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Background

- Project Hamrahi ('the project') is an international mentorship project between Australasian Palliative Link International (APLI), and Pallium India which commenced in 2010.
- The project aims to support palliative care development in India through long-term relationships between Australasian (mentors) and Indian (mentees) clinicians. Mentor teams visit annually for a week, for three or more years.

Aim and Objectives of the Evaluation

- Aim: to assess the outcomes and lessons of Project Hamrahi in order to inform the future development of the project.
- Key objectives:
 - To understand the benefits and challenges of the project for mentees, mentors and the supporting project officers (POs) of Pallium India.
 - To explore the impact on the sustainability of palliative care activities at partner sites in India.

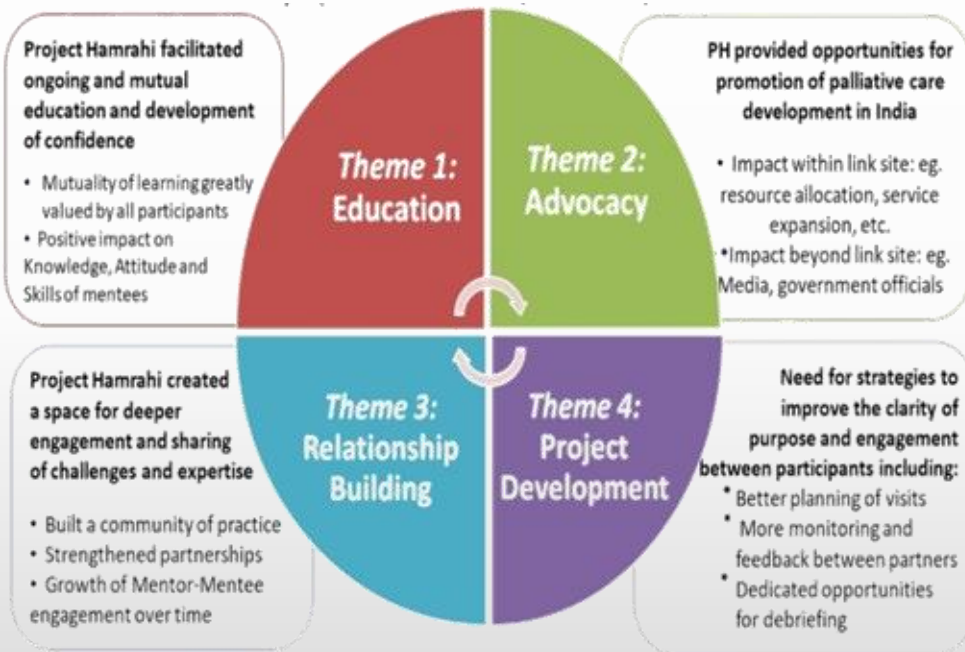
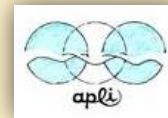
Methods

- A mixed-methods study comprising: an on-line survey of 83 clinicians (28 mentors, 49 mentees, and six POs); eight semi-structured interviews with mentees; and a review of 24 project visit reports authored by mentors from 13 sites.
- Interviewees were purposively sampled to reflect the diversity of sites, health disciplines, and years of experience with the project.
- A coding framework was developed and data was extracted using this framework.
- Data analysis involved an iterative process of independent coding, review, discussion and interpretation of data by two researchers.

Results

50 Mentoring visits **20** different palliative care services in India

Survey response rate: mentors **61%**; mentees **45%**; POs **100%**.



“Definitely a two-way learning process – we learn as much from them as they from us” MentorQ29_1

“It made a huge impact on social systems, people started to think more about palliative care. The visits opened the eyes of administration and health care professionals.” MenteeQ23_21

“Each visit was unique and it opened avenues for mutual academic learning, fostering relations, capacity building and collaborative research across cultural, resource and other barriers” MenteeQ13_17

“Improving post training follow ups and ongoing mentoring till next visit. May be assigning faculty to small groups” POQ26_5

Conclusion

- Project Hamrahi has assisted in building confidence, skills and knowledge at mentee sites, and has fostered positive relational links for all participants, despite operational constraints.
- Future project development will be based on the outcomes and recommendations of this evaluation.

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