

Enabling Supported Decision-Making

Enabling Supported Decision-Making Committee,
Subcommittee of the RANZCP Victorian Branch



The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists



BACKGROUND

- The *Mental Health Act 2014* (Victoria) introduced a supported decision-making (SDM) model for people living with mental illness and who are subject to compulsory assessment and treatment.
- The implementation of SDM can be challenging and can require significant reorganisation, innovation and change to mental health care.
- In 2015, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) provided project funding for consumers and clinicians to co-produce training and resources to support psychiatrists and trainees to enable SDM in practice.

AIM & OBJECTIVES

- To improve outcomes and experiences of care for consumers, carers and families.
- To enable psychiatrists and trainees to support consumers to have control and choice over decisions relating to their treatment, care and recovery.
- To apply co-production methodology to the project, which mirrors the principles of supported decision-making.

PRINCIPLES OF CO-PRODUCTION

The three guiding principles of co-production (Grey and Roper, 2015) that directed the project methodology are:

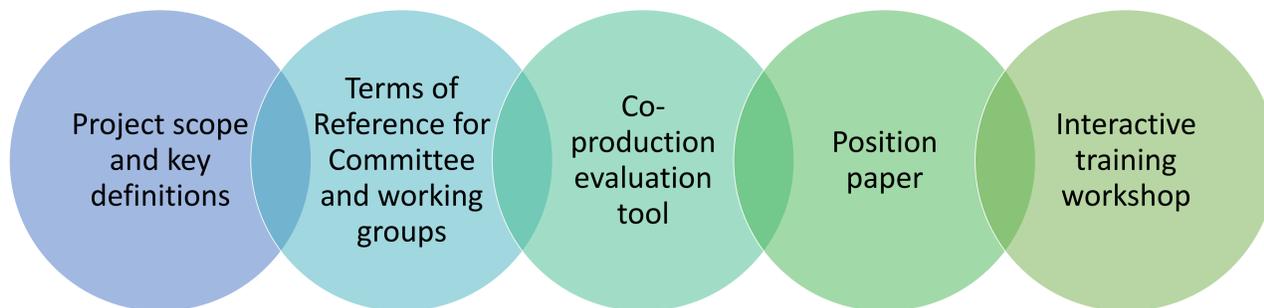
Partnership: Consumers are partners from the outset.

Power: Power differentials are acknowledged, explored and addressed.

Leadership and capacity: Consumer leadership and capacity are grown.

Grey F and Roper C (2015) Adopting a co-production methodology in mental health. Unpublished

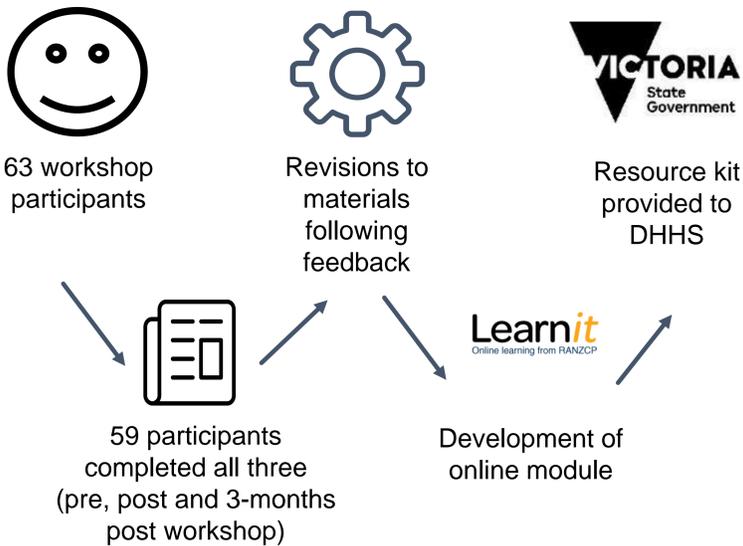
KEY CO-PRODUCED PROJECT DELIVERABLES



WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

Workshop learning outcomes	Pre workshop	Post workshop	3-months post workshop
Knowledge of principles of SDM	16%	91%	91%
Knowledge and skill in practising SDM	33%	93%	96%
Confidence in practising SDM	21%	77%	77%

WORKSHOP OUTPUTS



RANZCP Victorian Branch position paper Enabling Supported Decision-Making (2018)

RANZCP Victorian Branch position paper
Enabling supported decision-making
May 2018

The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists

Authorising Committee/Department:	Board
Responsible Committee/Department:	Victorian Branch Committee
Document Code:	PP PPP Enabling supported decision-making

Key messages

- SDM acknowledges every person has the right and capacity to make informed choices and autonomous decisions. Where a person's capacity appears to be temporarily compromised, SDM provides practical means to enhance a person's capacity to meaningfully engage in decision-making.
- SDM is intended to facilitate greater consumer involvement in making key clinical decisions and uphold respect for consumers' rights and autonomy.
- The principles of SDM should inform every psychiatric consultation.
- Psychiatrists need to familiarise themselves with both the principles and practice of SDM and ensure that this becomes a core competency during psychiatric training.
- The principles are consistent with the UN CRPD and provide greater respect for rights and autonomy.
- Utilising the direct lived experience of consumers helps enable SDM and empowers people by directly strengthening their dignity and autonomy.

Purpose

The Victorian Branch of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP Victorian Branch) has produced this position paper to educate and inform its members, consumers and their families, and other clinicians about the principles of supported decision-making (SDM). This paper aims to influence the increased uptake and future embedding of SDM in clinical practice, by Victorian psychiatrists, and in Victorian Mental Health Services. It is further hoped that this will influence and inform the development of a future RANZCP bi-national position on SDM within Australia and New Zealand.

Developing this paper and adopting SDM underscores a commitment to Australia's signatory status of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of the human rights of all persons with a disability.

This paper was developed by the RANZCP Victorian Branch Enabling Supported Decision-Making Subcommittee (comprising equal numbers of consumers and clinicians) utilising a co-production methodology. Co-producing this paper highlights a commitment by the RANZCP Victorian Branch to utilising a methodology which mirrors the principles of SDM. This includes an equal partnership approach to the development and review of policy and services as an ideal standard for practice.

Whilst this paper has been developed specifically within the framework of the *Mental Health Act 2014* (Vic), we acknowledge that the Act itself contains some coercive elements (compulsory treatment, in the absence of informed consent, being coercive by its nature). SDM principles have applicability across all Australian and New Zealand jurisdictions. The RANZCP Victorian Branch encourages the consistent application of these principles as part of routine clinical practice by all

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NEXT STEPS

- Provision of all project deliverables ('resource kit') to the DHHS which includes:
 - All workshop materials including facilitator and participant manuals, presentations and participant audit tools.
 - RANZCP Victorian Branch SDM position paper.
 - Project Terms of Reference.
- Online training module will be available to all psychiatrists and trainees on the RANZCP Learnit platform.
- Inclusion of the SDM position paper in RANZCP training resources including the Entrustable Professional Activities handbook references.

KEY RESOURCES

- Carroll A, and McSherry B (2018) Making defensible decisions in the era of recovery and rights. *Australasian Psychiatry*, 26(5), 474-477.
- Kokanovic R, Brophy L, McSherry B, Hill N, Johnston-Ataata K, Moeller-Saxone K, and Herrman H (2017) Options for Supported Decision-Making to Enhance the Recovery of People Experiencing Severe Mental Health Problems. Melbourne: Melbourne Social Equity Institute, University of Melbourne.
- Simmons M B, and Gooding P M (2017) Spot the difference: shared decision-making and supported decision-making in mental health. *Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine*, 34(4), 275-286.
- Roper C, Grey F, and Cadogan E (2018) Co-production: putting principles into practice in mental health contexts. Melbourne: Melbourne Social Equity Institute, University of Melbourne.



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