

# Who do you think you are? The Personality Traits of Australian Pharmacists

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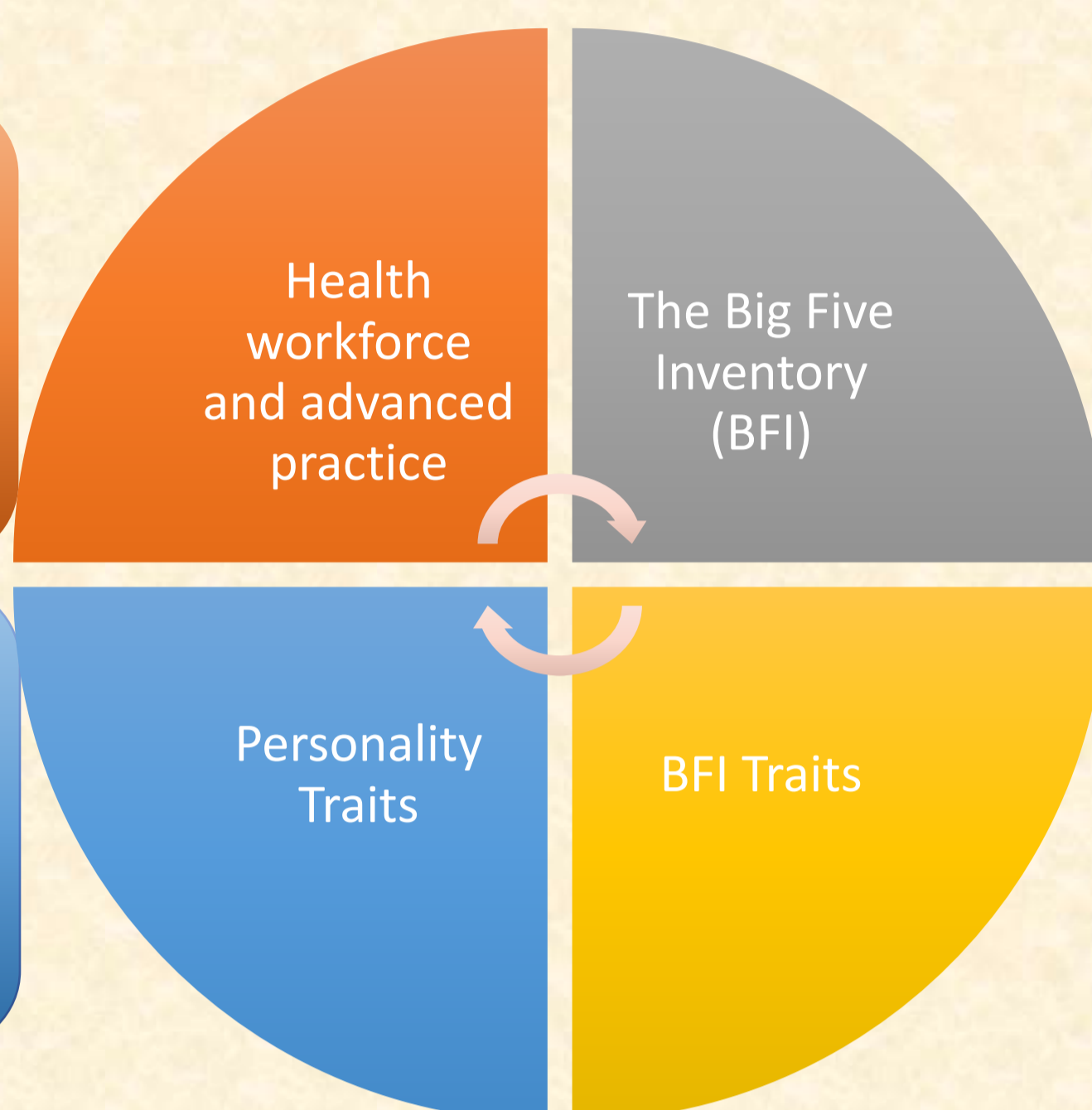
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Australia and the world are facing a shortage of health care workers<sup>1,2</sup>. Advanced practice recognition and extended scope roles such as pharmacist prescribing could help to meet future health care demand<sup>3-5</sup>.

The personality traits of pharmacists may not support adaptability in role, or the embracing of new and extended scopes of practice<sup>6,7</sup>. No published studies of Australian pharmacist personality traits.



44-item short form personality test that measures human personality. Previously used in Canada to study pharmacist personality traits<sup>9-12</sup>.

Extraversion: Warmth, confidence and assertiveness  
 Agreeableness: Social, altruistic and cooperative  
 Conscientiousness: Achievement orientated, order and competence  
 Neuroticism: Anxiety, depression, nervousness and vulnerability  
 Openness: Openness to new ideas, artistic, investigative and perceptive

## STUDY POPULATION

Age > 18 years  
 Registered pharmacist in Australia  
 Member of SHPA, PSA or AACP

## METHOD

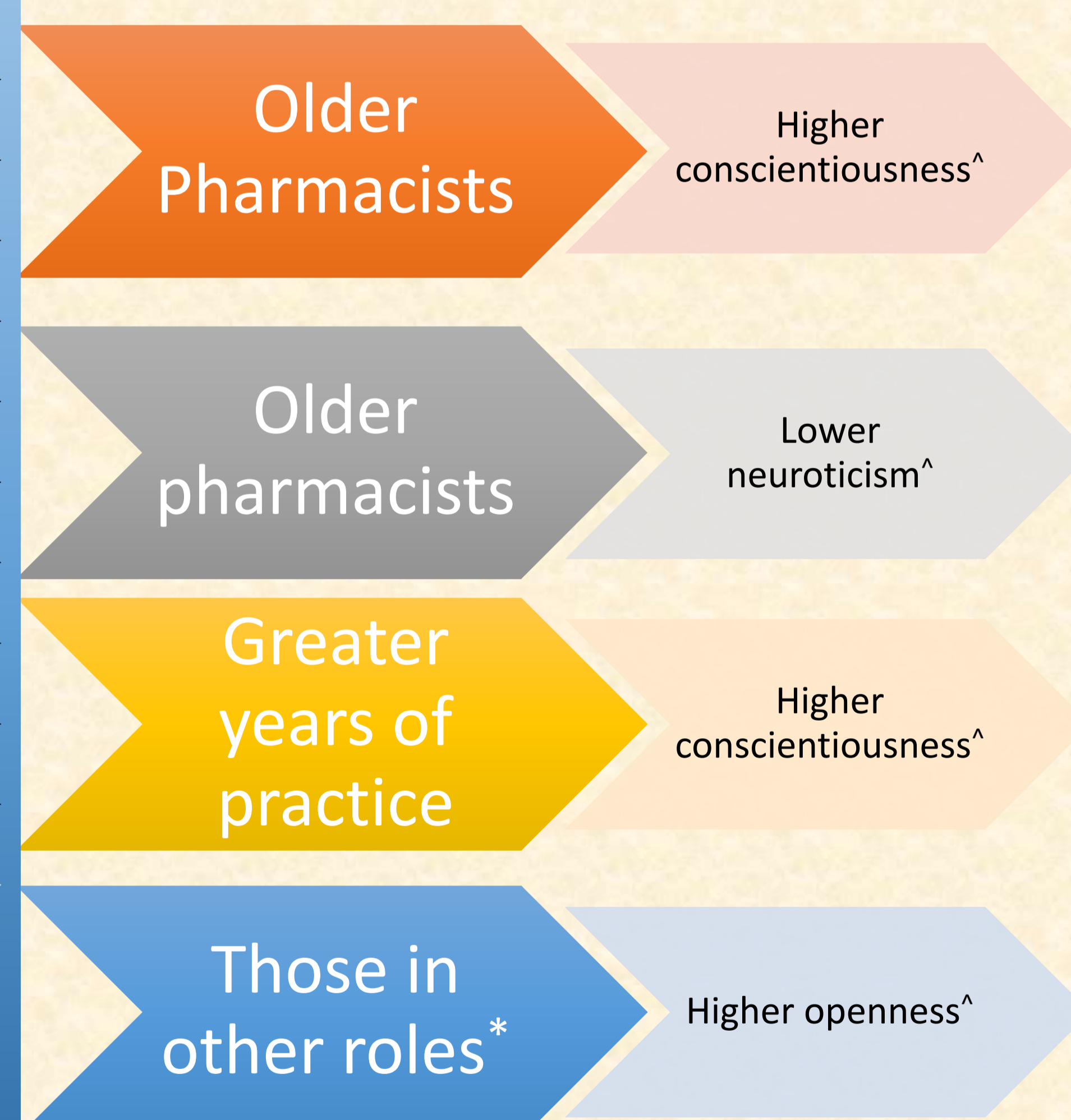
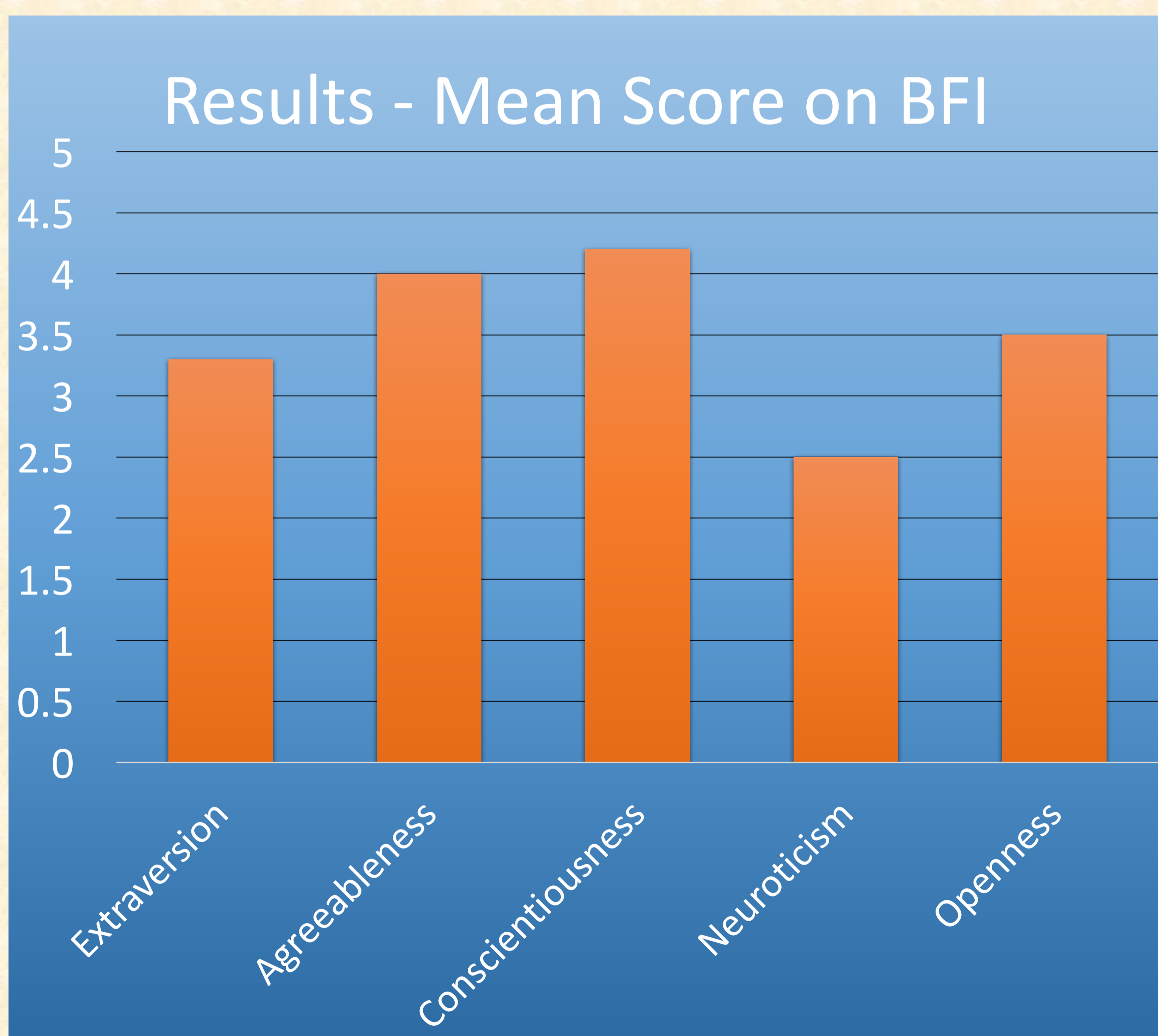
Online Cross-sectional Survey  
 Demographic Information  
 Big Five Inventory  
 Ethics approved by QUT Human Research Ethics Committee

## DATA ANALYSIS

Descriptive statistics for demographic data  
 BFI analysed according to BFI authors  
 One-way ANOVA to determine associations between BFI and demographic data ( $p < 0.05$  for statistical significance)

## Results - Demographics

n=121  
 80.2% Female  
 32.2% aged 30 to 39 years  
 47.1% work in hospital pharmacy



\*Other roles include researcher or independent consultant  
<sup>^</sup>p<0.05. Measured by one-way ANOVA with relevant post-hoc tests (i.e. Tukey's)

First study of personality in Australian pharmacists. Similar to the results in Canadian Pharmacists<sup>9-12</sup>.

Personality profile supports current role in health system – strong expressions of conscientiousness and agreeableness.

Future research:  
 - Relationship of personality to advanced and extended practice.  
 - How do we leverage our personality to drive change?

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