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Supporting doctors and patients at the Pitch

Returning in 2017, the Pitch once again delivered three successful innovation ideas.

After the shocking news of basic physician trainee doctors taking their own lives, a group of RPA doctors created the BPT-OK program which aims to give doctors skills which could prevent psychological distress from accumulating.

Awarded \$48,400 to pilot the program, the team hopes to assist basic physician trainees to build resilience and mindfulness, learn stress management techniques, exam psychology and to empower them to be mentally and physically healthier by including exercise in their training.



“We need to change the silent stoic culture in medicine, teach our trainees resilience and stress management techniques and support them to have healthy physical and emotional lifestyles during their training and beyond,” Dr Louise Ward said.

“BPT-OK is a multi-faceted intervention and is designed to be built into the BPT training program at RPA during weekly protected teaching times.”

An enthusiastic plea from occupational therapists from the Aged, Chronic Care and Rehabilitation team to streamline the approach to home modifications in social housing in Waterloo received \$48,046.

Occupational therapists advocate for modifications to bathrooms for many clients, to ensure they can continue to live safely in their homes, and minimise the risk of falls.

“We will continue to work with the Department of Family and Community Services to streamline the process, create a consistent bathroom disability modification design and reduce the duplication involved,” senior occupational therapist, Melissa Cain said.

Community Health Speech Pathologists received their request for \$7,300 to utilise video conferencing technology to supervise additional student therapists.