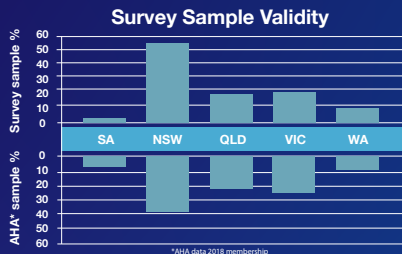
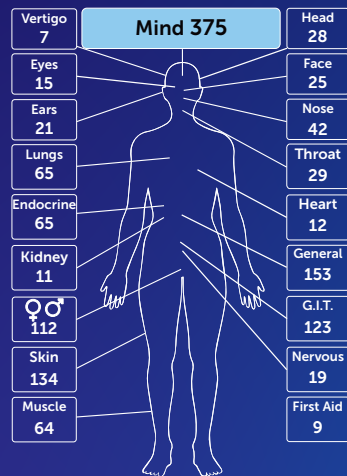


## FINDINGS

Survey had high participation rate  
Data recording had minimal impact on homeopaths 'normal' practice activity



## PRIMARY CONDITION (NUMBER OF VISITS)



People present to homeopaths with a broad spectrum of conditions as defined by ICPC2.

112 different conditions were recorded in 19 main categories with 1227 visits, in an 8 week period. 220 visits had no primary condition recorded in HomeoStats.

## AIMS ESTABLISH DEMOGRAPHICS OF HOMEOPATHIC PRACTICE

Contemporary homeopathic practice in Australia had not been formally measured. An innovative mixed methods study was designed to describe homeopathy practice. For the first time, formal research was conducted to assess practice diversity and demographics of homeopaths and their patients across many clinics all over our continent.

This approach was chosen to create high external validity. It minimised the impact of the researcher's preconceived theories about what happens in practice, and reduced the disturbance to practice that occurs when recording activity in real time.

This project has Human Ethics Approval HREC20181005.

### Assumptions

Patients seen once a month  
IT platform might be an obstacle to participation  
"Too busy/not busy enough" might exclude participation  
Homeopaths demoralised and marginalised by Australian strategic attacks on profession

### Limitations

Did not assess style or influence of case taking model used  
Did not assess influence of homeopath's experience on treatment outcomes  
ICPC2 reflects the patient diagnosis but doesn't explain the source or origin of this diagnosis

# FIRST SURVEY OF AUSTRALIAN HOMEOPATHY



## OVER 8 WEEKS

1447 TOTAL VISITS 65 HOMEOPATHS 59 WOMEN 6 MEN

## SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted 28 January 2019 - 22 March 2019. Homeopaths registered through the Aum Project Survey registration page prior to the start of the survey.

Initially 69 homeopaths (63 women & 6 men) took part in the survey. Four homeopaths withdrew from the survey during the survey period. Participation required ARoH registration.

Homeopaths provided their age, gender, state/location of practice, contact details, and ARoH registration number. The homeopaths and their patients provided written informed consent. Patients and homeopaths were free to leave the survey at any time.

Homeopaths were asked to determine the main complaint from each case using the International Classification of Primary Care 2 (ICPC2). There were 112 conditions recorded, in 19 broad classifications. Remedy and potency were recorded. More than one complaint could be recorded for each visit.

Data was collected using a purpose-built platform, HomeoStats. For anonymity, patients were allocated a random six digit identifier.

Homeopaths and patients were provided with comprehensive information packs, weekly support messages and extensive online FAQ support. Throughout the survey period, homeopaths recorded the following data about their participating patients:

- demographic data – age, gender, ethnicity
- presenting condition as defined by ICPC2
- remedies and potencies prescribed

Any extra information was recorded in a 'notes' section.

## FUTURE WORK

### Second survey:

- Include a patient self reflection measure (MYMOP2)
- Evaluate remedy prescription
- Expand selection criteria for homeopaths to participate and include:
  - Non-registered homeopaths
  - Other general health practitioners (naturopathy/ nutrition/osteopathy/ registered nurse etc)
- Include type of homeopathy approach used in clinic
- Explore winter period instead of summer which is a peak holiday period
- Level of education recorded for both patient and homeopath
- Number of modalities practiced by homeopath
- Number of years in practice for homeopath
- Number of years in practice for complementary medicine or other allied health activity.

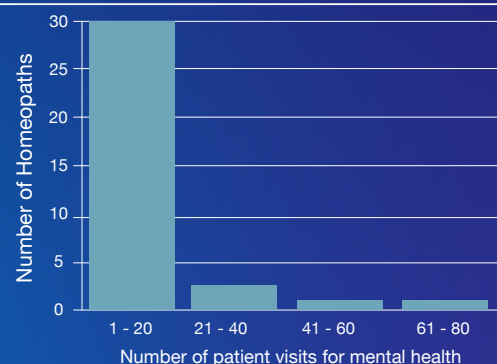
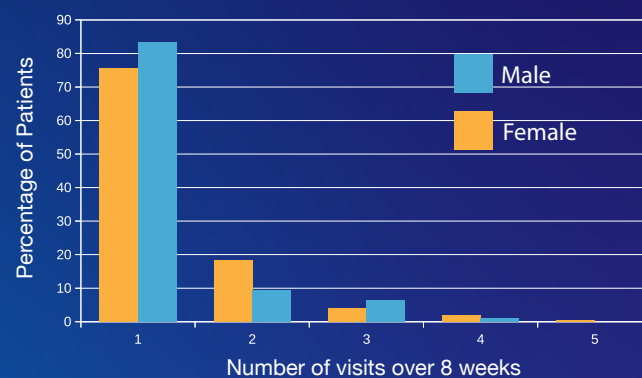
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Thank you to all of the participating homeopaths for their outstanding effort and true commitment during a time when Australian homeopathy needs them most.

## MENTAL HEALTH VISITS DURING SURVEY

375



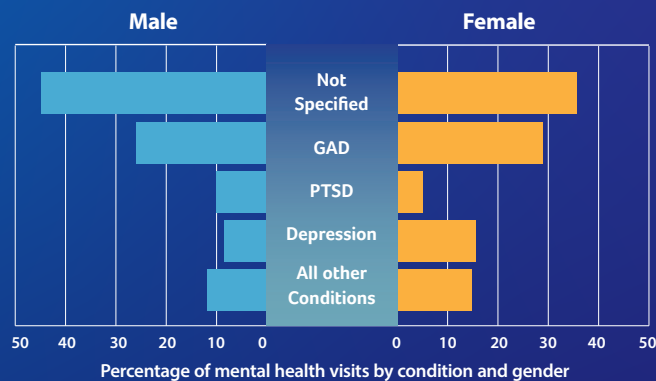
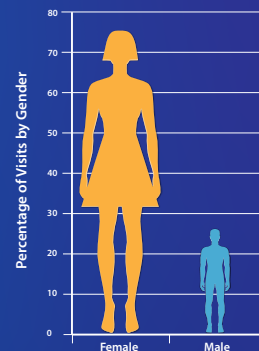
35 Homeopaths saw patients with Mental Health as the primary condition.

## DATA DRIVEN QUESTIONS

- Did patients come with a diagnosis?
- How much does the style of case taking influence the results?

## Does gender play a part in practice?

Being female means you are more likely to see a homeopath, who is more likely to be a woman.



## MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS

Brain Injury	0.8%
Dementia	0.5%
Depression	14.4%
Dyslexia	0.3%
Eating Disorders	1.1%
Epilepsy	1.1%
Generalised Anxiety Disorder	28.8%
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	0.8%
Other Mental Health Condition	38.7%
Panic Attack	3.7%
Personality Disorder	1.6%
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder	6.1%
Schizophrenia	0.3%
Separation Anxiety	1.6%

### National Survey Research Team

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Ann Manning



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