

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:

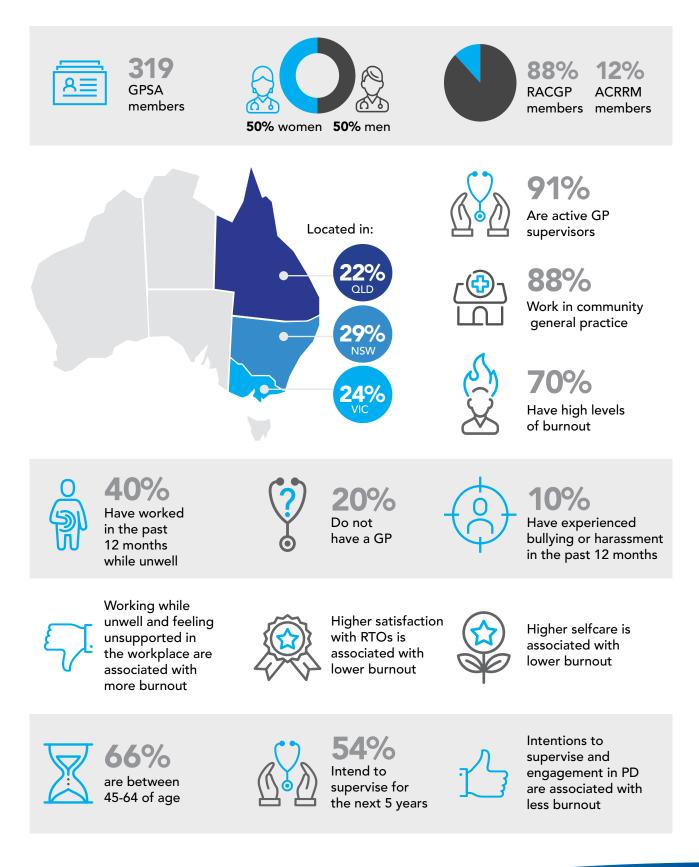




Table 1. Sociodemographic characteristics (N = 319)

| 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.

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

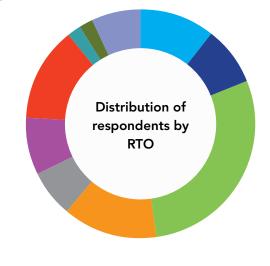
| Factor | Region | PHN | n | % |
|---------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|------|
| NSW PHN | Metro | Central & Eastern Sydney | 10 | 3.1 |
| | | Nepean Blue Mountains | 6 | 1.9 |
| | | Northern Sydney | 5 | 1.6 |
| | | South Western Sydney | 7 | 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 |

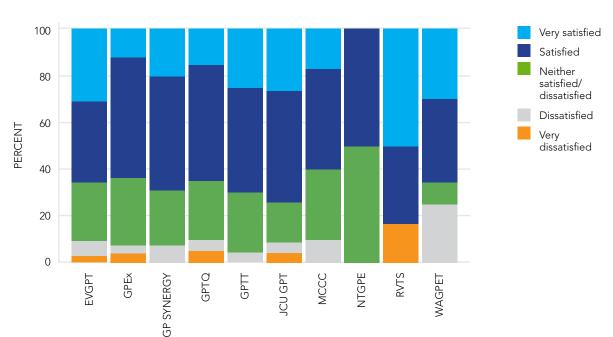
Table 3. RTOs (N = 300) shows the breakdown of respondents by RTO.



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?

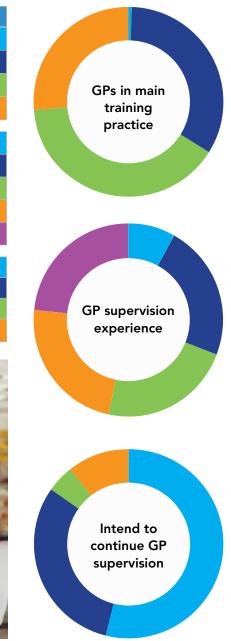


GP SUPERVISION AND EXPERIENCE

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

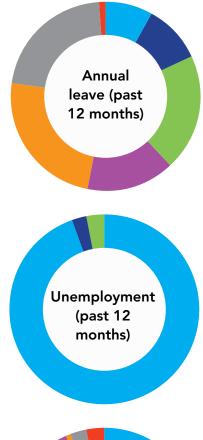


LEAVE

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 |





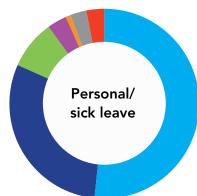
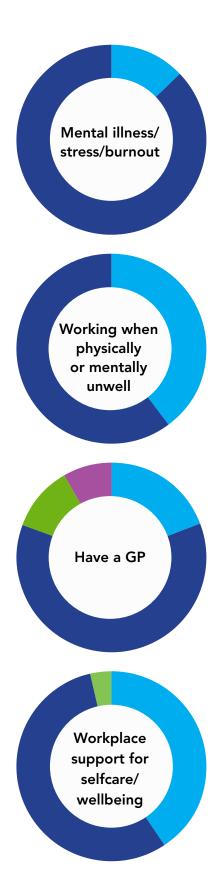




Table 6. Leave (continued)

| 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 |





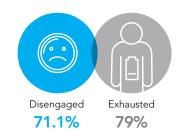


BURNOUT

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 |



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