

Report on the results: **2022 GPSA annual national survey**

This report summarises the perspectives of GPSA members about their wellbeing and selfcare experiences over the past 12 months.

BACKGROUND

- Burnout is caused by chronic workplace stress and typically manifests as physical and emotional exhaustion, disengagement and cynicism, and reduced professional efficacy¹. It is common in healthcare workers, to the point of being normalised² as it reaches crisis point³.
- COVID19 has increased the risk of burnout in Australian doctors as a consequence of unrelenting workplace pressures in an under-resourced Australian healthcare system⁴.
- With junior doctors most at risk of burnout^{3,5}, the sustainability of the Australian healthcare system, as well as the safety and quality of patient care, is under threat.
- GPSA undertook a national survey in 2022 to determine the wellbeing and selfcare practices of members over the past 12 months.
- The data were analysed at the national level and include all GPSA members. Sample size variation across tables is due to survey attrition.





SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- A total of 319 GPSA members responded to the GPSA national supervisor survey in March-April 2022, with equal representation from males and females.
- Most respondents were GP supervisors (91%), RACGP members (88%), aged between 45-64 years (66%), located in NSW (29%), Victoria (24%) or QLD (22%), and working in community general practice (88%).
- The survey results suggest high levels of satisfaction with RTOs and show that higher levels of satisfaction were associated with lower levels of burnout.
- Over half of the respondents intend to continue GP supervision for the next 5 years, which was unrelated to the location of the main training practice (metro vs rural/regional/remote).
- Almost 10% of respondents had been the victim of workplace bullying and/or harassment in past 12 months, most of whom had not lodged an incident report. Of those who had, most were not satisfied with the way the investigation was handled or communicated to them.
- Almost 1 in every 5 respondents do not have a GP and 2 in every 5 had worked in the past 12 months while physically or mental unwell. Over half of the respondents felt that their selfcare/wellbeing could be better supported in their workplace.
- Over 70% of respondents had high levels of burnout, which was associated with lower levels of engagement in selfcare activities (including professional support, professional development, life balance, cognitive awareness, and daily balance).
- Working while unwell and the belief that selfcare/wellbeing could be better supported in the workplace predicted high levels of burnout. In contrast, GP supervisors who intended to supervise for the next 5 years and were engaged in professional development were much less likely to experience burnout.
- The results suggest a role for GPSA and training practices to support the wellbeing and selfcare of the GP workforce, perhaps through targeted professional development activities which may have a protective benefits.
- These results should be interpreted with caution given <10% of all GPSA members responded to the 2022 annual survey.





Respondents to the GPSA national supervisor survey in March-April 2022:

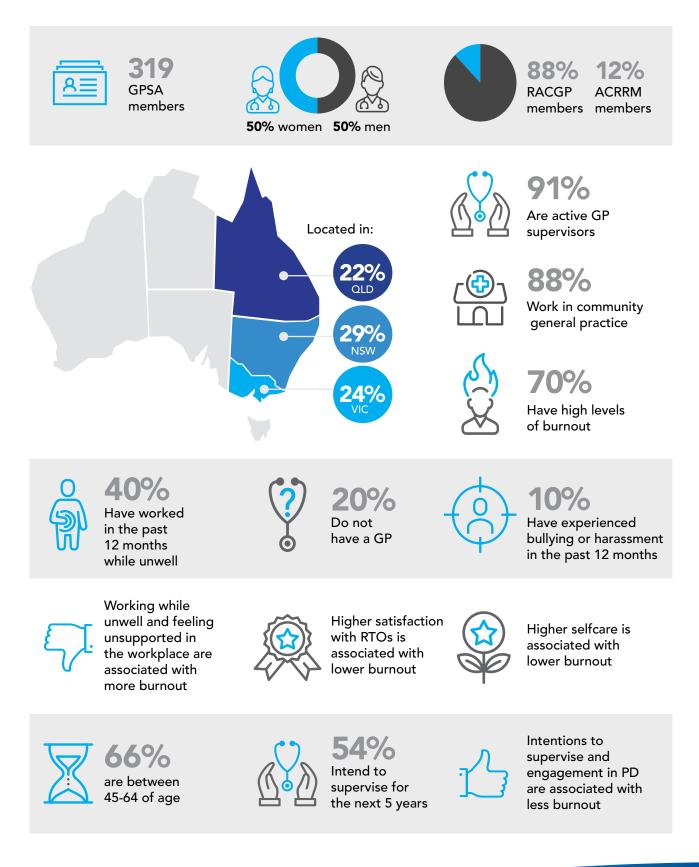




Table 1. Sociodemographic characteristics (N = 319)

Factor	Category	n	%
Age (in years)	< 45	47	15.1
	45-54	88	28.3
	55-64	119	38.3
	65+	55	17.7
	Prefer not to say	2	.6
Gender identity	Female	154	50
	Male	154	50
Sociodemographics	Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander background	2	.6
(all that apply)	LGBTQIA+ community	9	2.8
	Live with a disability	9	2.8
	Culturally and linguistically diverse	67	21
State/Territory	NSW	89	28.5
ocation of main	VIC	74	23.7
training practice	QLD	69	22.1
	SA	26	8.3
	WA	21	6.7
	TAS	22	7.1
	NT	6	1.9
	ACT	5	1.9
Region	Metro	135	43.7
	Non-Metro	174	56.3
Description of main	Community general practice	277	87.7
training practice	State-funded health service	10	3.2
	АССНО	15	4.7
	NA	4	1.3
	Other	10	3.2
Role	GP supervisor	290	90.9
(all that apply)	Medical educator	61	19.1
	GP (Principal, partner or practice owner)	152	47.6
	GP as employee	62	19.4
	Practice Manager	15	4.7
	GP (sole trader/non employee)	61	19.1
	Other	12	3.8
College Membership	RACGP	279	87.5
(all that apply)	ACCRM	57	17.9
	NA	8	2.5
	Other	7	2.2

NB. Region was coded by PHN location (<u>Table 2</u>). Missing data are not represented.

4



Table 2. PHNs (N = 309) shows the breakdown of respondents by State, Region (metro or regional/ rural/remote) and PHN

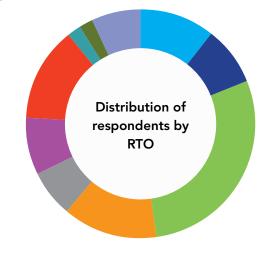
Factor	Region	PHN	n	%
NSW PHN	Metro	Central & Eastern Sydney	10	3.1
		Nepean Blue Mountains	6	1.9
		Northern Sydney	5	1.6
		South Western Sydney	7	2.2
		Western Sydney	4	1.3
	Rural/Regional/Remote	Hunter, New England & Central Coast	20	6.3
		Murrumbidgee	7	2.2
		North Coast	11	3.4
		South Eastern NSW	12	3.8
		Western NSW	5	1.6
VIC PHN	Metro	Eastern Melbourne	10	3.1
		North Western Melbourne	16	5.0
	South Eastern Melbourne	11	3.4	
	Rural/Regional/Remote	Gippsland	12	3.8
		Murray	11	3.4
		Western Victoria	13	4.1
QLD PHN	PHN Metro	Brisbane North	10	3.1
		Brisbane South	Brisbane South	11
		Gold Coast	4	1.3
	Rural/Regional/Remote	Central QLD, Wide Bay, Sunshine Coast	10	3.1
		Darling Downs & West Moreton	15	4.7
		Northern QLD	17	5.3
		Western QLD	2	.6
SA PHN	Metro	Adelaide	11	3.4
	Rural/Regional/Remote	Country SA	15	4.7
WA PHN	Metro	Perth North	7	2.2
		Perth South	7	2.2
	Rural/Regional/Remote	Country Western	7	2.2
TAS PHN	Metro	Tasmania	9	2.9
	Rural/Regional/Remote		13	4.2
NT PHN	Metro	NT	2	0.63
	Rural/Regional/Remote		4	1.27
ACT PHN	Metro	ACT	5	1.9



DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BY RTO

Regional Training Organisation (RTO)	Location	Count	%
EVGPT	Eastern VIC	32	10.0
GPEx	SA	25	7.8
GP Synergy	NSW and ACT	87	27.3
GPTQ	QLD	40	12.5
GPTT	TAS	20	6.3
JCU GPT	North West QLD	24	7.5
MCCC	VIC	40	12.5
NTGPE	NT	6	1.9
RVTS	Rural Australia	6	1.9
WAGPET	WA	20	6.3

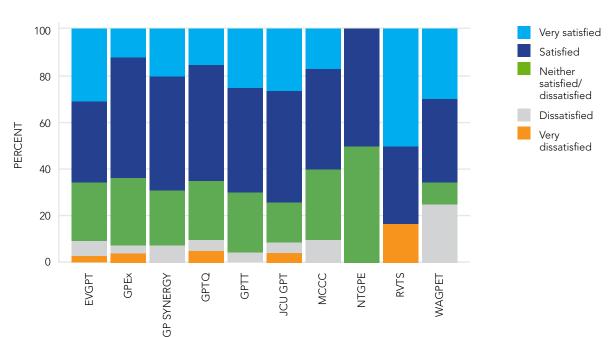
Table 3. RTOs (N = 300) shows the breakdown of respondents by RTO.



RTO SATISFACTION

Most respondents were satisfied (45%) or very satisfied (21.2%) with their RTO (M = $3.76 \pm .94$).





HOW WOULD YOU RATE YOUR OVERALL LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WITH YOUR RTO?

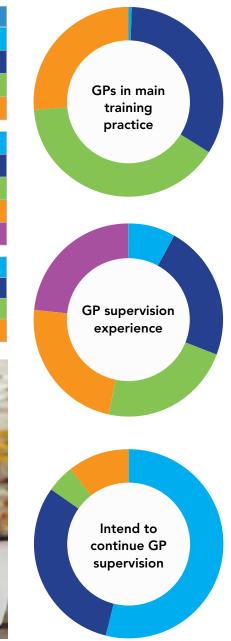


GP SUPERVISION AND EXPERIENCE

Table 4. GP Supervision

Most GPs had between 2-10 GPs working in their main training practice (72.1%), and 2 or more years experience as a GP supervisor (92%) (Table 4). Over 50% intend to continue GP supervision for the next 5 years, 29.5% will stop within the next 5 years, 5% will not supervise in the future and 12% are unsure. There was no association between the location of the main training practice (metro vs rural/regional/remote) and intentions to supervise (p > .05).

% Factor Category Count 2 Number of .7 1 GPs in main 2-5 100 33.2 training 6-10 120 39.9 practice 79 >11 26.2 GP <2 years 23 8.3 **Supervision** 2-5 years 63 22.8 experience 6-10 years 62 22.5 11-20 years 64 23.2 64 23.2 21+ years GP 149 54 For the next 5 years Supervision -30.8 Will stop within the next 5 years 85 intentions to Not supervising in the future 13 4.7 continue 29 10.5 Unsure







BULLYING AND HARASSMENT

Almost 10% of respondents (n = 30) indicated that they had been the victim of workplace bullying and/or harassment in past 12 months (Table 5). Of those 30 respondents, most had not lodged an incident report (67%) and, of those who had (n = 10), most felt that the investigation was not handled appropriately (60%), and only 50% had the outcomes communicated to them.

Table 5. Bullying and Harassment

Factor	Category	Count	%	
Perpetrator	More senior	5	16.7	
	More junior	5	16.7	
	Same level	6	20	
	Registrar being supervised	4	13.3	
	Other	11	33.3	
Lodged an	Yes	10	33.3	
incident report				
in the past 12 months	No	20	66.7	
Investigation	Appropriate	2	20	
handling	Not appropriate	6	60	
	Other	2	20	
		1		
Outcomes	Yes	5	50	
communicated	No	3	30	
	Other	2	20	





communicated

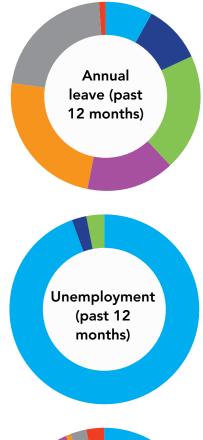


LEAVE

Almost 20% of respondents do not have a GP and 40% worked in the past 12 months while physically or mentally unwell (Table 6). Over 20% have taken over 4 weeks annual leave in the past 12 months and almost 50% have taken at least some personal/sick leave in the past 12 months (up to 1 week or more). Almost 13% of respondents have taken leave in the past 12 months for mental illness/stress or burnout. Over 50% of respondents felt that their selfcare/wellbeing could be better supported in their workplace. There was no association between the location of the main training practice (metro vs rural/regional/remote) and working while physically or mentally unwell (p > .05).

Table 6. Leave

Factor	Category	Count	%
Annual leave	None	24	8.2
(past 12 months)	Up to 1 week	29	10.0
	Up to 2 weeks	58	19.9
	Up to 3 weeks	44	15.1
	Up to 4 weeks	70	24.1
	> 4 weeks	63	21.6
	Other	3	1.0
	N 1	050	045
Unemployment	No	258	94.5
(past 12 months)	Yes	7	2.6
	Other	8	2.9
Personal/sick	None	150	51.7
leave	Up to 1 week	87	30.0
	Up to 2 weeks	24	8.3
	Up to 3 weeks	10	3.4
	Up to 4 weeks	3	1.0
	> 4 weeks	8	2.8
	Other	8	2.8





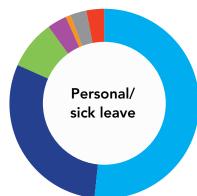
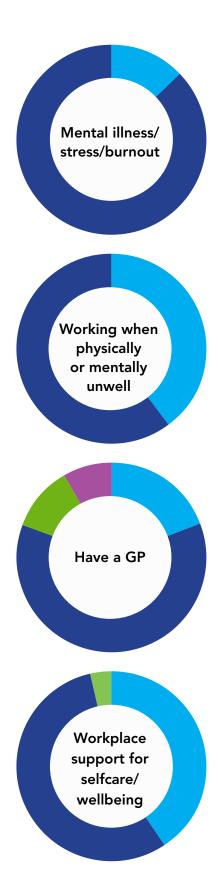




Table 6. Leave (continued)

Factor	Category	Count	%
Mental illness/	Yes	37	12.8
stress/burnout	No	251	87.2
Working when physically or	Yes	116	39.9
mentally unwell	No	175	60.1
	NI		10.0
Have a GP	No	56	19.2
	Yes, I see the same GP each time	179	61.5
	Yes, but I see a different GP each time	32	11.0
	Other	24	8.2
Workplace	Adequate	109	40.8
support for selfcare/	Inadequate	149	55.8
wellbeing	Unsure	9	3.4





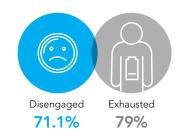


BURNOUT

A total of 291 respondents completed the 16-item Oldenburg Burnout Inventory using a 4-point Likert-type scale (1 = strongly agree, 4 = strongly disagree), which comprises two subscales (Disengagement and Exhaustion), where higher scores represent higher levels of burnout.

Over 70% of respondents had high levels of burnout (Table 7).

Table 7. Burnout (Disengagement and Exhaustion)



Burnout Subscale	n	High	Scale Range	M (±SD)	95% CI
		Burnout %			(LL; UL)
Burnout: Disengagement	291	71.1	1-4	2.29 (±.47)	2.24, 2.35
Burnout: Exhaustion	291	79	1-4	2.59 (±.56)	2.53, 2.66

(High Disengagement \ge 2.1; High Exhaustion \ge 2.25 [6]).

Figure 3. Burnout (national summary)

PERCENT	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	10
always find new and interesting aspects in my work	19.2		59.5						19.9		1.4
There are days when I feed tired before I arrive at work	28.2			47.4					17.5		6.9
: happens more and more often that I alk about my work in a negative way	11.0	38.8	8			36.8				13.4	4
ter work, I tend to need more time an the past in order to relax and el better	19.6		46.7					27.8			5.8
an tolerate the pressure of my ork very well	10.0	58.1						28.9			3.1
tely, I tend to think less at work d do my job almost mechanically	<mark>3.</mark> 1 2	4.7		55.0					1	7.2	
nd my work to be a positive allenge	18.2		63.9						1	5.2	1.7
ring my work, I often feel otionally drained	19.9		43.3				3(0.2			6.5
er time, one can become connected from this type of work	13.1	53	.3					26.8			6.9
er working, I have enough energy my leisure activities	7.6	37.8				38.5				16.2	
netimes I feel sickened by my k tasks	<mark>3.</mark> 4 2	6.8		43.3					26.5		
er my work, I usually feel worn and weary	19.9		50.2					25.	4		4.5
s is the only type of work that n imagine myself doing	19.6		38.8				31.6				0.0
ually, I can manage the amount ny work well	16.8		61.9						18.6		2.7
el more and more engaged in work	7.9	37.8				45.0					2.7
en I work, I usually feel energised	7.2	55.7					28	8.5			8.6



SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHICS AND BURNOUT

As shown in <u>Table 8</u>, the following sociodemographic characteristics were associated with higher levels of disengagement:

- < 65 years of age.
- Low intentions to supervise in the future.
- Victims of bullying or harassment.

The following sociodemographic characteristics were associated with higher levels of exhaustion:

• Respondents who had taken up to two weeks personal or sick leave in the past 12 months compared to those who had not taken any leave.

The following sociodemographic characteristics were associated with higher levels of disengagement and exhaustion:

- Respondents who had taken leave for mental illness, stress or burnout compared to those who had not taken mental health leave.
- Respondents who had worked in the past 12 months when physically or mentally unwell.
- Respondents who thought that their selfcare and wellbeing could be supported better in their workplace in comparison to those who felt supported.

There were no differences in average burnout scores as a function of region (metro vs non-metro). The percentage of respondents with high rates of disengagement was significantly higher for metro respondents², in comparison to non-metro respondents, X2 (1, N = 290) = 4.75, p < .05. There was no difference in rates of exhaustion as a function of region (metro vs non-metro).

RTO satisfaction was associated with burnout, such that higher levels of satisfaction were associated with lower levels of disengagement (p < .05) and total burnout (p < .05).





Table 8. Sociodemographics and Burnout

Variable	Category	Frequency	Exhaustion	р	Disengagement	р	
Caralia		1 4 7	(M±SD)	> OF	(M ± SD)		
Gender	Male	147	$2.53 \pm .56$	> .05	2.30 ± .48	> .05	
•	Female	147	2.66 ± .56	. 05	2.29 ± .47		
Age	< 45	42	2.70 ± .47	> .05	2.34 ± .46	< .05	
	45-54	83	2.62 ± .51	_	2.32 ± .47	_	
	55-64	112	2.62 ± .56	_	2.35 ± .44	_	
e	65+	53	2.41 ± .68	05	2.08 ± .51	05	
State/Territory location of			2.69 ± .51	> .05	2.36 ± .45	> .05	
main training practice	VIC	68	2.52 ± .49	_	2.29 ± .48	_	
	QLD	64	2.58 ± .62	_	2.30 ± .48	_	
	SA	23	2.52 ± .69	_	2.22 ± .44	_	
	WA	20	2.47 ± .63	_	2.09 ± .48	_	
	TAS	21	2.55 ± .61	_	2.26 ± .49		
	NT	6	2.77 ± .46	_	2.50 ± .47		
	ACT	5	2.75 ± .53		2.08 ± .52		
Region	Metro	129	2.66 ± .54	> .05	2.31 ± .44	> .05	
	Regional	161	2.54 ± .58		2.27 ± .50		
Number of GPs in main	1-5	97	2.65 ± .60	> .05	2.30 ± .47	> .05	
training practice	6-10	112	2.64 ± .52		2.33 ± .47		
	>11	78	2.45 ± .56		2.22 ± .48		
GP Supervision experience	< 2 years	24	2.55 ± .50	> .05	2.18 ± .43	> .05	
	2-5 years	64	2.66 ± .62		2.32 ± .47		
	6-10 years	69	2.59 ± .52		2.26 ± .49		
	11-20 years	67	2.60 ± .53		2.34 ± .44		
	21+ years	64	2.52 ± .59		2.29 ± .51		
GP Supervision –	Yes	153	2.54 ± .54	> .05	2.22 ± .44	< .05	
intentions to continue for the next 5 years	No/Unsure	135	2.65 ± .58		2.38 ± .49		
Bullying/harassment	Yes	30	2.72 ± .55	> .05	2.45 ± .53	< .05	
	No	261	2.58 ± .56		2.27 ± .46		
Annual leave	None	24	2.56 ± .73	> .05	2.28 ± .57	> .05	
	Up to 1 week	29	2.57 ± .59		2.25 ± .48		
	Up to 2 weeks	58	2.64 ± .61	_	2.33 ± .48	_	
	Up to 3 weeks	44	2.68 ± .57		2.26 ± .43		
	Up to 4 weeks	70	2.46 ± .48		2.23 ± .46		
	> 4 weeks	63	2.64 ± .51		2.37 ± .45		



Variable	Category	Frequency	Exhaustion (M±SD)	р	Disengagement (M ± SD)	p
Personal/sick leave	None	150	2.50 ± .56	< .05	2.26 ± .49	> .05
	Up to 1 week	87	2.62 ± .51		2.32 ± .43	
	Up to 2 weeks	24	2.78 ± .46		2.43 ± .34	
	> 2 weeks	21	2.78 ± .60		2.26 ± .54	
Mental illness/stress/	Yes	37	2.86 ± .52	< .05	2.44 ± .41	< .05
burnout leave	No	251	2.55 ± .56		2.27 ± .48	
Working when physically	Yes	116	2.88 ± .47	< .05	2.46 ± .45	< .05
or mentally unwell	No	175	2.40 ± .54		2.18 ± .46	
Have a GP	No	56	2.58 ± .62	> .05	2.31 ± .50	> .05
	Yes, I see the same GP each time	179 2.61 ± .54		2.28 ± .45		
	Yes, but I see a different GP each time	32	2.50 ± .47	_	2.35 ± .52	
	Other	24	2.58 ± .70		2.22 ± .50	
Workplace support for	Adequate	109	2.38 ± .61	< .05	2.15 ± .50	< .05
selfcare/wellbeing	Inadequate	149	2.73 ± .51		2.38 ± .44	

Table 8. Sociodemographics and Burnout (continued)

SELFCARE

A total of 291 respondents completed the 21-item Selfcare Assessment using a 7-point Likert-type scale (1 = never, 7 = always). The survey comprises 5 selfcare scales: Professional Support; Professional Development; Life Balance; Cognitive Awareness, and; Daily Balance. Higher scores on each subscale represent higher level of engagement in the domain of selfcare.

In general, average selfcare subscale scores suggest relatively high levels of selfcare, with the exception of daily balance (Table 9). Relative to mean scores, between 4-12 % of the sample had low selfcare scores (<1.5SD from the mean).

Selfcare Subscale	n	Low Selfcare %	M ± SD	95% CI (LL; UL)
Professional support	291	8.6%	4.98 ± 1.15	4.85, 5.12
Professional development	291	8.9%	4.72 ± 1.08	4.60, 4.85
Life balance	291	10.7%	5.27 ± 1.16	5.14, 5.41
Cognitive awareness	291	12.4%	5.20 ± 1.05	5.08, 5.33
Daily balance	291	3.8%	3.80 ± 1.54	3.62, 3.97

(Low selfcare \leq 1.5 SD sample mean)



Figure 4. Selfcare (national summary)

	Never	2	3	4	5	6	Always
I spend time with people whose company I enjoy	0.3%	5.2%	8.6%	13.4%	26.5%	24.1%	22.0%
I maintain a professional support system	2.7%	8.9%	12.0%	17.2%	24.1%	21.3%	13.7%
l take part in work-related social and community events	5.5%	16.8%	14.1%	19.2%	26.5%	11.0%	6.9%
I take breaks throughout the workday	11.7%	26.2%	16.6%	13.4%	10.0%	11.0%	11.0%
l participate in activities that promote my professional development	0.0%	2.1%	9.3%	16.8%	21.0%	26.5%	24.4%
l cultivate professional relationships with my colleagues	1.0%	6.6%	8.6%	12.8%	28.6%	26.9%	15.5%
I find ways to foster a sense of social connections and belonging in my life	1.0%	7.6%	6.6%	17.6%	21.7%	26.2%	19.3%
I am mindful of triggers that increase professional stress	0.3%	2.8%	5.5%	11.7%	31.7%	31.4%	16.6%
I seek out activities or people that are comforting to me	0.0%	5.9%	6.9%	13.8%	27.6%	29.0%	16.9%
l connect with organisations in my professional community that are important to me	5.5%	12.4%	11.0%	17.5%	16.5%	19.2%	7.9%
I make a proactive effort to manage the challenges of my professional work	1.7%	5.5%	7.9%	11.7%	26.1%	33.3%	13.7%
l avoid workplace isolation	2.1%	4.1%	10.7%	14.1%	23.0%	25.8%	20.3%
I spend time with family and friends	0.0%	2.4%	8.6%	6.9%	19.6%	30.9%	31.6%
l find ways to stay current in professional knowledge	0.0%	2.1%	3.4%	9.7%	27.9%	35.5%	21.4%
l share positive work experiences with colleagues	1.4%	4.5%	4.8%	11.4%	27.9%	35.5%	21.4%
I try to be aware of my feelings and needs	0.0%	1.7%	5.2%	11.4%	27.9%	31.0%	19.0%
I take some time for relaxation each day	4.5%	20.0%	13.1%	14.5%	15.9%	17.9%	14.1%
l avoid overcommitment to work responsibilities	9.3%	27.6%	20.3%	10.3%	16.2%	10.0%	6.2%
l monitor my feelings and reactions to patients/colleagues	1.0%	4.8%	8.3%	19.3%	27.6%	15.2%	13.8%
I share work-related stressors with trusted colleagues	3.4%	8.6%	7.6%	13.1%	30.3%	26.6%	10.3%
l maximise time in professional activities l enjoy	2.8%	10.3%	18.3%	22.1%	21.7%	17.2%	76%



SOCIODEMOGRAPHICS AND SELFCARE

Higher levels of RTO satisfaction were associated with higher levels of engagement in professional development selfcare (p < .05)

As shown in <u>Table 10</u>, the following sociodemographic characteristics were associated with higher levels of engagement across one or more domains of selfcare:

- Intentions to supervise in the future
- Respondents who had not worked in the past 12 months when physically or mentally unwell.
- Have their own GP
- Well supported selfcare and wellbeing in their workplace
- Have taken up to 4 weeks annual leave in the past 12 months

Table 10. Sociodemographics and selfcare

Variable	Category	Count	Professional Support (M±SD)	р	Professional Development (M ± SD)	р	Life Balance (M±SD)	p	Cognitive Awareness (M±SD)	P	Daily Balance (M±SD)	Р
Gender	Male	147	4.94 ± 1.14	> .05	4.67 ± 1.06	>.05	5.08 ± 1.21	< .05	5.18 ± 1.08	> .05	3.74 ± 1.56	>.05
	Female	141	5.00 ± 1.16		4.76 ± 1.11		5.48 ± 1.08		5.22 ± 1.04		3.82 ± 1.53	
Age	< 45	42	4.86 ± .92	> .05	4.70 ± .93	> .05	5.42 ± .77	> .05	5.08 ± .89	> .05	3.39 ± 1.28	> .05
	45-54	83	5.12 ± 1.03		4.76 ± 1.06		5.29 ± 1.21	-	5.29 ± 1.03		3.90 ± 1.58	
	55-64	112	4.98 ± 1.23		4.76 ± 1.14		5.21 ± 1.26		5.17 ± 1.06		3.83 ± 1.55	
	65+	53	4.90 ± 1.29		4.62 ± 1.13		5.31 ± 1.04		5.23 ± 1.22		3.92 ± 1.61	
State/Territory	NSW	84	4.75 ± 1.31	> .05	4.65 ± 1.15	> .05	5.10 ± 1.20	> .05	5.10 ± .98	> .05	3.62 ± 1.54	> .05
location of main	VIC	68	5.15 ± 1.00		4.54 ± 1.12		5.29 ± 1.17	_	5.28 ± 1.14		3.78 ± 1.55	
training practice	QLD	64	4.94 ± 1.14		4.74 ± 1.12		5.22 ± 1.19		5.21 ± 1.12		3.85 ± 1.57	
	SA	23	5.00 ± 1.22		4.97 ± 1.08		5.64 ± 1.30		5.26 ± 1.30		4.30 ± 1.55	
	WA	20	5.32 ± .95		4.89 ± 1.07		5.55 ± .83		5.21 ± .91		3.60 ± 1.54	
	TAS	21	5.22 ± 1.03		5.07 ± 1.06	-	5.60 ± 1.04	_	5.38 ± .77		4.05 ± 1.45	
	NT	6	4.63 ± 1.20		4.67 ± .93		5.13 ± 1.22		5.00 ± 1.10		4.28 ± 1.25	
	ACT	5	5.12 ± .90		4.88 ± 1.12		4.65 ± .38		5.10 ± 1.10	1	3.00 ± 1.90	



Table 10. Sociodemographics and selfcare (continued)

Variable	Category	Count	Professional Support (M±SD)	р	Professional Development (M ± SD)	р	Life Balance (M±SD)	P	Cognitive Awareness (M±SD)	p	Daily Balance (M±SD)	р
Region	Metro	129	5.01 ± 1.06	> .05	4.64 ± 1.07	> .05	5.32 ± 1.15	> .05	5.15 ± 1.00	> .05	3.69 ± 1.52	> .05
	Regional	161	4.96 ± 1.22		4.79 ± 1.09		5.23 ± 1.18		5.26 ± 1.09		3.89 ± 1.56	
Number of GPs	1-5	97	4.80 ± 1.24	> .05	4.65 ± 1.13	> .05	4.99 ± 1.33	< .05	5.10 ± 1.09	> .05	3.70 ± 1.65	> .05
in main training	6-10	112	5.01 ± 1.13		4.62 ± 1.12		5.29 ± 1.14		5.24 ± 1.00		3.59 ± 1.46	
practice	>11	78	5.21 ± 1.03		4.99 ± .94		5.58 ± .90		5.30 ± 1.10		4.13 ±1.47	
GP Supervision	< 2 years	24	4.91 ± .94	> .05	4.69 ± 1.15	> .05	5.27 ± 1.00	> .05	5.45 ± .83	> .05	3.88 ± 1.40	> .05
experience	2-5 years	64	4.92 ± 1.16		4.68 ± 1.09		5.12 ± 1.21	-	5.16 ± .94		3.60 ± 1.47	
	6-10 years	69	4.97 ± 1.17		4.75 ± 1.14		5.28 ± 1.16		5.18 ± 1.07		3.68 ± 1.54	
	11-20 years	67	4.99 ± .99		4.67 ± 1.01		5.31 ± 1.20		5.18 ± 1.14		3.70 ± 1.62	
	21+ years	64	5.08 ± 1.34		4.80 ± 1.03		5.36 ±1.13		5.21 ± 1.13		4.18 ± 1.58	
GP Supervision – intentions to	Yes	153	5.20 ± .92	< .05	4.93 ± .97	< .05	5.39 ± 1.06	> .05	5.35 ± 1.00	< .05	3.88 ± 1.48	> .05
continue for the next 5 years	No/Unsure	135	4.74 ± 1.32		4.48 ± 1.14		5.13 ± 1.25	_	5.04 ± 1.08		3.70 ± 1.61	
Bullying/	Yes	30	4.81 ± 1.41	> .05	4.68 ± 1.17	> .05	5.06 ± 1.47	> .05	5.22 ± .93	> .05	3.61 ± 1.94	> .05
harassment	No	261	5.00 ± 1.12		4.73 ± 1.08		5.30 ± 1.12		5.20 ± 1.07		3.82 ± 1.49	
Annual leave	None	24	4.89 ± 1.33	> .05	4.63 ± 1.29	> .05	4.98 ± 1.55	< .05	5.49 ± 1.25	> .05	3.65 ± 1.76	< .05
	Up to 1 week	29	5.03 ± 1.24		4.68 ± 1.09		5.06 ± 1.29	-	5.30 ± 1.21		3.08 ± 1.31	
	Up to 2 weeks	58	4.75 ± 1.22		4.64 ± .98		4.94 ± 1.14		5.05 ± 1.00		3.44 ± 1.57	
	Up to 3 weeks	44	4.94 ± .94		4.54 ± 1.08		5.06 ± 1.04		5.13 ± .92		3.42 ± 1.50	
	Up to 4 weeks	70	5.19 ± 1.05		5.02 ± 1.10		5.75 ± .90		5.30 ± 1.05		4.30 ± 1.50	
	> 4 weeks	63	4.98 ± 1.20		4.63 ± 1.05		5.35 ± 1.15		5.16 ± 1.06		4.18 ± 1.40	



Table 10. Sociodemographics and selfcare (continued)

Variable	Category	Count	Professional Support (M±SD)	p	Professional Development (M ± SD)	p	Life Balance (M±SD)	р	Cognitive Awareness (M±SD)	p	Daily Balance (M±SD)	p
Personal/sick leave	None	150	5.00 ± 1.24	> .05	4.77 ± 1.14	> .05	5.21 ± 1.23	> .05	5.21 ± 1.13	> .05	3.74 ± 1.54	> .05
	Up to 1 week	87	4.98 ± 1.04		4.64 ±1.08		5.42 ± 1.07		5.15 ± .96		3.94 ± 1.62	
	Up to 2 weeks	24	4.94 ±1.12		4.64 ± .98		5.26 ± .95		5.40 ± .80		3.75 ± 1.49	
	> 2 weeks	21	4.94 ± 1.10		4.75 ± .84		5.27 ± 1.24		5.25 ± 1.14		3.63 ± 1.31	
Mental illness/ stress/burnout	Yes	37	4.86 ± 1.13	> .05	4.48 ± 1.04		5.16 ± 1.23	> .05	5.32 ± .87	> .05	3.72 ± 1.49	> .05
leave	No	251	4.99 ± 1.16		4.75 ± 1.09		5.27 ± 1.15		5.18 ± 1.09		3.80 ± 1.56	
Working when	Yes	116	4.76 ± 1.14	< .05	4.53 ± 1.04	< .05	5.11 ± 1.21	> .05	4.94 ± 1.08	< .05	3.30 ± 1.44	< .05
physically or mentally unwell	No	175	5.13 ± 1.14	-	4.85 ± 1.10		5.38 ± 1.12		5.38 ± 1.00		4.13 ± 1.52	
Have a GP	No	56	4.51 ± 1.33	< .05	4.36 ± 1.25	< .05	4.92 ± 1.36	< .05	4.90 ± 1.29	> .05	3.63 ± 1.79	> .05
	Yes, I see the same GP each time	179	5.15 ± 1.03		4.86 ± 1.00		5.42 ± 1.05		5.31 ± .99		3.84 ± 1.48	
	Yes, but I see a different GP each time	32	4.88 ± 1.19	_	4.66 ± .95		5.22 ± 1.09		5.07 ± .91		3.89 ± 1.50	
	Other	24	4.96 ± 1.24		4.60 ± 1.26		5.03 ± 1.36		5.31 ± .98		3.71 ± 1.52	
Workplace support	Adequate	109	5.23 ± 1.17	< .05	4.86 ± 1.13	> .05	5.46 ± 1.14	> .05	5.45 ± .99	< .05	4.22 ± 1.62	< .05
for selfcare/ wellbeing	Inadequate	149	4.89 ± 1.14		4.68 ± 1.07		5.19 ± 1.20		5.13 ± 1.08		3.57 ± 1.45	



BURNOUT AND SELFCARE

Burnout was negatively correlated with all aspects of selfcare, suggesting that those experiencing high levels of burnout were less likely to engage in selfcare activities, or vice versa (N = 257-258) (Table 11).

Table 11.	Burnout and	selfcare
-----------	-------------	----------

Selfcare	Disengagement	Exhaustion	Total Burnout
Professional support	456**	446**	488**
Professional development	461**	447**	491**
Life balance	331**	367**	380**
Cognitive awareness	419**	442**	467**
Daily balance	316**	472**	435**

** p < .001

PREDICTING BURNOUT

Logistic regression analyses were performed to identify selfcare predictors of burnout, adjusted for sociodemographic factors.

BURNOUT (DISENGAGEMENT)

The logistic regression model was statistically significant, X2 (10, N = 253) = 68.13, p < .001. The model explained 34% of the variance in disengagement and correctly classified 78% of cases. Respondents who intended to supervise for the next 5 years were over 50% less likely to experience disengagement (OR = .486, 95% CI [.252, .937]). Respondents who worked while unwell had over twice the odds of experiencing disengagement (OR = 2.226, 95% CI [.1.086, 4.560]). Respondents who believed that support for selfcare was inadequate in their workplace had almost twice the odds of disengagement (OR = 1.955, 95% CI [1.013, 3.773]). Higher engagement in professional development selfcare was associated with 53% lower odds of disengagement (OR = .466, 95% CI [.274, .794]).

Table 12. Logistic Regression Model Predicting Disengagement

Variable	В	SE	Wald	P	Exp(B)	95% Cl (lower, upper)	
Intention to continue GP supervision	721	.34	4.64	.031	.486	.252	.937
Working while unwell	.800	.366	4.778	.029	2.226	1.086	4.560
Selfcare workplace support	.671	.335	3.998	.046	1.955	1.013	3.773
Professional Support	.093	.270	.118	.731	1.097	.646	1.863
Professional development	763	.271	7.906	.005	.466	.274	0.794
Life Balance	.150	.221	.461	.497	1.162	.753	1.792
Cognitive Awareness	369	.251	2.164	.141	.691	.423	1.131
Daily Balance	046	.133	.119	.730	.955	.735	1.240



BURNOUT (EXHAUSTION)

The logistic regression model was statistically significant, X2 (13, N = 245) = 72.31, p < .001. The model explained 39% of the variance in exhaustion and correctly classified 82% of cases. Respondents who worked while unwell had almost three times the odds of exhaustion (OR = 2.959, 95% CI [1.174, 7.457]). Respondents who believed that support for selfcare was inadequate in their workplace had over 3 times the odds of exhaustion (OR = 3.145, 95% CI [1.467, 6.742]).

Variable	В	SE	Wald	р	Exp(B)	95% Cl (lower, upper)	
Intention to continue GP supervision	826	.448	3.406	.065	.438	.182	1.052
Working while unwell	1.085	.472	5.293	.021	2.959	1.174	7.457
Selfcare workplace support	1.146	.389	8.675	.003	3.145	1.467	6.742
Professional Support	072	.323	.049	.825	.931	.494	1.753
Professional development	601	.311	3.734	.053	.548	.298	1.009
Life Balance	.218	.260	.702	.402	1.243	.747	2.069
Cognitive Awareness	307	.303	1.028	.311	.736	.406	1.332
Daily Balance	251	.151	2.787	.095	.778	.579	1.045

Table 13. Logistic Regression Model Predicting Exhaustion

BURNOUT (TOTAL)

A HLMR found that 43% of the variance in total burnout was explained by a range of sociodemographic, workplace and selfcare factors, F(12, 237) = 16.39, p < .001. As shown in <u>Table 14</u>, respondents who were younger, had low intentions to supervise in the future, had taken personal/sick leave in the past 12 months, had worked while physically/mentally unwell, held the belief that selfcare could be supported better in the workplace, and had lower engagement in professional development selfcare had significantly higher levels of total burnout.

Table 14. Hierarchical Linear Multiple Regression Predicting Total Burnout

Variable	В	SE	b	t	р	95% Cl (lower, upper)	
Age	068	.027	136	-2.539	.012	121	015
Intentions to supervise	116	.052	121	-2.216	.028	219	013
Personal/sick leave	.061	.026	.117	2.357	.019	.010	.112
Working while unwell	.216	.051	.222	4.262	<.001	.116	.316
Selfcare workplace support	.154	.049	.160	3.153	.002	.058	.251
Professional development	077	.037	175	-2.115	.035	149	005



REFERENCES

- 1. World Health Organisation, International Classification of Disease for Mortality and Morbidity Statistics (ICD), 11th revision, Geneva, 2018.
- 2. Parker G, Tavella G, Eyers K. Burnout : a guide to identifying burnout and pathways to recovery. 2021. Allen & Unwin: Sydney Australia.
- 3. Baigent M, Baigent R. Burnout in the medical profession: not a rite of passage. MJA 2018; 11: doi: 10.5694/mja17.00891
- Lucas R. Doctor burnout crisis looms for overburdened healthcare system, psychologist warns. Accessed 19th May 2022; <u>https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-09-25/doctor-burnout-crisis-looming-warnspsychologist/100449906</u>
- Hunter R, Willis K, Smallwood N. The workplace and psychosocial experiences of Australian junior doctors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Internal Medicine Journal, 2022; 52:745–754. doi:10.1111/ imj.15720
- 6. Peterson U, Demerouti E, Bergström G, Samuelsson M, Asberg M, Nygren A. Burnout and physical and mental health among Swedish healthcare workers. J Adv Nurs. 2008;62(1):84–95.