**AT1: Case Study (Part1)**

Overview:

Assessment Task 1 is an individual written assignment that requires you to carry out a critical analysis of the profile of a real-life Australian health service (your 'case study' service). You should select ONE organisation, which provides health services, as a case study which will be the focus of both AT1 (Case Study Part 1) and AT2 (Case Study Part 2). It is important that you choose an organisation that offers a service related to your field of study (e.g. if you are studying exercise science, you might investigate a service provider that offers physiotherapy or exercise therapy). Some organisations offer multiple different services, this is fine as long as ONE of the services they offer is related to your field of study.

* **Word count:** 1500 words +/- 10%.
* **Weighting**: 40%
* **Referencing style:** Deakin Harvard or APA referencing
* **Unit Learning Outcomes assessed by AT1: ULO, ULO2, ULO3 - check these out in the**[**Unit Guide HSH211 T1 2020**](https://d2l.deakin.edu.au/d2l/common/dialogs/quickLink/quickLink.d2l?ou=900422&type=content&rcode=DeakinUniversity-2084352)
* **Graduate Learning Outcomes assessed by AT1:**GLO1 Discipline specific knowledge; GLO2 Communication; GLO4 Critical thinking; GLO5 Problem solving.

**Instructions and structure**

**1. Select an organisation and service**

Please see the list of organisations which are health service providers below. Select one of the organisations. While not a requirement, you might like to focus on on an organisation from your local area where possible; this will provide insight into the health care system at the community level and ensure completing this assignment is more relevant to your own health care needs.

* [North Richmond Community Health](https://nrch.com.au/)
* [Sunburn Community Health](https://www.sunburychc.org.au/)
* [Link community Health Services](http://www.monashlink.org.au/)
* [CHIRP Community Health](https://chirp.org.au/)
* [Cohealth](https://www.cohealth.org.au/)

The most important factor in selecting an organisation is that it provides a direct service that relates to your field of study (e.g. health promotion, OT, exercise science, disability, psychology, sustainability). For example, the organisation may offer services such as nutritional advice, exercise therapy, counselling, domestic violence support, women’s health services or disability support through the NDIS. This will make it relevant to your future professional work.

## 2. Research your chosen service provider organisation and service

Research your organisation through the information provided on their website about its structure and funding. A good start is to download their annual report and have a read through the information. All information you will use in this assignment **should be publicly available**; you should not make direct contact with any service provider (organisation) to gather this information. Use online or printed sources to gather the information that you need.

Remember you must substantiate all statements of fact by citing their source (reports, peer-reviewed journal articles, online materials etc).

## ****3. Write your report****

Your assignment should address the following:

##### **A. Introduction to your chosen organisation (approximately 50 words)**

This should be a brief paragraph (2 - 3 sentences) identifying which organisation you have selected as a case study. The focus here should be about the entire community health service organisation. It should also outline what you will be discussing in relation to this case study (e.g. health models and systems, health system core values, vital statistics). It is also important to name the specific service you will be focusing on (e.g. exercise therapy, nutrition, counselling, women’s services etc). The population group that is the focus of this case study also needs to be clearly stated. Basically, this section provides an overview of your entire report.

##### **B. Health service models and systems (approximately 400 words) (see**[Week 1](https://d2l.deakin.edu.au/d2l/common/dialogs/quickLink/quickLink.d2l?ou=900422&type=content&rcode=DeakinUniversity-1554640)**)**

* What is the overall aim of this organisation?
* What is the scope of the organisation – is it focused in a local geographical area? Where is this?
* What does your chosen service (e.g. nutrition, exercise therapy, counselling, health promotion, dietetics) involve? Explain what a client/patient might need to know about what will happen once they are receiving the service
* Who does this service target? Is there any evidence for why this target is relevant or justified (e.g. number of people affected within the target group, or identified factors affecting this group)?
* How do clients gain access to this service?

**Note: The first 2 dot-points for Part B need to focus on the community health service as a whole. E.g. the 'About' section or 'vision/mission' gives you an idea about what they do. Dot-points 3-5 will then be around one of the services (e.g. nutrition, counseling, health promotion etc) - this ties in with your discipline/degree.**

##### **C. Health system core values related to the service (approximately 600 words) (see**[Week 2](https://d2l.deakin.edu.au/d2l/common/dialogs/quickLink/quickLink.d2l?ou=900422&type=content&rcode=DeakinUniversity-1732142)**)**

* Explain how your chosen service (e.g. health promotion, dietetics, aged care etc) reflects the four core values of universalism, equity, access and efficiency (e.g. in terms of who the service is for, how it is accessed, who pays/affordability, the way it is designed/delivered etc).
* Identify how your chosen service (e.g. health promotion, dietetics, aged care etc) could better address each of the four core values (e.g. make one recommendation per core value).

NOTE 1: Remember that your service (e.g. health promotion, dietetics, aged care etc) does NOT have to be a great model of these core values. You might instead identify some negatives in relation to the way the service does not address any or all of these core values.   
**NOTE 2: If you cannot find information on how your service reflects the four core values, you can discuss how your selected *organisation* reflects the core values. In doing so, you might like to consider the mission or values of the organisation as a whole.**

##### **D. Health status and vital statistics (approximately 400 words) (see**[Week 3](https://d2l.deakin.edu.au/d2l/common/dialogs/quickLink/quickLink.d2l?ou=900422&type=content&rcode=DeakinUniversity-1596131)**and**[Week 4](https://d2l.deakin.edu.au/d2l/common/dialogs/quickLink/quickLink.d2l?ou=900422&type=content&rcode=DeakinUniversity-1596132)**)**

* Using data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and/or Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), explain what is known about the prevalence of **one** key health issue that this service addresses (e.g. depression if counselling is your service, sports injuries if focusing on exercise therapy, disabilities if focusing on support through the NDIS, breast cancer if women’s health services is your service).
  + What percentage of Australia’s population is affected by this health issue?
  + Which members of the community are most affected (e.g. particular ages, genders, socio-economic backgrounds, those exposed to certain risk factors)?
  + Briefly explain whether this health issue represents a health inequity and why.

NOTE 1: You should draw on a textbook definition of health inequity to support your response.

NOTE 2: Remember you must substantiate all statements of fact by citing their source (reports, peer-reviewed journal articles, online materials etc).

##### **E. Brief conclusion (approximately 50 words)**

This should be a brief paragraph (2 - 3 sentences) summarising your main findings.

**4. Format your report**

* Please include a cover page with the title of the assessment task (i.e. AT1 Case Study Part 1), your name, student number, word count and referencing style.
* The use of sub-headings to structure your report is recommended.
* You should use at least size 12 font and 1.5 line spacing. Please use a standard font i.e. Arial, Calibri or Times New Roman.
* The reference list is not included in the word count.
* Ensure you run your assignment through Turnitin prior to submission. The Turnitin Originality Check is available through the 'Tools' tab on this unit site.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## Which community service provider organisation can I choose?

You can choose any organisation from the list below:

* [North Richmond Community Health](https://nrch.com.au/)
* [Sunburn Community Health](https://www.sunburychc.org.au/)
* [Link community Health Services](http://www.monashlink.org.au/)
* [CHIRP Community Health](https://chirp.org.au/)
* [Cohealth](https://www.cohealth.org.au/)

## How do I choose a specific service to focus on?

The main thing is that you focus on a direct service that relates to your field of study (e.g. health promotion, OT, exercise science, disability, psychology, sustainability). For example, the service provider may offer services such as nutritional advice, exercise therapy, counselling, support through the NDIS, domestic violence support or women’s health services.

## Can I change my organisation in assignment task 2?

No. Students are expected to use the same service provider/organisation for assignment task 1 and assignment task 2.

## When answering part B, the information can be taken directly from the website. Should I use direct quotes?

It is recommended that you re-write (i.e. paraphrase) information in your own words to show your understanding

e.g. As a community health organisation, Berry Health aims to support residents across the eastern suburbs of Melbourne through the provision of a combination of general and specialist health services (Berry Health 2018). These include medical and dental care, allied health, aged care, mental health support and counselling (Berry Health 2018).

If you do copy the information word-for-word from the website, then you will need to use quotation marks (and put the paragraph or page number in your citation). For example, “Berry Health is a community health organisation that provides vital local health and support services including medical, dental, allied health, mental health, aged care and counselling, and many specialist health services across Melbourne’s eastern suburbs” (Berry Health 2018, para. 1).

**In part B, what does the question ‘How do clients gain access to this service?’ mean?**

In answering this question, you need to think about how the clients actually become users of the service. For example, do they need a referral from another practitioner? Or can they just contact the service provider/organisation directly themselves and make an appointment?

## In part B, I am asked to justify my service's target population. What if it targets everyone?

You will need to explain that your service targets the general population. However, you still need to provide some evidence to justify this. For example, perhaps everyone is equally in need of the service being offered (e.g. the condition being treated does not discriminate). You will likely find that the service provider will offer some explanation as to why they offer this service - you can refer to this here.

## In part C, I am asked to ‘Explain how your chosen service reflects the four core values of universalism, equity, access and efficiency’. What do I have to do here?

In order to answer this question, you need to first think about what each of the core values of universalism, equity, access and efficiency mean. In doing so, it might be worth reviewing definitions of these concepts. Then you need to consider how your service reflects (or does not reflect) these core values. For example, there may be particular sub-groups of the population who cannot access the service. In discussing these core values, you should be drawing on the online unit content and the readings from the textbook.

## In part C, I am asked to ‘Discuss ways the service could better address each of the four core values’. What do I have to do here?

This response builds on your previous answer in part C (where you have discussed how the service reflects (or does not reflect) the four core values). You need to come up with some suggestions as to how the service could improve the way they address the four core values. For example, if there are particular sub-groups who cannot access the service, perhaps there is a way to coordinate home visits.

## My chosen organisation offers a range of services under my main area of focus. How do I approach the different parts of the assignment?

In part B, dot points 1 and 2 require you to discuss the organisation you selected from the five options available. Then, when you are asked to focus on one specific service that organisation provides in dot points 3, 4 and 5. I would try to narrow down the service to one example rather than focus on the full range of services. For example, if organisation offers dietetics (which is your main area of focus), they might have services for nutritional advice, meal planning, eating disorders and weight management. You are encouraged to select one of these.

If you can talk about the specific service (i.e. the eating disorders service) in Part C, then you should do this. However, you might need to talk a bit about dietetics services offered by the organisation more generally in terms of the core values if there is not sufficient information on the eating disorders service alone.

Then, in Part D, you can definitely return to just focusing on the health issue addressed by your service (so, for example, if you looked at the eating disorders service, you might choose to focus on anorexia as your health issue). In fact, I would encourage you to do this.

## Do I need to include a separate introduction and conclusion for this assignment?

Yes, part A specifies that you need to provide an introduction to your report. This should identify which health *service provider/organisation* you have selected as a case study and name the specific *service*you will be focusing on (e.g. exercise therapy, nutrition, counselling, women’s services etc). It should also outline what you will be discussing in relation to this case study (e.g. health models and systems, health system core values, vital statistics).

According to part E, you also need to provide a brief conclusion summarising your main findings.

## Can I use sub-headings?

Yes, sub-headings are recommended in this assignment. Use brief headings rather than just numbering sections/responses. Note that sub-headings will be included in the word count.

## Can I use first person?

Please do not use first person in this assignment – there is no reflective component.