Can conference participation lead to changes in clinical and research practice in stroke care? A survey of stroke conference attendees

Dana Wong\textsuperscript{A},* , Shanthi A. Ramanathan\textsuperscript{B} , Katharine Baker\textsuperscript{A} and Elizabeth A. Lynch\textsuperscript{C}

\textsuperscript{A}School of Psychology and Public Health, La Trobe University, Bundoora, Melbourne, Vic., Australia

\textsuperscript{B}Hunter Medical Research Institute, University of Newcastle, Newcastle, NSW, Australia

\textsuperscript{C}College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Flinders University, Adelaide, SA, Australia

*Correspondence to: Email: d.wong@latrobe.edu.au
**Supplementary Appendix 1 – Survey 1**

**Section 1: Demographics and Clinical/Research Roles**

Q1 What are your current work roles? (tick all that are applicable):

- [ ] Clinician
- [ ] Researcher
- [ ] PhD/doctoral student

**Lecturer/Educator** — IF YOU HAVE TICKED THIS BOX ONLY, YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY. Thank you for your time.

- [ ] Other (e.g., policy maker, industry representative, consumer, undergraduate student):
  __________________________

IF YOU HAVE TICKED THIS BOX ONLY, YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY. Thank you for your time.

Q2 What is your age?

- [ ] 18-30
- [ ] 31-40
- [ ] 41-50
- [ ] 51-60
- [ ] 61+

Q3 What is your gender?

- [ ] Female
- [ ] Male
- [ ] Other
- [ ] Prefer not to say
Q4 How would you describe your main geographical work/study location?

- Metropolitan
- Regional
- Rural/remote

Q5 What is your professional background/qualification/area of study? (tick all that apply):

- Clinical/Health Psychology
- Clinical Neuropsychology
- Medicine. Please add specialty: ______________________________
- Nursing
- Nutrition/Dietetics
- Occupational Therapy
- Paramedicine/Ambulance service
- Pharmacy
- Physiotherapy
- Social work
- Speech Pathology
- Other: ______________________________
QUESTION 6a TO BE COMPLETED IF YOU ARE A RESEARCHER (If you are a clinician only, please skip to Q6b):

Q6a For how long have you worked as a researcher?

- less than 1 year
- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-20 years
- more than 20 years

QUESTIONS 6b & 7 TO BE COMPLETED IF YOU ARE A CLINICIAN (If you’re a researcher only, please skip to Q8):

Q6b For how long have you worked in your clinical profession?

- less than 1 year
- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-20 years
- more than 20 years

Q7 In your role as a clinician, what is your MAIN current work setting?:

- Hospital - inpatient
- Hospital - outpatient
- Community (including public sector, private practice, university clinic)
- Other (e.g., transitional living, residential care): _____________________________
Q8 Are you currently working with survivors of stroke? (this can be in clinical, research and/or education contexts)

☐ Yes
☐ No

Section 2: Learning at conferences

Q9 When you attend conferences (generally, including Stroke 2018) what method(s) do you use to remember interesting or important information? (tick all that apply)

☐ Write notes (including handwritten and typed)
☐ Take photos of slides
☐ Share it on social media
☐ Use an app (please name app) ________________________________
☐ Obtain a copy of the presentation slides/notes
☐ Make a mental note
☐ Do nothing (→ skip to Q12)
☐ Other: ________________________________
Q10 Do you normally review this information after the conference has finished?

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Usually
- Always

Q11 Do you plan to review the information you have noted at Stroke 2018 after the conference has finished?

- No
- Maybe
- Yes - within the next 2 weeks
- Yes - within the next 3 months
- Yes - but unsure when

Q12 Which social media, if any, do you use to communicate information learnt at conferences?

- Twitter
- Linked In
- Facebook
- Instagram
- Other: _______________________________
- None
Q13 Are you required to present a summary of key information learnt at conferences at your workplace?

- Yes. Please state how (verbal presentation, written summary etc):

- No, but I do anyway. Please state how (verbal presentation, written summary, informal corridor chats etc):

- No

---

**CLINICIAN SECTION**

**QUESTIONS 14-23 TO BE COMPLETED BY CLINICIANS ONLY** (including clinicians who are also researchers/educators; If you are a researcher only please skip to Q24)

Q14 Has your *clinical practice* ever changed as a result of attending a conference?

- Yes. Please briefly describe HOW it has changed: ________________________________________________

- No

Q15 Which types of information exchange at conferences do you find most useful for influencing your *clinical practice*? Please rank the following from 1-7, where number 1 is the most useful type:

- Keynote addresses *(If ranked 1st → go to Q16)*
- Oral platform presentations *(If ranked 1st → go to Q17)*
- Workshops / "how-to" sessions *(If ranked 1st → go to Q18)*
- Oral poster sessions (short oral presentation + poster) *(If ranked 1st → go to Q19)*
- Poster presentations *(If ranked 1st → go to Q20)*
- Networking
- Other:
Q16 Which aspects of a keynote address do you find most useful for influencing your clinical practice? Please select your TOP THREE only.

☐ Background, including theory, overview of existing research, rationale for current research

☐ Methods, including descriptions of techniques/interventions, measures used

☐ Demonstrations ("how-to") of techniques/interventions (including live or via video/photos)

☐ Results (e.g., quantitative data)

☐ Conclusions/Summary of key take-home points

☐ Visual aids, e.g. photos, infographics, videos

☐ Questions & discussion during/after the address (including with presenter and/or colleagues)

☐ Other: ____________________________________________
Q17 Which aspects of an oral platform presentation do you find most useful for influencing your clinical practice? Please select your TOP THREE only.

☐ Background, including theory, overview of existing research, rationale for current research

☐ Methods, including descriptions of techniques/interventions, measures used

☐ Demonstrations ("how-to") of techniques/interventions (including live or via video/photos)

☐ Results (e.g., quantitative data)

☐ Conclusions/Summary of key take-home points

☐ Visual aids, e.g. photos, infographics, videos

☐ Questions & discussion during/after the presentation (including with presenter and/or colleagues)

☐ Other: ________________________________________________________
Q18 Which aspects of a workshop / "how-to" session do you find most useful for influencing your clinical practice? Please select your TOP THREE only.

☐ Background, including theory, overview of existing research

☐ Methods, including descriptions of techniques/interventions, measures used

☐ Demonstrations ("how-to") of techniques/interventions (including live or via video/photos)

☐ Opportunities to practice skills (e.g., role plays, group exercises)

☐ Results (e.g., quantitative data)

☐ Conclusions/Summary of key take-home points

☐ Visual aids, e.g. photos, infographics, videos

☐ Questions & discussion during/after the presentation (including with presenter and/or colleagues)

☐ Other: __________________________________________________________
Q19 Which aspects of an oral poster do you find most useful for influencing your clinical practice? Please select your TOP THREE only.

☐ Verbal description of the presentation content

☐ Looking at the poster

☐ Conclusions/Summary of key take-home points

☐ Visual aids, e.g. photos, infographics, videos

☐ Questions & discussion with the presenter at their poster

☐ Other: ________________________________

Q20 Which aspects of a poster presentation do you find most useful for influencing your clinical practice? Please select your TOP THREE only.

☐ Background, including theory, overview of existing research, rationale for current research

☐ Methods, including descriptions of techniques/interventions, measures used

☐ Results (e.g., quantitative data)

☐ Conclusions/Summary of key take-home points

☐ Visual aids, e.g. photos, infographics

☐ Availability of a handout related to the poster that I can take with me

☐ Other: ________________________________
Q21 How important are the following factors relating to conference presentations for influencing your clinical practice?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not at all important</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strength/scientific rigour of the evidence presented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status/profile of presenter in the field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How engaging/inspiring you find the presenter/presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How relevant/applicable you think the topic is to your clinical practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The extent to which you think it would benefit your patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whether the presenter is from the same professional background/discipline as you</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q22 Please describe any other factors (not listed above) relating to conference presentations that you think are important in influencing your own clinical practice:

__________________________________________________________________________________________
Q23 Please rate the extent to which the following research dissemination methods impact your clinical practice (0 = not impactful at all, 100 = extremely impactful):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attending conferences</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading articles in peer-reviewed journals</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading textbooks/book chapters</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**RESEARCHER SECTION**

**QUESTIONS 24-33 TO BE COMPLETED BY RESEARCHERS & PHD/DOCTORAL STUDENTS ONLY** (including researchers who are also clinicians/educators; If you are a clinician only please skip to Q34):

Q24 Has your own research content or practice ever changed as a result of attending a conference?

- Yes. Please briefly describe HOW it has changed: _____________________________________________
- No

Q25 Which types of information exchange at conferences do you find most useful for influencing your own research content or practice? Please rank the following from 1-7, where number 1 is the most useful type:

- _____ Keynote addresses (If ranked 1st → go to Q26)
- _____ Oral platform presentations (If ranked 1st → go to Q27)
- _____ Workshops / "how-to" sessions (If ranked 1st → go to Q28)
- _____ Oral poster sessions (short oral presentation + poster) (If ranked 1st → go to Q29)
- _____ Poster presentations (If ranked 1st → go to Q30)
- _____ Networking
- _____ Other:
Q26 Which aspects of a keynote address do you find most useful for influencing your research content or practice? Please select your TOP THREE only.

☐ Background, including theory, overview of existing research, rationale for current research

☐ Methods, including descriptions of techniques/interventions, measures used

☐ Demonstrations ("how-to") of techniques/interventions (including live or via video/photos)

☐ Results (e.g., quantitative data)

☐ Conclusions/Summary of key take-home points

☐ Visual aids, e.g. photos, infographics, videos

☐ Questions & discussion during/after the address (including with presenter and/or colleagues)

☐ Other: _________________________________

-------------------------------------------
Q27 Which aspects of an oral platform presentation do you find most useful for influencing your research content or practice? Please select your TOP THREE only.

☐ Background, including theory, overview of existing research, rationale for current research

☐ Methods, including descriptions of techniques/interventions, measures used

☐ Demonstrations ("how-to") of techniques/interventions (including live or via video/photos)

☐ Results (e.g., quantitative data)

☐ Conclusions/Summary of key take-home points

☐ Visual aids, e.g. photos, infographics, videos

☐ Questions & discussion during/after the presentation (including with presenter and/or colleagues)

☐ Other: ________________________________
Q28 Which aspects of a workshop / "how-to" session do you find most useful for influencing your research content or practice? Please select your TOP THREE only.

☐ Background, including theory, overview of existing research

☐ Methods, including descriptions of techniques/interventions, measures used

☐ Demonstrations ("how-to") of techniques/interventions (including live or via video/photos)

☐ Opportunities to practice skills (e.g., role plays, group exercises)

☐ Results (e.g., quantitative data)

☐ Conclusions/Summary of key take-home points

☐ Visual aids, e.g. photos, infographics, videos

☐ Questions & discussion during/after the presentation (including with presenter and/or colleagues)

☐ Other: ____________________________________________
Q29 Which aspects of an oral poster do you find most useful for influencing your research content or practice? Please select your TOP THREE only.

☐ Verbal description of the presentation content
☐ Looking at the poster
☐ Conclusions/Summary of key take-home points
☐ Visual aids, e.g. photos, infographics, videos
☐ Questions & discussion with the presenter at their poster
☐ Other: ________________________________

Q30 Which aspects of a poster presentation do you find most useful for influencing your research content or practice? Please select your TOP THREE only.

☐ Background, including theory, overview of existing research, rationale for current research
☐ Methods, including descriptions of techniques/interventions, measures used
☐ Results (e.g., quantitative data)
☐ Conclusions/Summary of key take-home points
☐ Visual aids, e.g. photos, infographics
☐ Availability of a handout related to the poster that I can take with me
☐ Other: ________________________________
Q31 How important are the following factors relating to conference presentations for influencing your research content or practice?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance rating</th>
<th>Not at all important</th>
<th>Not very important</th>
<th>Somewhat important</th>
<th>Quite important</th>
<th>Very important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strength/scientific rigour of the evidence presented</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status/profile of presenter in the field</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How engaging/inspiring you find the presenter/presentation</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How relevant/applicable you think the topic is to your own research</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The extent to which you think it would benefit or enhance your own research</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whether the presenter is from the same professional background/discipline as you</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The extent to which you believe it is a research growth area that is likely to attract funding</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whether you think the presenter might be a good collaborator</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q32 Please describe any other factors (not listed above) relating to conference presentations that you think are important in influencing your own research content or practice:

____________________________________________________________________________________________

Q33 Please rate the extent to which the following research dissemination methods impact your own research practice (0 = not impactful at all, 100 = extremely impactful):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact rating</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>30</th>
<th>40</th>
<th>50</th>
<th>60</th>
<th>70</th>
<th>80</th>
<th>90</th>
<th>100</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attending conferences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading articles</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(peer-reviewed journals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading textbooks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(book chapters)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVERYONE TO COMPLETE THIS SECTION

Q34 How many conferences have you attended (including as either a presenter or attendee only) in the last 12 months (NOT including Stroke 2018)?

- [ ] 0 (skip to Q37)
- [ ] 1
- [ ] 2
- [ ] 3
- [ ] 4+

Q35 Of the conferences you have attended in the last 12 months, what has been most memorable and why?

____________________________________________________________________________________________
Q36 Have you contacted speakers at any of the conferences you have attended in the last 12 months to follow up after the conference finished?

○ Yes. Please briefly describe why: ________________________________

○ No

Q37 How many conference presentations (in any format, e.g. oral, poster) have you given in the last 12 months (NOT including Stroke 2018)?

○ 0 (→ skip to Q39)

○ 1

○ 2

○ 3

○ 4+

Q38 Have you been contacted by attendees at any of the conference presentations you have given in the last 12 months after the conference finished?

○ No

○ Yes. Please briefly describe why you were contacted: ________________________________

Q39 What is the main reason you attended Stroke 2018? (select one response only)

○ To improve my knowledge of the latest research in the field

○ To improve my clinical practice

○ To present my own research

○ Other: ________________________________
Q40 Did you receive financial support to attend the conference?

- Yes - from my clinical workplace
- Yes - from my academic institution
- Yes - from a specific research grant
- Yes - from another source: ________________________________
- No

Q41 Please indicate if you are presenting at Stroke 2018 (select all that apply):

- Oral platform presentation
- Poster presentation
- Oral poster presentation
- Pre-conference workshop
- Not presenting

Q42
We would like to contact you again in 3 months’ time to invite you to complete a follow-up survey. Please provide your email address below if you are willing to be contacted. Providing your email address does NOT oblige you to participate in the follow-up survey.

If you do not wish to provide your email address for follow-up, please write N/A.

________________________________________

Thank you very much for completing this survey! Please return your completed survey to one of the researchers or to the box marked “CONFERENCE TRANSLATION SURVEYS”.
Supplementary figure 1. Aspects of keynote addresses rated most useful for influencing clinical and research practice.

Supplementary figure 2. Aspects of oral platform presentations rated most useful for influencing clinical and research practice.

Supplementary figure 3. Aspects of workshops rated most useful for influencing clinical and research practice.