

Current Trends in CNAHS in relation to Home Safety Assessments



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of South Australia**

SA Health

Outline

- > Introduction
- > Audit Results
- > Conclusions



Introduction

> Varying reports for the % of falls occurring in the home



- 50% of falls in community dwelling people occur in their home or immediate surroundings
(Lord et al, 1993)
- 80% of all falls
(Tideiksaar, 1995)

Location of falls

> Campbell reported:

- Garden 16%
- Kitchen 19%
- Bedroom 21%
- Lounge/dinning room 27%

> Lord reported:

- Chair/ladder 3%
- Getting out of bed 3%
- Shower/bath 6%
- Stairs 6%
- Walking (level surface) 26%
- Outside the home 56%



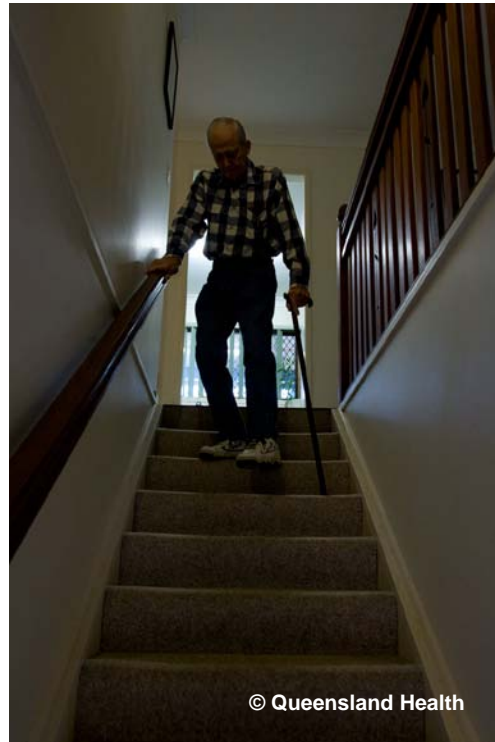
Home visits and falls prevention

- > Home Safety assessments have been deemed as effective for persons who have a history of falls and limited mobility but not for low risk individuals. (Lord 2006, Cummings et al 1999)



- > Home assessment by an OT with modifications and training in use of aids was effective in reducing falls.

(Nikolaus and Bach 2003)



- > Persons who have visual difficulties have been the group to mostly benefit from home assessments. (The Cochrane review 2009)



Introduction to Audit



- > Number of enquiries re: tools and best practice
- > Audit : conducted in Nov 2009 to gather information of current trends for home safety assessments in the CNAHS region
- > In relation to falls prevention



Methodology

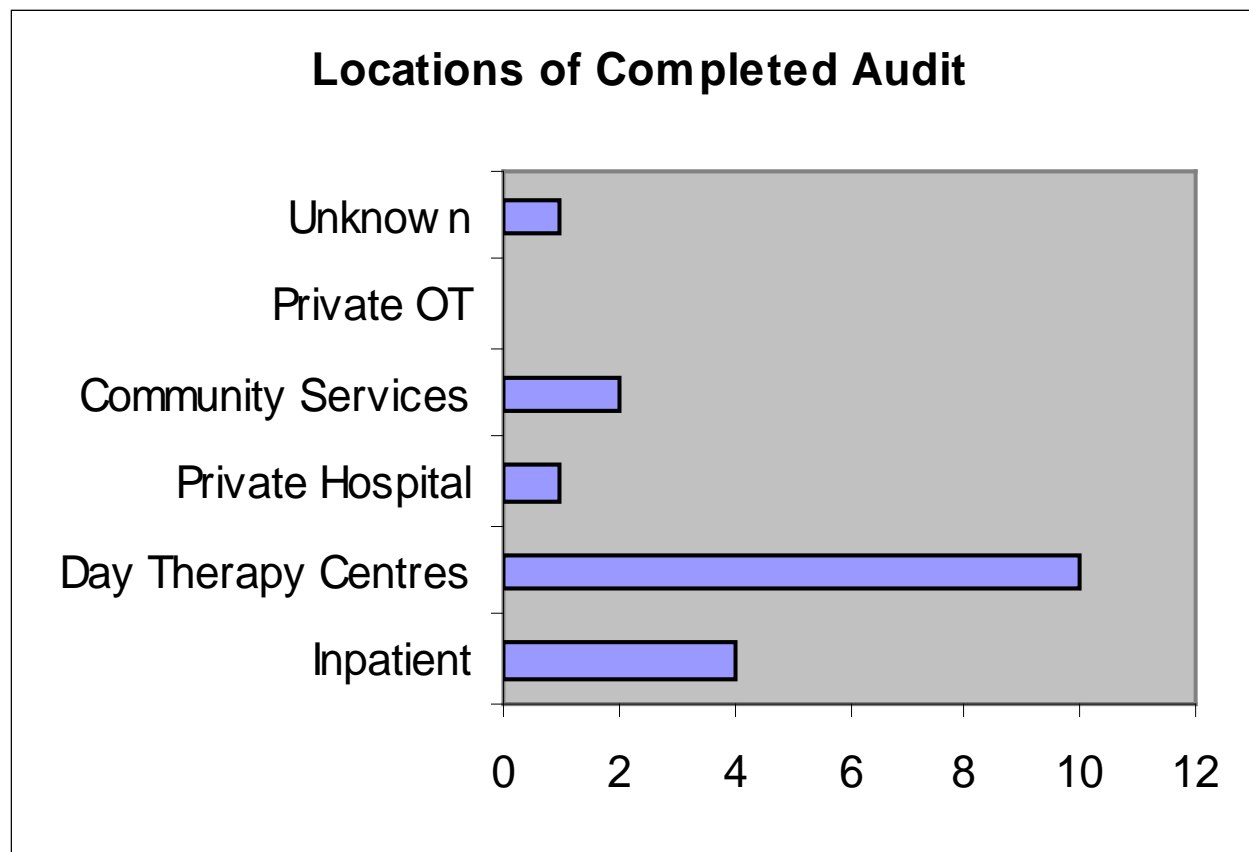
- > Research of standardised tools
- > Formed a questionnaire listing common assessment items
- > Additional factors included:
 - the length of time it takes to complete home ax
 - the length of time it takes to complete reports
 - professionals completing assessments
 - self screen assessment



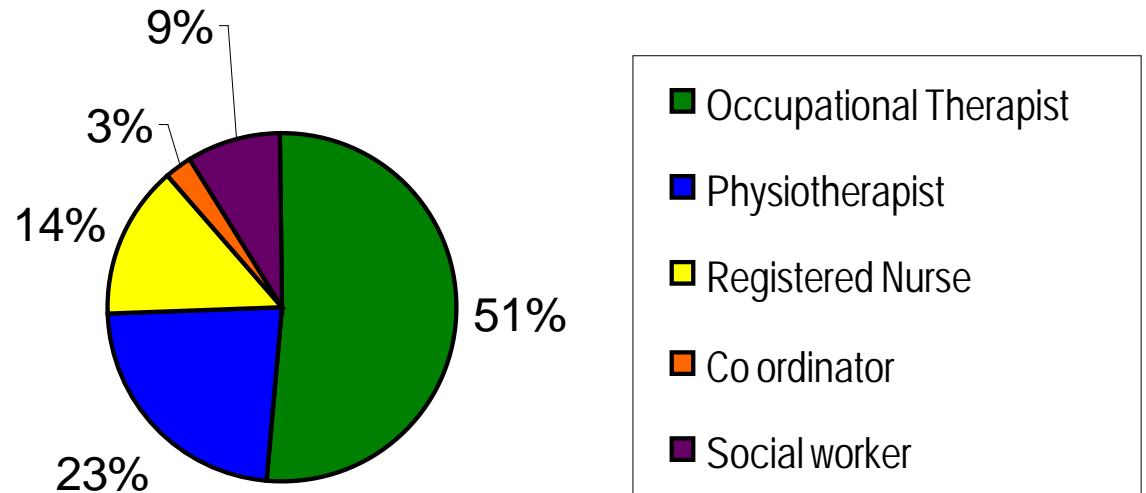
Methodology

- > Audit tool was sent to 36 different agencies throughout the CNAHS region
- > This included acute and community services in the public and private sector
- > Participation was voluntary
- > 2 weeks to complete audit

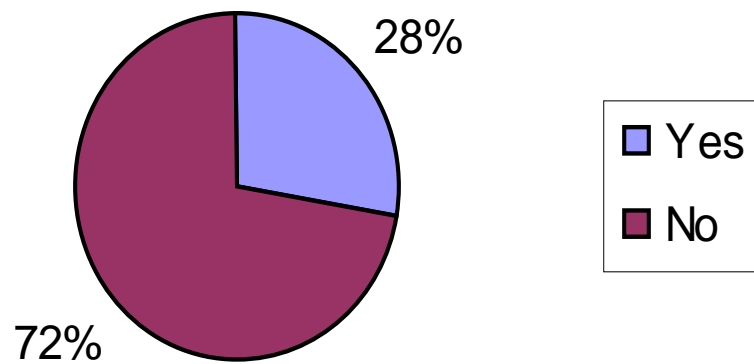
Results

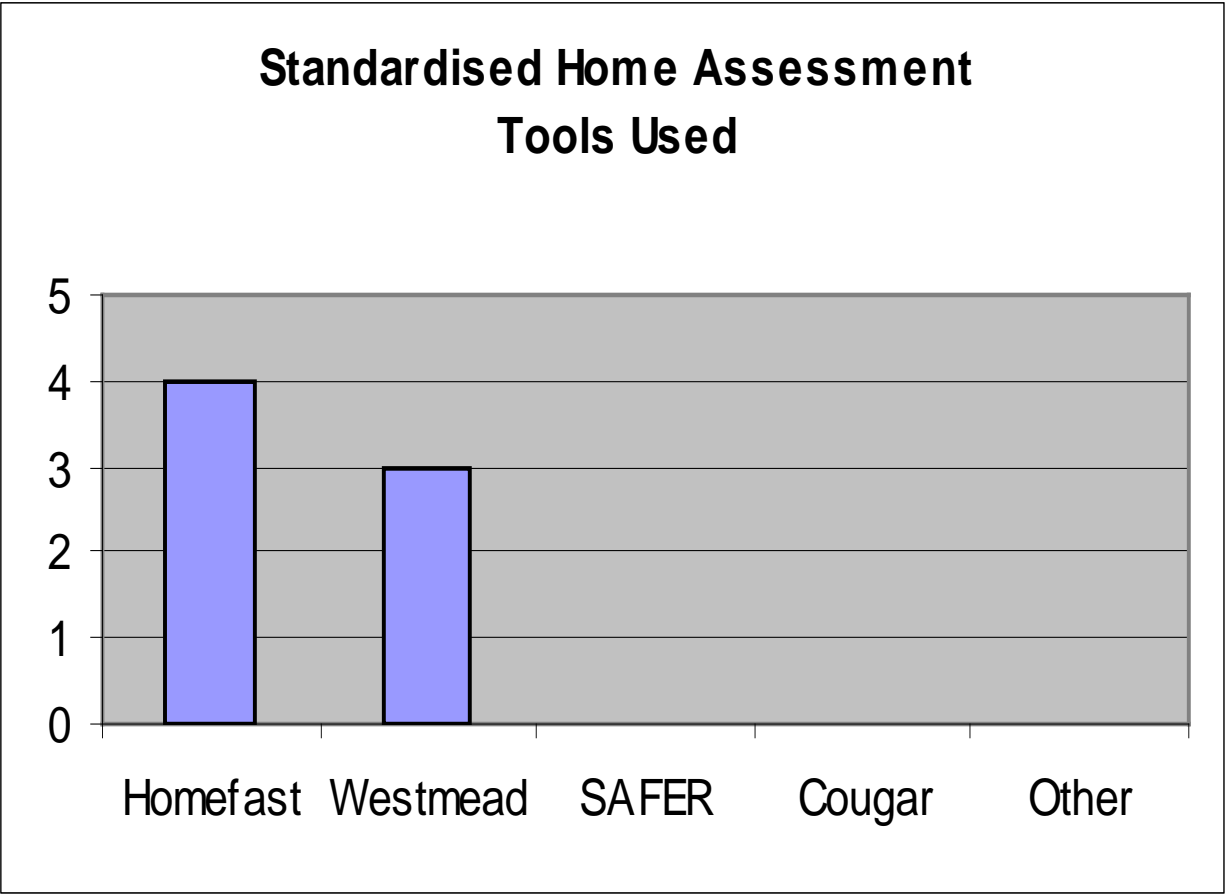


Professions Carrying out Home Safety Assessment

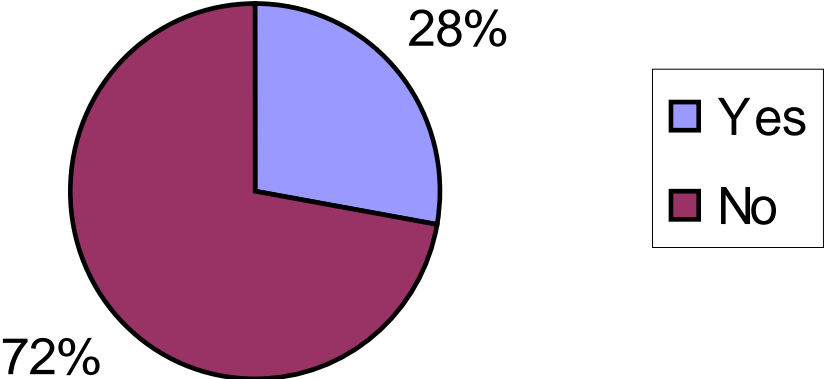


Use of Standardised Tool

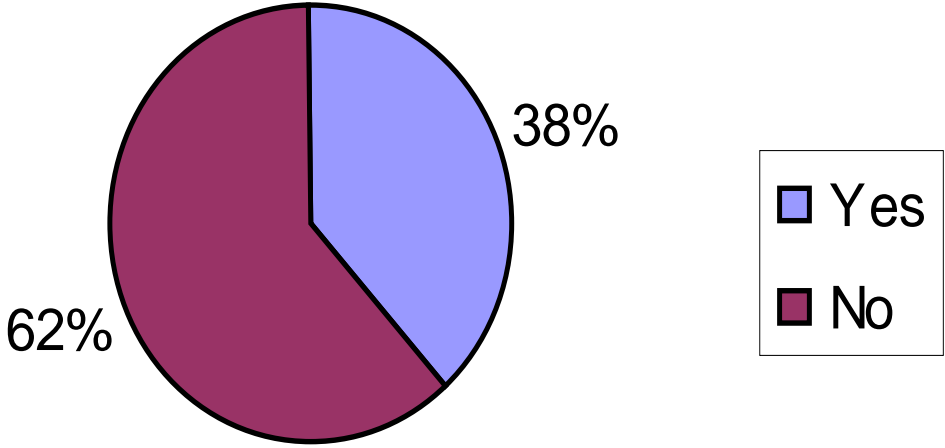




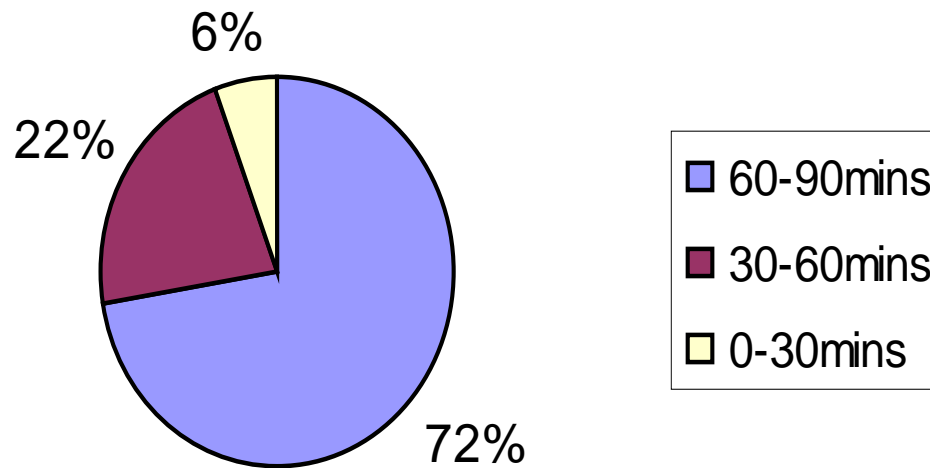
Self Screen Tool



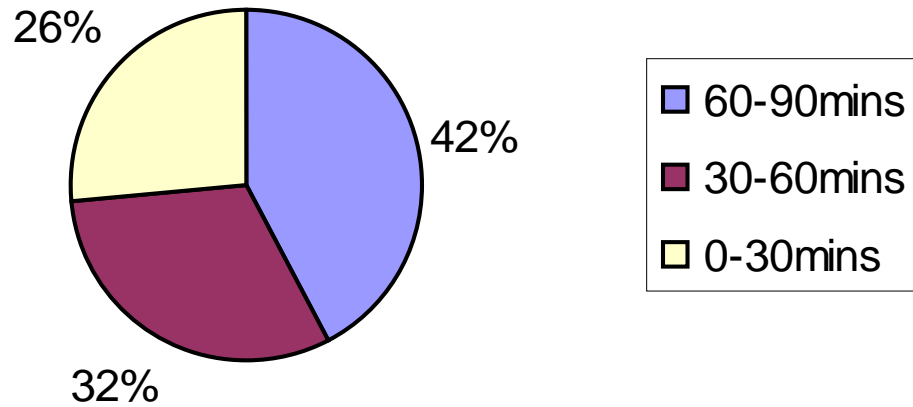
Self Screen Tool Provides Advice



Home Safety Assessment Duration



Home Safety Assessment Report Writing Duration

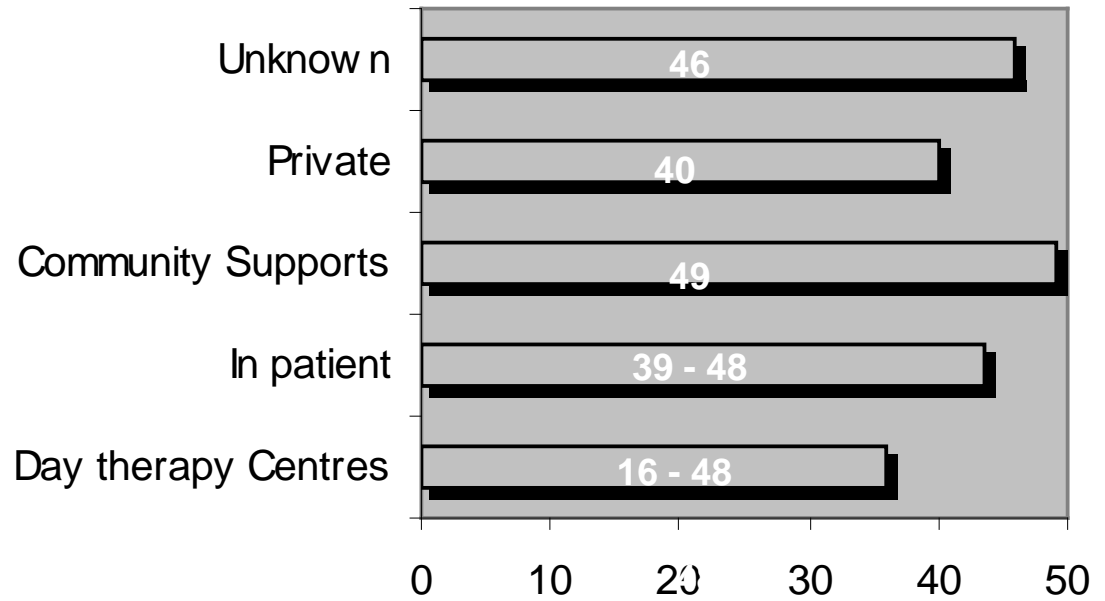


Home Safety Assessment Items Results

Item assessed	Percentage of respondents assessing item
Fire alarm	45
Water temp	45
Gates	56
Rubbish bins	56
Air conditioner	56
Pet feeding	56
Heater	61
Brightness	72
Light switch access	72
Walking aid in good repair	72
Telephones	72
Dosette/blister pack	72
Ownership	72
Garage Access/Driving	78
Carrying items	78
Self medication	78
Shopping	78
Non slip surfaces	83
Thresholds	83
Non slip mats	83
Ascend/descend	83
Edges of steps	83
Use of entrance doors	83
Walking aid	83
Pendant alarm	83
Pet type	83
Services	83
Cleaning	83
Laundry	83
Meal prep	83
Outdoor lighting	89
Bedside light	89
Covering condition	89
Bath transfers	89
Toilet location to bedroom	89
Stair rail	89
Shoes	89
Pathways& Steps	94
Rails & Ramps	94
Rugs/mats	94
Cords/clutter	94
Height of furniture	94
Condition of furniture	94
Bed transfers	100
Chair transfers	100
Toilet transfers	100
Shower access	100
Rails/equipment	100
Bending and reaching	100

Specific
items
assessed

Average of items assessed



Why we use our own Assessment Tools?

- > Due to requirements governed by work places e.g. HACCC funding
- > Specific client needs for e.g. client may have a hand injury and so the therapist may not focus on falls
- > Its cheaper to use tools developed within the workplace than purchasing one





Conclusions

- > The use of standardised tools as a benchmark for sites' home safety assessments could increase **consistency** across work places.
- > The use of standardised tools may help in new **staff orientation, competency assessment** and **skill development** in specific areas.
- > Standardised tools **may not meet** all clients **needs** and/or **work site requirements**



Where to from here?

- > Competency & Inventories
- > Education Sessions
- > Further research
- > Council Audit
- > Falls assessment forms
 - (Pathways to Independence)



For further information

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