

Literature Review

Table 2.3. Previous Australian studies of MHFA training.

Study	Strengths	Concerns	Opportunities
<p>Kitchener and Jorm (2002)</p>	<p>Sample: “General population” sample recruited via community based marketing Method: Pre-training, post-training and six month follow-up</p>	<p>Method: Uncontrolled design Repeated use of measures over time periods Use of social distance of measure of stigma Sample: Predominately well educated women, working in health care sector (somewhat homogeneous) Impact of application of training is unknown</p>	<p>Recruitment of heterogenous study population* Exploration of course content and factors that impact on the quality of learning.* Exploration of the method of learning attained*</p>
<p>Jorm, Kitchener, O’Kearney and Dear (2004)</p>	<p>Method: Cluster controlled trial Random assignment to training or wait list control. More heterogeneous sample matched within geographic areas</p>	<p>Method: Use of multiple presenters Low completion rate of measures in training group Characteristics of sample un-defined (as per employment, delivery characteristics) Application of training not evaluated</p>	<p>Application to populations not previously assessed (eg cultural variations)* Application of learning rather than “intention to treat” questioning*</p>

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Study	Strengths	Concerns	Opportunities
Kitchener and Jorm (2004)	Random control trial	Sample: Sample recruited from the same work place within health sector (impact of non-training interactions are unclear) Sample size was small Measurement tool (SF-12) was inappropriate for use in small sample Sample has lower Mental Health score that the population from which it was drawn.	Random control trial Impact of training on participant mental health and well-being* Use of sample of sufficient size to ensure adequate statistical power in the analysis*
Sartore, Kelly, Stain, Fuller, Frager and Tonna (2008)	Study undertaken independent of the of MHFA authorship	Sample: uncontrolled, small Application of the learning was not assessed	Analysis conducted independently of the MHFA authors.* Delivery across a range of groups in a culturally different context* Evaluation of the application of the learning time*

* Elements to be addressed in the current study