

FAQs

Innovator Training Program (ITP)

How much aged care work is based on evidence?

Current studies show that:

- only 50% of evidence-based practice is being implemented into care at all?¹
- the average time it takes for evidence to be identified and put into practice is 17 years?²

That's a lot of wasted knowledge! It's also a lot of wasted opportunity to do things smarter and better!

How will the Innovator Training Program (ITP) help me improve my workplace?

The ITP is designed to provide you with tools and skills to use available knowledge and evidence to solve a problem you have identified in your workplace.

The ITP will support you to make change based on the best evidence available to do things better in your workplace.

What priorities have been identified for the ITP in 2023?

The 2023 ITP priorities are:

- Dementia Care
- Restorative care, reablement & rehabilitation
- Social isolation
- Mental health & wellbeing
- Palliative care & end of life
- Meaningful lifestyle activities
- Staff burnout
- Technology in aged care
- Urgent and Critical need

What will the ITP do for me?

Upon completion of the ITP, you will be equipped with the skills and knowledge to:

- Find best practice evidence to solve problems,
- Implement best practice,
- Measure if the change has made a difference.

Is the ITP online?

The ITP is delivered online with support from our team. The ITP modules are interactive with lots of prompts to guide you to think about the problem you have identified and how you might address it in your workplace. In addition, there are regularly scheduled online workshops for you to attend.

How long does it take to complete the ITP?

The contact-time commitment is a full-time equivalent period of three weeks. ARIIA offers two program options, ITP for an Individual and ITP for a Team. Each has different schedule options.

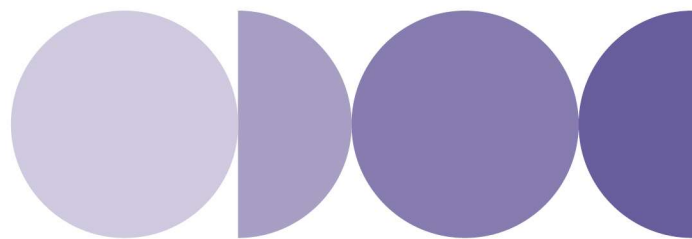
You can view these options in more detail on our website.

Which ITP model is the right one for me?

Individual ITP is for an individual with a problem which relates to one or more of the priority topics identified.

Themed ITP is for an individual with a problem related to the designated round theme. The themes for the upcoming rounds can be found on our website.

There are also options for groups of staff from one organisation to complete the ITP for a Team. You can view further information about this on our website.



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What is the role of a Sponsor?

The Sponsor is a person from your organisation who will work most closely with you in developing your project. The Sponsor will also be required to participate in some meetings during the co-design process.

What is the role of an Organisation Authorised Representative?

The Organisation Authorised Representative is someone within the organisation who can authorise your participation in the ITP and confirm organisational support for the project.

Is there any other assistance available?

A maximum reimbursement of \$2,000 (plus GST if applicable) per participant is available to the employing organisation upon completion of the ITP. This is intended to contribute towards salary costs for the applicant allowing them to participate in the ITP. These funds may also be used to offset costs incurred during project plan development (such as costs associated with access to published evidence).

You will also work with experts from ARIIA who will work with you and your organisation to make sure the project is appropriate for your workplace.

How do I best describe the problem that I have identified in my workplace?

The strategy is to ask the 'right' questions as you complete your application form.

It is not compulsory to do this next part as part of your application but is recommended so the problem is well enough described to allow us to support your project planning.

Write down the problem or challenge to solve.

Then ask yourself the following question:

Is the problem identified the real problem? Asking questions and unpacking problems until you get to the 'real problem' is called 'root-cause analysis'.

Often you may find that the original problem identified was in fact just a symptom of the real problem; or that your original problem is in fact comprised of, or impacted by, many separate problems (each of which may possibly need different solutions).

Sakichi Toyoda, the Japanese industrialist, inventor, and founder of Toyota Industries, developed the 5 Whys technique in the 1930s. It became popular in the 1970s, and Toyota still uses it to solve problems today³.

These two videos about the 5 Whys are helpful resources to help you to consider the process:

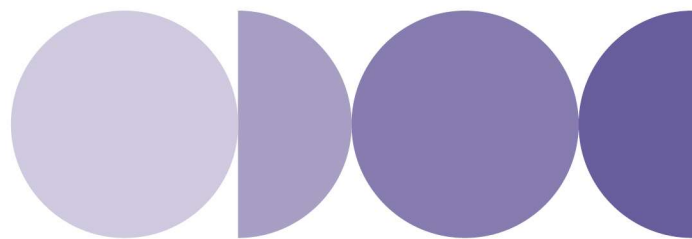
<https://youtu.be/SrYkx41wEE> (3 mins)

<https://youtu.be/B-M3YIA2KDg> (2 mins)

How can I best prepare for the ITP?

A little extra preparation can make a big difference in your learning experience. Consider talking to your Sponsor before you start the ITP to discuss some of the following points:

- What data does my organisation collect that might be relevant to my project?
- Has someone in my organisation tried to solve a problem like this before? What were the lessons learned from previous projects?
- Are there any potential collaborators within the organisation currently working on a similar project or facing a similar problem you could put me in contact with?



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What happens at the end of the ITP?

The outcome of the ITP is a well-defined project to address your problem that is achievable within a 12-month period.

You will leave the ITP with a project plan and a project pitch that will assist you to implement your project locally or to undertake further planning, approvals, or funding applications to move your project forward.

What is the Innovation Network?

At the completion of the ITP all participants will be invited to join the Innovation Network (IN). The purpose of the IN is to provide ongoing mentoring, support and learning opportunities for Innovators to implement the project that has been developed and other projects they may be involved in within their organisation.

As the name suggests it will provide opportunities for networking with other people and organisations to build cross sector collaborations.

What is the Aged Care Partnering Program?

The Aged Care Partnering Program (ACPP) is a facilitated program to connect partners across the aged care sector with industry to codesign solutions and optimise a team able to build a competitive project eligible for grant funding from within ARIIA or elsewhere.

The ACPP provides an agreed number of facilitated project development workshops and individual sessions to achieve this outcome. During the ITP, translational projects which are deemed by ARIIA Directors to be mature, feasible and likely to have scalable and national significance will be invited to apply for the ACPP.

Can I apply for a grant?

If you want to continue with your project, you can apply for a grant from ARIIA to enable you to put your solution into practice. You are required to apply through a separate competitive process and ARIIA experts will be available to help you with your application. The grants will prioritise research projects from the ITP.

Regardless of the outcome of your grant application, you will also be invited to continue to stay connected and involved through the IN.

References:

1 Institute of Medicine. Crossing the Quality Chasm: A New Health System for the 21st Century The National Academies Press, Washington, DC (2001)

<https://doi.org/10.17226/10027>

2 Morris, Z. S., Wooding, S., & Grant, J. (2011). The answer is 17 years, what is the question: understanding time lags in translational research. Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine, 104(12), 510–520.

<https://doi.org/10.1258/jrsm.2011.110180>

3 https://www.toyota-industries.com/company/history/toyoda_sakichi/?msclkid=6372168aad7111ec9fac62f2732969f

ariia.org.au

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ARIIA was established as an independent, not-for-profit organisation, set up to lead the advancement of the aged care workforce capability by promoting and facilitating innovation and research to improve the quality of aged care for all Australians.