



EVALUATION INNOVATION IN AOTEAROA

ENABLING A SAFER CLIMATE AND SOCIAL EQUITY FOR WELLBEING
Toitū te whenua, toitū te tangata, whakamaua kia tina!

VIRTUAL SUMMIT / 23 - 25 MARCH 2021



Reference:

7

Type of session:

Presentation

Title:

Getting to what matters: Establishing criteria for defensible evaluations

Presentaters(with position & organisations):

Natalie Piesse - Evaluation and Research Consultant - Allen + Clarke

Abstract:

This session will explore the development of evaluation in Aotearoa by reflecting on the past and then considering where we need to head in the future. An historical overview will be provided, including an examination of agencies, organisations, associations and training providers that have influenced the shape of evaluation.

Based on what has shaped evaluation to date, we will then consider what needs to happen next - to support diversity within the evaluation professional community. Consideration will be given to international initiatives toward supporting a diversified workforce.



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Type of session: Presentation

Title: Is the use of computer audio visual services and artificial intelligence to collect and transcribe in-depth qualitative data a replacement for traditional techniques in a Covid 19 world: Reflections on lessons learnt and implications for professional practice.

Presenters(with position & organisations):

John Wren - Principal Evaluator - Te Ihuwaka, ERO

Abstract:

Is the use of computer services such as Zoom and TeamViewer and artificial intelligence (AI) for the audio-visual collection of in- depth face to face qualitative data and transcribing a useful practice in a Covid 19 world?

Over the last three months these tools have been used to collect in-depth focus group and personal interview data, and to transcribe the AV records.

Reflections on the experience include:

- The technology works, but requires some infrastructure (most notably stable high speed broadband and large hard drive space to record large digital files)
- There are tricks and gotchas when using a laptop, and in using AI transcribing services
- Covid 19 has made the use of the technology more acceptable and accessible to both practitioners and participants
- Some participants welcome the use of computer-based AV as an aid to their participation – but this is not a universal experience
- The addition of visual with audio is a major step forward for quality assurance review and analytical purposes
- The technology is not a replacement for having fundamental evaluative skills around developing well thought out questions, the requirement to actively listen and think, and to immersing yourself in the data as part of the analytical process.