, please select the most appropriate response or provide further details

- ☐ No, I only work in ED or an ED extension ward (Short Stay Unit etc)
- ☐ Yes, Acute Inpatients
- ☐ Yes, Medical Assessment Ward
- ☐ Yes, Geriatric Ward
- ☐ Yes, Rehabilitation or Geriatric Rehabilitation ward/s
- ☐ Yes, Outpatient Setting
- ☐ Other - Please describe below

Please list the other wards or areas you work in as part of your role

Seperate to your role as an ED physiotherapist, do you hold any other paid positions?

- ☐ No, ED is my only paid position
- ☐ Physiotherapist - Acute Inpatients
- ☐ Physiotherapist - Rehabilitation Inpatients
- ☐ Physiotherapist - Outpatients (hospital)
- ☐ Physiotherapist - Private Practice
- ☐ Physiotherapist - Aged Care
- ☐ Physiotherapist - Rotating position
- ☐ Health Service Manager - planning, operations, clinical governance, projects, etc.
- ☐ University Employee - Academic, lecturer, tutor, professional role, researcher
- ☐ Committee Member, APA, APC, Health Governing Body (ACI, Vic Health etc)
- ☐ Other - Please describe

Other paid work, not listed above:

Education and Training

Have you completed or are you currently completing a further university qualification other than your entry level physiotherapy program?

If you have completed one qualification and are currently completing another, please select both options

- ☐ Yes - Currently completing
☐ Yes - Completed
☐ No

Please select which of the following university qualifications you are currently completing

- ☐ Graduate Certificate - Sports
☐ Graduate Certificate - Musculoskeletal
☐ Clinical Masters - Sports
☐ Clinical Masters - Musculoskeletal
☐ Masters of Research
☐ Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
☐ Other, please list below

Other:

What motivated you to engage in a [fuq_currently_comp]

Please select which of the following university qualifications you have completed

- ☐ Graduate Certificate - Sports
☐ Graduate Certificate - Musculoskeletal
☐ Clinical Masters - Sports
☐ Clinical Masters - Musculoskeletal
☐ Masters of Research
☐ Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
☐ Other, please list below

What motivated you to engage in a [fuq_completed]

Have you participated in a formal ED physiotherapy or Advanced Practice competency and capability training program?

Such as the Victorian "Advanced Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Clinical Education Framework"

- ☐ Yes - I am currently completing "Advanced musculoskeletal physiotherapy services in emergency departments" program.
☐ Yes - I have completed the "Advanced musculoskeletal physiotherapy services in emergency departments" program.
☐ No
☐ Other, please list below

Other:

What motivated you to engage in a [formal_train_prog]

Training - Preparedness for ED**Please select the most appropriate answer for the following questions.**

Please rate the following training and education opportunities in relation to how valuable they have been in your development as an ED physiotherapist.

0 - of no value, 4 - Very valuable

If you have not participated in one of the options please provide an N/A

- APA affiliated course _____
- APA affiliated conference _____
- Conference affiliated with medical training provider
(ACEM, directed at medical officers) _____
- ED based mentoring by medical staff _____
- Hospital/district based mentoring by physiotherapist/s _____
- Hospital/district based supervision (physiotherapy) _____
- Hospital/Health District formal training program _____
- International - Experience working as a physiotherapist in ED _____
- Entry level training program _____
- Formal University training beyond entry level program _____
- International - Formal training or education _____
- Other, please provide details:

Your role in ED

How would you classify your role as a physiotherapist in ED?

(Primary Contact Clinician - Independently assesses and/or manages triaged patients in ED (has the ability to remove someone from the wait list/wait room and transition them into a model of care.). Secondary Contact Clinical - Assesses and/or manages patients at the request/post referral from medical professional (Does not have the ability to remove someone from the waitlist and move patient into a model of care). Aged Care Assessment Team - Does not assess or manage patients beyond the scope of assessing elderly or geriatric patients in ED. Dedicated shifts such as ASET, SWAT, TREAT etc.)

- ☐ Primary Contact Clinician - Independently assesses and/or manages triaged patients in ED. (Can select patient from triage list) ☐ Secondary Contact Clinical - Assesses and/or manages patients at the request/post referral from medical professional (Can not remove a patient from the triage list) ☐ Aged Care / Assessment of elderly- Does not assess or manage patients beyond the scope of assessing elderly or geriatric patients in ED.
☐ Some shifts are Primary Contact, others are designated as Aged Assessment Team

How would you classify the model of care, under which you operate in ED?

- ☐ Autonomous - I do not need to consult with a medical officer during a patient's ED presentation, assessment, management or prior to patient discharge. ☐ Collaborative - I must consult with a medical officer at some stage of a patient's ED presentation, assessment, prior to discharge.

How would you classify your principle scope of practice?

- ☐ Aged Care
☐ Cardio-Respiratory
☐ Neurological
☐ Musculoskeletal
☐ Paediatric
☐ Sports
☐ Women's Health
☐ Other, not listed

Please classify your principle scope of practice

Please classify your clinical stream of practice

- ☐ Acute Care
☐ Aged Care
☐ Primary Care
☐ Rehabilitation
☐ Other, not listed

Please classify your clinical stream of practice

The next series of questions is related to your current scope of practice and the activities you perform in ED.

"Independently" refers to your ability to complete the listed task without needing to gain approval or consult with another professional within ED prior to doing so. Response option "via local ED protocol" is referring to a task which you perform or complete based entirely on an ED protocol. If more than one response is applicable, please select the most appropriate

Do you perform assessments of elderly patients in ED.

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

This may include specific shifts dedicated to the assessment of older people in ED (such as ASET, SWAT, TREAT etc) OR mobility assessment of elderly patients

Do you assess patients presenting with suspected concussion?

- ☐ Yes - in a primary contact role
☐ Yes - In a secondary contact role only
☐ No - This is outside my scope
☐ No - I am not confident to do so

Do you provide management/treatment for patients in ED with a concussion?

- ☐ Yes - in a primary contact role
☐ Yes - In a secondary contact role only
☐ No - This is outside my scope
☐ No - I am not confident to do so

Do you assess patients presenting with dizziness of unknown origin?

- ☐ Yes - in a primary contact role
☐ Yes - In a secondary contact role only
☐ No - This is outside my scope
☐ No - I am not confident to do so

Do you provide management/treatment for patients in ED with dizziness?

- ☐ Yes - in a primary contact role
☐ Yes - In a secondary contact role only
☐ No - This is outside my scope
☐ No - I am not confident to do so

Do you assess paediatric patients?

- ☐ Yes - in a primary contact role
☐ Yes - In a secondary contact role only
☐ No - This is outside my scope
☐ No - I am not confident to do so
(Paediatric for the purpose of this study refers to patients under 18 years of age.)

Do you perform mobility assessments?

- ☐ Yes - in a primary contact role
☐ Yes - In a secondary contact role only
☐ No - This is outside my scope
☐ No - I am not confident to do so

Do you perform assessments in SSU or ED Extension wards?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Do you assess patients presenting with suspected rib fractures?

- ☐ Yes - in a primary contact role
☐ Yes - In a secondary contact role only
☐ No - This is outside my scope
☐ No - I am not confident to do so

Do you provide management/treatment for patients with rib fractures in ED?

- ☐ Yes - in a primary contact role
☐ Yes - In a secondary contact role only
☐ No - This is outside my scope
☐ No - I am not confident to do so

Do you assess patients presenting with a wound?

- ☐ Yes - in a primary contact role
☐ Yes - In a secondary contact role only
☐ No - This is outside my scope
☐ No - I am not confident to do so

Do you provide management/treatment for patients with a wound?

- ☐ Yes - in a primary contact role
☐ Yes - In a secondary contact role only
☐ No - This is outside my scope
☐ No - I am not confident to do so

Do you suture wounds in ED?

- ☐ Independently (without supervision or approval)
☐ Under the supervision or guidance of a ED medical officer
☐ I do not perform any suturing as it is beyond my scope of practice
☐ I do not perform any suturing as I am not confident to do so despite it being within my scope of practice

Do you administer medications in ED

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Do you prescribe medications in ED?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

By what mechanism do you prescribe medications in ED?

- ☐ Protocol Based prescription ☐ Autonomous based on my clinical decision making process

What medications do you predominantly prescribe in ED?

Do you independently order x-rays for adults (≥ 18 years of age)

- ☐ Yes
☐ Yes - via local ED protocol
☐ No

Do you independently order x-rays for children (≤ 17 years of age)

- ☐ Yes
☐ Yes - via local ED protocol
☐ No

Do you independently order peripheral CT scans

- ☐ Yes
☐ Yes - via local ED protocol
☐ No
(peripheral = upper or lower limb)

Do you independently order Spinal CT scans

- ☐ Yes
☐ Yes - via local ED protocol
☐ No

Do you independently order peripheral MRI scans	☐ Yes ☐ Yes - via local ED protocol ☐ No (peripheral = upper or lower limb)
Do you independently order Spinal MRI scans	☐ Yes ☐ Yes - via local ED protocol ☐ No
Do you independently order blood tests	☐ Yes ☐ Yes - via local ED protocol ☐ No
Do you independently interpret blood test results	☐ Yes ☐ Yes - via local ED protocol ☐ No
Does your role allow you to independently interpret adult x-rays?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Does your role allow you to independently interpret paediatric x-rays?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Does your role allow you to independently interpret peripheral CT Scans?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Does your role allow you to independently interpret spinal MRI Scans?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Do you perform joint relocations/reductions?	☐ Independently (without supervision or approval) ☐ Under the supervision or guidance of a ED medical officer ☐ I do not perform joint relocations/reductions as it is beyond my scope of practice ☐ I do not perform joint relocations/reductions as I am not confident to do so despite it being within my scope of practice
Do you perform closed reductions of fractures?	☐ Independently (without supervision or approval) ☐ Under the supervision or guidance of a ED medical officer ☐ I do not perform closed fracture reductions as it is beyond my scope of practice ☐ I do not perform closed fracture reduction as I am not confident to do so, despite it being within my scope of practice
Does your role allow you to discharge patients from ED?	☐ Independently (without supervision or requiring to consult with others prior) ☐ Under supervision - I must consult with ED medical officer prior ☐ No - Patients must be assessed by an ED medical officer prior to discharge

Choose which of the following best represents your feelings regarding your current scope of practice in ED

- ☐ I am happy with my scope in this role
- ☐ I am frustrated by the limitations of my scope in this role
- ☐ I am concerned by elements within the scope of this role and hence, do not perform all tasks as I do not feel it is appropriate for physiotherapy to do so.

The following questions are related to the physiotherapy service provision and prioritisation in the ED you work in

Which funding body or department funds your role within ED.

If more than one body funds your role, select all that apply.

☐ Emergency Department ☐ Short Stay Unit ☐ Geriatrics ☐ Physiotherapy ☐ Unknown to me
☐ not listed _____

How many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) ED physiotherapy positions are funded in your health district?

(If you are unsure, please state "unknown")

Select which option best reflects weekly ED physiotherapy service coverage:

☐ Weekdays only
☐ 7-day service

Is ED physiotherapy coverage consistent between weekends and weekdays?

☐ Yes - Always same hours covered
☐ No - Hours vary
☐ Unsure

What time period does physiotherapy provide coverage to ED on weekdays?

(For example: 8am - 8pm)

What time period does ED physiotherapy provide coverage to ED on weekends

(eg. Sat: 8am - 8pm, Sun: 7am-2pm)

What time period does physiotherapy provide coverage to ED?

(eg. 8am - 8pm)

Please rank the following from tasks most important (1), to least important (7) in relation to the role of a physiotherapist in ED

Clearing patients from the triage list _____
Stopping patients from being admitted to inpatient wards _____
Performing assessments of older or geriatric patients
(this may include mobility assessments)

Application of plasters and/or splints _____
Respiratory Assessment / Management _____
Whatever the ED Medical officer in charge determines as most important at the time _____
Helping on other wards / units _____

Who in the multidisciplinary team do you commonly work closely with in ED
(select all that apply)

- ☐ Occupational Therapist ☐ Social Worker ☐ Discharge Planner ☐ Nurse - RN ☐ Nurse - AIN or EM
☐ Nurse Practitioner ☐ ED Navigator ☐ Clinical NUM ☐ Emergency Medicine Specialist (ED SS or ED
Consultant) ☐ Medical Practitioner working in ED (Accredited or non accredited regisra, intern, Career
medical officer) ☐ Orthopaedic Medical Practitioner (Registra or consultant) ☐ Paediatric Medical
Practitioner (Registra or consultant) ☐ Specialist Medical Practitioner not listed above
-

Change the slider to show how well understood your role is by the following stakeholders

How well do staff and patients understand your role?

ED Medical officers _____

Nursing staff in ED _____

Other MDT members _____

Patients presenting to ED _____

How does the above mentioned stakeholders
understanding of ED physiotherapy impact your role?

(For example, how does a patients understanding of
ED physiotherapy impact your role?)

Change the slider to show how well respected your role is by the following stakeholders

ED Medical officers _____

Nursing staff in ED _____

Other MDT members _____

Patients presenting to ED _____

How does the above mentioned stakeholders level of
respect for ED physiotherapy impact your role?

(For example, how does a patients respect of the
role of ED physiotherapy impact your role)

The following series of questions relate to the future of ED physiotherapists and your beliefs surrounding the notion of advanced skills, clinical reasoning and extended practice physiotherapists.

Please remember the survey is anonymous and these responses will not be individually identified

How many more years do you intend on working as an ED physiotherapist?

Do you believe that ED physiotherapists should have an extended scope role in the future?

- ☐ Yes - Without formal training beyond current standardised pre-registration training
☐ Yes - With a formal training specialisation pathway
☐ No - ED physiotherapist should stay within their current scope

Extended scope relates to a scope beyond the current legislative and AHPRA mandated scope.

Please select which of the following you believe should be included in the scope of practice for extended scope physiotherapist.
(should it be developed in the future)

- ☐ Joint Aspirations ☐ Limited medication prescription rights (analgesia and anti-inflammatories)
☐ Limited medication administration rights (analgesia and anti-inflammatories) ☐ Limited medication prescription rights (antibiotics) ☐ Referral and ordering of medical imaging (MRI and CT) covered by Medicare ☐ Independent interpretation of medical imaging (all musculoskeletal imaging)
☐ Local anaesthetic administration ☐ Independent joint relocations/reductions ☐ Independent fracture reductions ☐ Lead/Perform Beirs Block ☐ Administer Nitros Oxide ☐ Independently debride a wound in ED ☐ Independently manage a wound in ED (glue or stitch) ☐ Independent assessment and management of dizziness of unknown origin ☐ Other, please list

Please list other tasks or responsibilities you believe should be included in the scope of an Extended Scope physiotherapist

What do you believe should be the formal training program for extended scope physiotherapists

- ☐ Formal University Training - Master of Emergency Physiotherapy
☐ Formal University Training - Graduate Certificate of Emergency Physiotherapy
☐ Australian Physiotherapy College Training Program ☐ Each state health system determine and provide training program
☐ Each health district determine and provide specific training program
☐ Other, _____

Which governing body should Emergency Department Extended Scope physiotherapists be overseen by?

- ☐ Australian Physiotherapy Council (APC) on behalf of the Physiotherapy Board of Australia ☐ Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA) ☐ Australian Physiotherapy College ☐ Australian College of Emergency Medicine (ACEM)
☐ Nil, Unecessary ☐ Other:
 (Note: The APC are authorised accreditors on behalf of the Physiotherapy Board of Australia. The Physiotherapy Board of Australia is one of fifteen boards that work in partnership with AHPRA)

Please detail which governing body should oversee Extended Scope Physiotherapists

The following questions are related to what factors are currently impacting the optimisation of physiotherapy in ED.

Please provide written responses in the spaces provided.

What, if any are currently barriers impacting on the optimisation of your role in ED?

Please provide details on the barriers and how they impact your role.
(Consider factors in your local context, hospital or ED.)

What, if any are current barriers which impact the optimisation of ED physiotherapists across Australia?

Please provide details on barriers and how they impact ED physiotherapy
(Consider factors which impact the role nationally.)

What local factors help you to optimise your role in ED?

Please provide details the what helps and how these factors impact your role
(Consider factors in your local context, hospital or ED.)

What factors help in optimising the role of ED Physiotherapists across Australia?

Please provide details the what helps and how these factors impact the role
(Consider factors which impact the role nationally.)

The future of ED physiotherapy

How do you think physiotherapy can further contribute to ED in the future?

What strategies or changes do you think need to occur to allow for the increased contribution of ED physiotherapist in the future?

What are some of the barriers you think may impact the increased contribution of ED physiotherapist in the future?

Thank you for participating in the survey investigating the scope of practice, workforce demographics, experiences and perceptions of Emergency Department (ED) physiotherapists.

If you have additional comments not covered in the survey please feel free to use the comments section below.

Additional comments not covered in the survey:
