

Allied Health Transdisciplinary Practice in the Community

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Introduction Ren Ci At A Glance

SPECTRUM OF CARE

- Community Hospital
- Chronic Sick Unit
- Nursing Homes
 - Ren Ci @ Ang Mo Kio
 - Ren Ci @ Bukit Batok St. 52
 - Ren Ci @ Woodlands

- Senior Care Centres
 - Ang Mo Kio
 - Bukit Batok St. 52
 - Novena
 - Woodlands



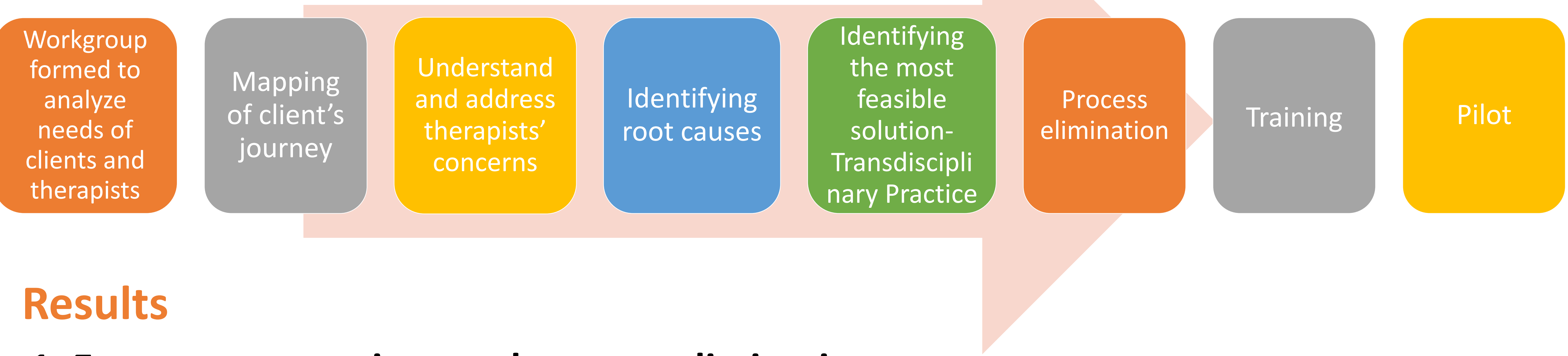
The multi-disciplinary approach in initial assessment is time consuming, inefficient and affect the person’s experience due to multiple touchpoints. In day care, the assessment would take 1.5 hours while in nursing home (NH), it is 2 hours. To address this, a transdisciplinary model of care, which has shown benefits in terms of manpower efficiency, cost savings and outcomes, is adopted (Aye et al., 2020; European stroke organization, 2025; Martin et al., 2022; Martin et al., 2024). This model also encourages allied health professionals to develop overlapping skills set and take on expanded roles.

Objectives

- The key objectives are:
- Reducing number of touchpoints to only one therapist for initial assessments
 - Reduction of 0.5 hours for day care assessment and 1 hour for NH assessment respectively

This would be done without compromising quality of care and maximizing the potential to enhance patient experience and streamline the delivery of healthcare services.

Methods



Results

1. Engagement sessions and process elimination

	Findings	Solutions Implemented
1	Assessment components too lengthy and following community hospital format, which may not be necessary for a day care setting.	Streamlined and identify essential components and include assessments through iterative process between therapists’ clinical judgement of what information was needed on first session and Ministry Of Health Centre based Service Requirements.
2	Knowledge and skills gap in therapists	A curriculum of 5 theory sessions, 3 practical sessions and a competency test was developed.
3	Concerns on clinical governance	Yearly competency audit

2. Outcomes

	Outcomes
1	22 therapists completed the training program and able to independently perform transdisciplinary assessment.
2	Initial assessment for day care reduced by 0.5 hr and 1 hour for NH respectively. A total of 431.5 man-hour savings was achieved per year in both NH and day centres.

Learning & Observations

There was good qualitative feedback from therapists, expressing that they are confident in performing the initial assessment. The practical sessions were useful to build skills and confidence. Areas for improvement include changing to asynchronous learning for theory and potential to shorten the assessment. This pilot highlights the potential for innovation when redesigning care models, enhance operational efficiency and client experience within the community care settings. Engagement with stakeholders involved is an essential step to have aligned understanding for adoption success.

Key Focus

- Transdisciplinary care is feasible in the community and essential to improve client care as it reduces the confusion of the client journey in navigating through the healthcare system
- It can reduce the manpower needed for assessments and touch points for a client into a new service.
- The time saved allowed the therapist to perform more value-added tasks such as conducting rehabilitation for patients with active goals and conducting specialized groups for patients in both the Day Care and NH setting.
- Therapists would need to embrace overlapping skills and be prepared to be trained and undertake new skills set.