

# FAQs

## Innovator Training Program (ITP) Round 2

### How much aged care work is based on evidence?

Current studies show that:

- Only 50% of evidence-based practices being implemented into care at all?<sup>1</sup>
- The average time it takes for evidence to be identified and put into practice is 17 years?<sup>2</sup>

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 2022?

The 2022 ITP priorities are:

- Dementia
- Restorative care and rehabilitation
- Urgent and critical need
- Social isolation
- Health and wellbeing

### 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,
- To implement best practice,
- Measure if the change has made a difference.

### Is the ITP online?

The ITP is delivered online with lots of support from our team.

The ITP is 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

### How long does it take to complete the ITP?

Your commitment to the ITP is three-weeks of your time over a 10 week period. There are regularly scheduled workshops for you to attend each week.

### How do I get my workplace involved?

Change is not easy to do alone, so you will also have identified a sponsor from your workplace who will support you during the program.

Your organisation will receive financial support to free you up to complete the ITP and have access to all the ITP resources so you can share your learnings.

### 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.

### What is the role of 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?

You can apply to the Centre for financial support to assist your organisation to free you up to do this work as part of your application to the ITP.

You will also work with experts from the Centre who will work with you and your organisation to make sure the project is appropriate for your workplace. Your sponsor will also be invited to participate in some sessions during the co-design process.

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## 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 questions:

Is the problem identified the real problem? By 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 today<sup>3</sup>.

**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/SrYkx41wEE)
- [https://youtu.be/B-M3YIA2KDg \(2 mins\)](https://youtu.be/B-M3YIA2KDg)

## 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 time 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 Innovator Network?

At the completion of the ITP all participants will be invited to join the Innovator 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. A schedule of ongoing activities that include presentations and workshops will be available at the end of the ITP.

## 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 the Centre or elsewhere.

The ACPP provides up to seven-weeks of facilitated workshops and one on one sessions to achieve this outcome. During the ITP, translational Projects which are deemed by the Centre Directors to be mature, feasible and likely to have scalable and national significance will be invited to apply for the ACPP.

## What comes after the ITP?

If you want to continue with your project, you can apply for a grant from the Centre to enable you to put your solution into practice.

You are required to apply through a separate competitive process and Centre experts will be available to help you with your application. The grants will prioritise research projects from the ITP.

You will also be invited to continue to stay connected and involved through the IN that includes workforce capacity building activities, mentoring programs and knowledge networks.

## Can I stay connected if I don't get a grant or don't want to continue?

Yes. In all cases you will be invited to the IN to stay connected and involved with the Centre.

## References:

<sup>1</sup>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>

<sup>2</sup>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>

<sup>3</sup>[https://www.toyota-industries.com/company/history/toyoda\\_sakichi/?msclkid=6372168aad7111ec9facf62f2732969f](https://www.toyota-industries.com/company/history/toyoda_sakichi/?msclkid=6372168aad7111ec9facf62f2732969f)

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## Aged Care Centre for Growth and Translational Research

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