

interRAI Informer

Better Assessment, Better Care, Better Outcomes

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Welcome to the **interRAI Informer #24** -
your regular news update from **interRAI**
New Zealand

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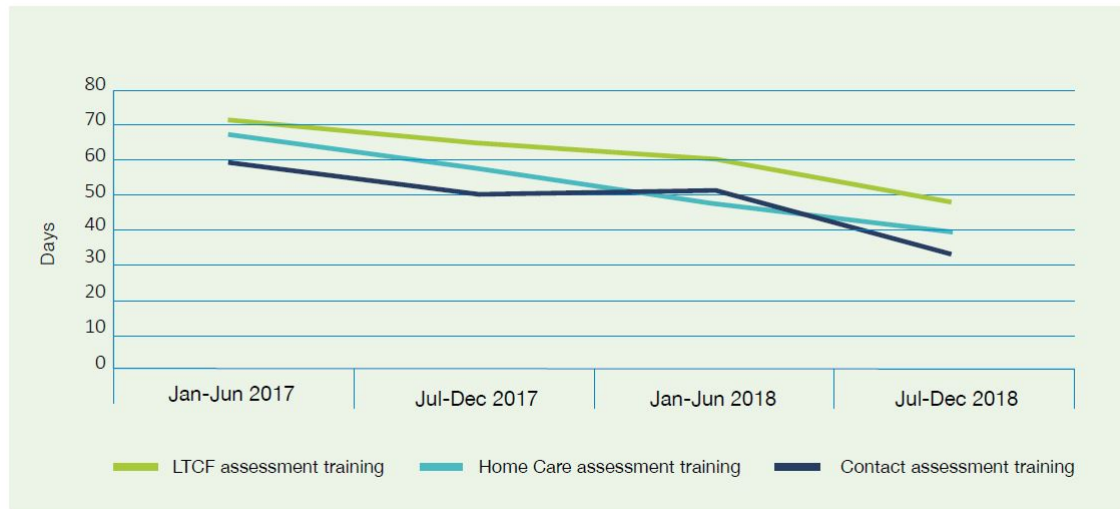
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Over the last 2 years we have significantly improved the time it takes assessors to reach interRAI competency.

The time to become competent reduced by 40% for Home Care assessment trainees, by 32% for Long Term Care Facilities assessment trainees, and 44% for Contact assessment trainees.

We believe this development is the result of interRAI Services streamlining processes and creating efficiencies, but also of more assessors being experienced with interRAI and supporting their colleagues who are new to interRAI.

Graph: Days it takes to reach initial assessor competency



Final report responding to post-project review

interRAI Services have published the final report on actions taken in response to recommendations from an independent review of the introduction of interRAI in aged residential care in New Zealand.

Independent consulting company Evaluation Consult presented the review containing ten recommendations to the interRAI New Zealand Governance Board in December 2016. Since then it has been a major focus of our work to implement these recommendations and we have reported regularly on progress to the Governance Board.

Recommendations cover areas like training, implementation, communications and efficiencies.

interRAI was first introduced in New Zealand aged residential care through a project between 2011 and 2015. It was made mandatory for aged residential care facilities in 2015.

- Download the final report, and the original independent review, from the interRAI website at www.interrai.co.nz/about/board/board-key-documents



Research presentation featured current interRAI research

In November we welcomed Ulrich Bergler, Research Fellow at the University of Otago, who gave a presentation on current research using New Zealand interRAI data.

Ulrich is part of a group of researchers at Otago University who link interRAI data with other New Zealand health data. His presentation covered a wide range of topics including drug burden and its association with falls and hip fractures, and how to determine frailty.

Links to the presentation and a video of the presentation are on the interRAI New Zealand website at www.interrai.co.nz/news/presentations

interRAI at Tū Kaha

interRAI Educator Victoria Simon attended this year's Tū Kaha conference in Palmerston North. This conference has been running for 10 years to share and celebrate Māori health innovation and achievement.

Victoria attended two workshops, one on achieving health equity and the other on Māori health provider Te Hau Ranga Ora who recognise and respect the principles of Te Tiriti O Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi and ensure Maori have the opportunity to contribute to decision making and participate in the delivery of health and disability services.

The day ended with a Hākari and the opportunity to whakawhanaungatanga – talk informally.

“The day was a great inspiration for our work on our refreshed Māori strategy. We’re hoping to make a contribution to next year’s conference.” said Victoria.



Happy holidays!

The team at interRAI Services wishes all readers of the Informer Happy Holidays. We are looking forward to working with you again in 2019.

New on interRAI.co.nz

- [Infographic: What is interRAI?](#)
- [interRAI conference presentations](#)
- [Updated National Standards](#)
- [Inside interRAI #9](#)
- [Quality indicator report for first quarter 2018/19](#)
- [Final report on post-project review](#)
- [Q&A on Palliative Care assessment](#)
- [Research presentation by Ulrich Bergler, University of Otago](#)
- [New training venues in the North Island](#)

Latest research

Sharon Leitch, Paul Glue, Andrew R. Gray, Philippa Greco, Yoram Barak. **Comparison of Psychosocial Variables Associated With Loneliness in Centenarian vs Elderly Populations in New Zealand.** JAMA Network Open. 2018;1(6):e183880.
doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2018.3880 (See also University of Otago's media release: Study investigates link between loneliness and age in elderly New Zealanders at www.otago.ac.nz/dsm/news/otago698382.html)

HA Jamieson, PS Nishtala, R Scrase, JM Deely, R Abey-Nesbit, SN Hilmer, DR Abernethy, SD Berry, V Mor, CJ Lacey, PJ Schluter. **Drug burden index and its association with hip fracture among older adults:** a national population-based study. J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci. 2018 Jul 31. doi: 10.1093/gerona/gly176

Sharmin Bala, Hamish A Jamieson, Prasad Nishtala. **Factors associated with inappropriate prescribing among older adults with complex care needs who have undergone the interRAI assessment.** Current Medical Research and Opinion. 1-16.
10.1080/03007995.2018.1543185. (See also media coverage from the Otago Daily Times: Dementia prescribing 'needs to be improved' www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/campus/university-of-otago/dementia-prescribing-needs-be-improved)

Out and about

In 2018, we gave 12 presentations at 8 conferences. Thank you to everyone who came to see us present, invited us to speak or met us at our trade stands.

Presentations are available for download from the interRAI New Zealand website at www.interrai.co.nz/news/presentations



Upcoming dates

- The interRAI office will be closed from 21 December 2018 until 2 January 2019.
- **11 and 12 December 2018 in Auckland:** Integrating interRAI – workshop for managers and lead nurses in aged residential care. Contact John MacDougall, NZACA, at john@nzaca.org.nz to register.

To see upcoming training dates and to request interRAI training, visit our website at www.interrai.co.nz/register-for-training



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