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**Title:**

Exploring diabetes competencies - Engaging with colleagues using the Delphi method

**Abstract:****Background**

A 20% increase in adult diabetes is anticipated by 2030<sup>1</sup> when 58% of the CDE workforce will have reached retirement age<sup>2</sup>. Fundamental to increasing equity in safe diabetes healthcare access across the health spectrum is a competent, flexible and adaptive workforce<sup>3</sup>. Higher demand for healthcare professionals with both diabetes and non-medical prescribing competencies warrants a more efficient means of developing the workforce.

**Aim**

To develop a Capability Framework by accessing the opinion of a diverse range of diabetes expert healthcare professionals and academics, of different disciplines and work settings.

**Method**

The qualitative research used an online Delphi method informed by consultation and focus groups to gain consensus. A Consultation Group was engaged to inform the Delphi survey development phase. A pilot Delphi survey was administered via Qualtrics, an online platform, to six diabetes experts to test Qualtrics features and confirm questions captured the intended information. An expert panel from across Australia commenced the final Delphi survey. Analysed data obtained from the Delphi survey formed a list of competencies under nine capabilities. An Expert Advisory Group was engaged to review the positioning of competencies, wording and omissions. Further, 'member checking' will ensure the trustworthiness of results. The Delphi expert panel ranks the importance of the identified competencies for each of the capability areas until consensus achieved.

**Results**

Fifty-seven diabetes experts from nursing, dietetics, podiatry, pharmacy, exercise physiology and academic backgrounds were recruited to the project and administered the Delphi survey. The Delphi method captured demographic data and comprehensive lists of skills, knowledge and attributes required by health professionals working at basic to expert levels in diabetes care.

**Discussion**

Using Delphi as a method enables ease of access and reach to the breadth of diabetes healthcare professionals across the nation. Also, it allows for re-examining the understanding of valuable information.

**ADEA Category:**

Quality improvement activity

**Presentation:**

Either

**Conflict:**

No

**Presenter(s) Will Attend:**

I confirm that at least one author will register in full to attend and present the paper at the Congress.

**ADEA Awards:**

ADEA Best Oral Presentation, ADEA Best Poster Presentation

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