

Year in Review
2021



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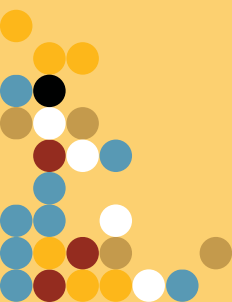
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Acknowledgment

The Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters of Australia and the Torres Strait. We respect all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people—their customs and their beliefs. We also pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, with particular acknowledgement to the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation, the Traditional Custodians of the lands where our offices are located.



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Director's welcome



Welcome to our review of 2021. It was another strange year in many ways. COVID-19 clipped our wings once again. We were unable to travel freely to meet with our users and partners throughout Australia. On the plus side, we learned more and more about how to function effectively in a hybrid world characterised by lockdowns and other restrictions. Thankfully we, along with millions around the world, were quick learners. We learned to communicate through Zoom and Teams, which, while they could not replace face-to-face meetings, gave us the opportunity to have authentic audio-visual communications. As you will see in this annual review, we performed as well as could be expected under the persistent pressure of the COVID world.

The year was also a time of transition for some of our valued staff. In particular, Jane Burns, our wonderful Research Team Leader, retired at the end of the year after a brilliant career of almost 21 years at the HealthInfoNet. She was a steady hand on the organisational research tiller with an enormous fund of corporate knowledge, having been at our Founder, Neil Thomson's side, for most of the life of the HealthInfoNet. She will be sorely missed. Also, in 2021, Dr Uncle Mick Adams left the HealthInfoNet. Uncle Mick provided leadership guidance and mentorship to all staff for over seven years. He is hugely admired throughout the sector, and his presence at the HealthInfoNet provided enormous credibility and support for our

Some of the HealthInfoNet team with the award which was accepted by Neil Drew on behalf of the HealthInfoNet.



work. As I travelled (prior to the pandemic) with Uncle Mick throughout the country, it was like being in the presence of a rock star. The admiration and respect for Uncle Mick was evident wherever we turned up. Like Jane, his presence leaves a gaping hole in our ranks.

Edith Cowan University has recognised the work of the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet as a part of the 2021 High-achieving Researchers Scheme. As Director of the HealthInfoNet, I accepted a special award in recognition of generating the highest external research income across all research themes at ECU. The HealthInfoNet is aligned with the ECU research theme of Society and Culture. The scheme rewards and recognises researchers who have produced high-quality research outputs or attracted substantial and consistent external research funding over 2018-2020.

I was delighted to accept the award on behalf of the HealthInfoNet team. I would

like to acknowledge and thank all our funding partners and users, including the Australian Department of Health, which has funded the HealthInfoNet since its inception. I also want to thank our staff who continue to strive to be the best we can be in pursuit of positive health and wellbeing for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities we serve throughout Australia.

As you will see in this review, we have had another very productive year. Once again, I want to, most sincerely, thank our funding partners, our wonderful Advisory Board members, partners, Honorary Consultants and, of course, our users throughout Australia and the world. I hope you enjoy this review of our activities in 2021.



Professor Neil Drew



The Health/InfoNet Advisory Board

The Advisory Board was formed in 2008 to provide strong cultural governance, advice and advocacy support to the Director and Management Team of the Health/InfoNet and to assist in optimising our contributions to closing the gap between the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians. The Advisory Board comprises representatives of key stakeholder organisations and other members selected for their individual expertise.

A decision was made by the Advisory Board members to have two new young members join the Board this year. Expressions of interest were received from across the country, and the Board selected **Taylor Bliss**, who is the Operations Manager/Social and Emotional Well-being Worker at Forbes only Aboriginal Medical Service, Yoorana Gunya

Family Healing Centre Aboriginal Corporation and **Stuart McGrath**, an Aboriginal Health Practitioner, currently studying a degree in nursing at Charles Darwin University. We welcome them.

—

We were saddened to hear about the passing of Ms Malera-Bandjalar, who was one of the Health/InfoNet's founding Advisory Board members in 2009. She was appointed by then Director Neil Thomson. Ms Malera-Bandjalar was a proud Bundjalung woman from the northern rivers of New South Wales, and died at home on Country with her family in February 2021. Ms Malera-Bandjalar served on the Advisory Board until her passing in 2021.

(<https://healthinonet.ecu.edu.au/about/governance/advisory-board/>)



Taylor Bliss.



Uncle Mick Adams with Stuart McGrath.

Our funders



Australian Government

Department of Health

In the Indigenous Australians' Health Programme, the Australian Government Department of Health is committed to the delivery of high quality, comprehensive and culturally appropriate essential health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



**GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

Aboriginal Health, a statewide office within the WA Department of Health, is responsible for facilitating a collaborative and coordinated approach within WA Health's public health system to improve health outcomes for all Aboriginal people living in Western Australia. The Government of WA provides financial support for the WA State Portal.

First Peoples Health Unit

Better wellbeing • Baugul baugulin yabruma



The First Peoples Health Unit (FPHU) leads the implementation of the Griffith Health First Peoples Health Plan (2016-2022). The Plan is the Health Group's statement of a broad vision Transformational Leadership Baugul Baugulin Yabruma (Well Better Always) for what the FPHU, the Health Group, schools, programs and its First Peoples Health community organisations, industry and partners can achieve to contribute to closing the gap in health and educational outcomes between Australia's First Peoples and other Australians. Griffith University provides financial support for the Cultural Safety for Health Professionals Portal.



Palliative Care Australia (PCA) is the national peak body for palliative care in Australia. PCA represents all those who work towards high-quality palliative care for all Australians. Working closely with consumers, their Member Organisations and the palliative care workforce, PCA aims to improve access to, and promote the need for, palliative care. PCA provides financial support for the Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care Portal.



The Healing Foundation is a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation that partners with communities to address the ongoing trauma caused by actions like the forced removal of children from their families. The Healing Foundation supports locally-run projects, training and education, and commemorations and is leading the way in Indigenous healing research. The Healing Foundation provides financial support for the Healing Portal.



Inspired by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers and communities, eMHPrac (e-mental health in practice) in collaboration with the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet developed the WellMob website. WellMob is a safe online place for communities to access all kinds of digital, culturally relevant resources including; websites, apps, podcasts, videos, social media, and online counselling all with a focus on social and emotional wellbeing.



A Perth Roundtable was held in May. Our presenters were, left to right:

- Simon Lenton, Director, National Drug Research Institute
- Tim Shackleton, Chief Executive Officer, Rural Health West.
- Sandy Lukjanowski, Chief Executive Officer, Injury Matters
- Amanda Collins-Clinch, Executive Manager Workforce and Sector Development, Aboriginal Health Council of WA



A Broome Roundtable was held in June and gave us the opportunity to update organisations about what's new on the HealthInfoNet and AOD Knowledge Centre websites, as well as new portals and reviews. Guest speakers included:

- Dr Jonathan Blundell Chief Medical Officer and Delia Lawford Practice Manager, BRAMS
- Jenny Bedford, Executive Manager Remote Services, KAMS
- Danielle Thorne - Operations Manager, Remote Services, KAMS
- Matt Burrows, Chief Executive Officer, Boab Health



Presenter Matt Burrows, CEO, Boab Health.

KAMS presenters Danielle Thorne Operations Manager and Jenny Bedford Executive Manager, Remote Services.

Attendees Dr Robert Isaacs, Maria Morgan and Sasha Bailey.



BRAMS presenters Dr Jonathan Blundell Chief Medical Officer and Delia Lawford Practice Manager.



Engagement

- The Australian & New Zealand Addiction Conference, 7 December 2020 (online presentation)
- Cancer Council WA PaSce hybrid event 19 January 2021, Perth (in person/online presentation)
- Environmental Health Australia WA Conference 25-26 February 2021, Perth (presented in person and exhibited)
- Aboriginal Health Council of WA state sector conference 24- 25 March 2021, Perth (exhibited and provided delegate satchels)
- ECU School of Nursing 25 March 2021, Perth (in person presentation)
- Rural Health West conference 24-25 March 2021, Perth (exhibited)
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Conference 25-26 March 2021, Adelaide (online presentation)



Darren Deves at the Aboriginal Health Council of WA state sector conference 24- 25 March 2021, Perth



Tam Swann with some of the ECU School of Nursing staff and students who attended her presentation on 25 March 2021, Perth.



Anomie and Tam Swann (centre) presented at Cancer Council WA PaSce hybrid event 19 January 2021, Perth.



Carla Gibney at the Aboriginal Health Council of WA state sector conference 24- 25 March 2021, Perth

Our partners

Partnerships are vital to the work of the Health/InfoNet, and we collaborate with a wide range of organisations and individuals. Most of our partnerships are informal, but the Health/InfoNet has formal agreements with the following organisations:

- ⦿ Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia
- ⦿ Alzheimer's Australia
- ⦿ Analysis and policy Observatory
- ⦿ Asthma Australia
- ⦿ Australian Association of Social Workers WA
- ⦿ Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health
- ⦿ Congress of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Nurses and midwives
- ⦿ Cranaplus
- ⦿ First People's health unit, Griffiths University
- ⦿ Health direct
- ⦿ Hitnet
- ⦿ Indigenous Allied Health Australia
- ⦿ Indigenous Health Education Unit, Sydney Medical School
- ⦿ Injury Matters
- ⦿ Kidney Health Australia
- ⦿ Kulunga Research Network
- ⦿ Mental Health Coordinating Council
- ⦿ Menzies School of Health Research
- ⦿ National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker Association
- ⦿ National Centre for Clinical Research in Emerging Drugs
- ⦿ National Drug Research Institute
- ⦿ National Rural Health Alliance
- ⦿ Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
- ⦿ Rural Health West
- ⦿ SA Network of Drug and Alcohol Services
- ⦿ Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health
- ⦿ The Australasian Society for HIV Medicine
- ⦿ The Australian Association of Social Workers WA
- ⦿ The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine
- ⦿ The Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association
- ⦿ The Australian Lung Foundation
- ⦿ The Australian Physiotherapy Association
- ⦿ The Brien Holden Foundation
- ⦿ The Indigenous Eye Health Unit
- ⦿ The Lowitja Institute
- ⦿ The National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance
- ⦿ The National Heart Foundation of Australia
- ⦿ The Research Centre for Injury Studies
- ⦿ The School of Nursing, Midwifery and Indigenous Health, Charles Sturt University
- ⦿ WA Council of Social Services

Our projects



The Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet's mandate is to contribute to improvements in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health by making relevant, high quality knowledge and information easily accessible to policy makers, health service providers, program managers, clinicians and other health professionals (including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers) and researchers.

By sharing expertise, the HealthInfoNet helps to:

- support capacity building and knowledge-informed decision-making within the workforce
- promote evidence-informed practice across sectors
- encourage greater integration between policy, practice and research.

Up-to-date, relevant information can then be used to inform practice, policy, research, teaching and general community

understanding. The HealthInfoNet's key functions in addressing this goal are to:

- collect relevant research and other information about the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- collate, translate and synthesise the information gathered to create new and more accessible knowledge about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health
- disseminate this knowledge, primarily via the internet.

Sexual health portal

The Sexual Health Portal focuses on the aspects of sexual health that impact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals and their communities. These topics include safe sex, healthy relationships, sexuality (diversity and inclusion), sexually transmitted infections and blood borne viruses, sexual problems and reproductive health.

The *Review of sexual health issues linked with cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes mellitus in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males* was published in July, which confirms that the links between male sexual health and chronic conditions are well established, however, there is a lack of research and data about sexual problems among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males and how they are managed.

Accompanying the review, the HealthInfoNet also produced a series of knowledge exchange products, including:

- a plain language summary of the review
- a one-page factsheet
- a short, animated video of key points from the review.

Social and emotional wellbeing portal expanded

Specific funding from the Australian Department of Health enabled this section to be expanded with more content and resources. Consultation with the sector informed the content, and the portal was relaunched in July 2021. It encompasses information that is based on the holistic meaning of social and emotional wellbeing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This new content has been guided by models of SEWB and includes new subtopics of staying strong; country, culture and spirituality and family, kinship and community.

Alcohol and other Drugs Knowledge Centre

The Knowledge Centre published a review of *Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people*. A video, factsheet and summary accompanied the review to broaden the way users can access the information in the review.

Key facts page for the FASD topic was also revised and updated. Topic audits were completed for the website's Harm Reduction, Health Impacts, Workforce Development, and Tobacco and Alcohol sections to ensure content is up to date. We promoted the Knowledge Centre products such as the FASD review and other key information and resources in the sector across social media platforms with a total of 83,816 impressions and 545 link clicks, with engagement that was above the industry average.

Targeted information was shared via our newsletters with an edition of ten issues of the AODKC newsletter shared with 687 subscribers over the year. For our next topic review, Senior Research Fellow and Program Leader, Jocelyn Jones was engaged as lead author to write for the *Review of Cannabis use among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people* (due to be published in 2022). As part of our continual process of improving user experience, we are looking at investigating models for a desktop web based search function to find treatment services to replace the AODconnect app.

WellMob

WellMob was developed by eMHPac (e-mental health in practice) in partnership with the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet. The website showcases culturally relevant online resources that support social and emotional wellbeing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The site brings together over 250 videos, apps, podcasts and other websites in one place and is free to access.

Engagement

- PHAA national conference Perth
- AADANT Drug and Alcohol Conference Darwin
- AIATSIS Research Conference Adelaide
- Mental Health Nurses WA conference

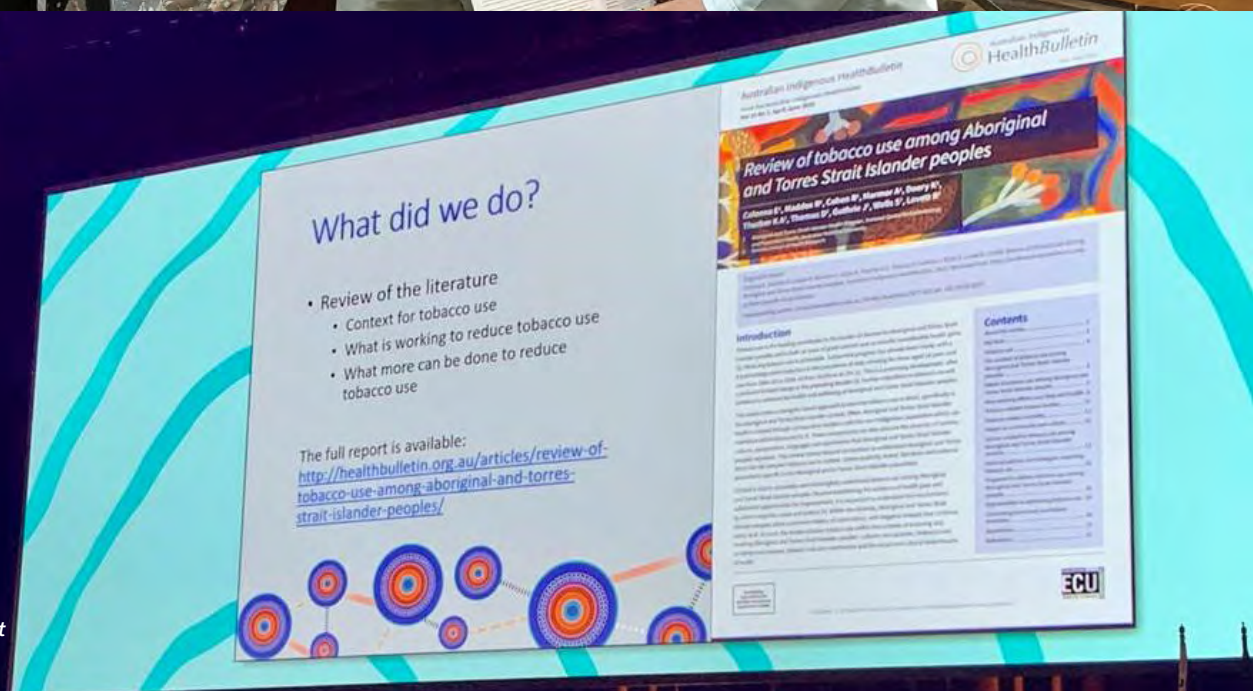


Tamara Swann and Vilma Fitzgerald at PHAA Conference in May, Perth WA.



PHAA Conference in May, Perth WA.

Emily Colonna and Raglan Maddox presenting about our Tobacco Review. The presentation was titled: *Past, present and future: tobacco use among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.*



Tackling Indigenous Smoking

This year, a new Priority Populations section was added to the Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS) website. This section contains information to support the TIS workforce in their practice to address smoking in groups identified as TIS priority populations. Pages in the section include remote communities, pregnant women and families, and young people. Other additions to the TIS website include the Induction Pack for staff new to the TIS program, and the Sharing Our Stories page, which features examples of successful activities TIS teams have undertaken in their communities.

WA State portal

The WA Department of Health funds the WA State Portal. It aims to collect and disseminate WA state specific Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health information to health professionals, stakeholders and policy makers in a timely manner to ensure that policy and program decisions are evidence-based and in line with current trends. The WA State portal is more comprehensive than the HealthInfoNet's coverage of other states and territories coverage. The WA State Portal includes the Overview of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health status in WA, as well as workforce information.

Healing

The HealthInfoNet is funded by The Healing Foundation to maintain a portal for people working in healing, health, justice, education, employment, child protection and family violence. The Healing Portal supports these sector workers by providing information and resources about healing and related issues. The Portal encourages information sharing and collaboration across sectors to ensure people have access to the latest trauma informed and healing aware practices so they can bring these practices into their workplaces.

Environmental health portal

The Resources to support people and communities bravely battling the bushfires are available on our Environmental Health Portal was updated in February 2021 due to the Woorooloo fires in WA. Information provided with a WA focus included: resources, programs, funding, publications, and links to the Emergency Management, Climate change and Caring for country sub sections.

Palliative Care portal

The Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care Portal (funded by Palliative Care Australia) has been developed specifically for the health workforce who provide care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, their families and communities, as well as supporting clinicians and policy makers in accessing relevant and culturally appropriate resources, research, events, courses and projects on palliative and end-of-life care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Subsections include Culturally appropriate palliative care and end-of-life care, Grief and bereavement and Planning ahead. In June 2021, the Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care Portal ran an Impact and Evaluation Survey. The survey was designed to gather feedback from users of the Portal as part of the continuous quality improvement of the services that we provide.

COVID-19 section

The COVID-19 Updates and Information section has over 190 resources for use by health professionals and community members. The section aims to keep everyone updated with the latest information available on COVID-19 and the vaccinations available to keep everyone safe and well in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Primary research

The consultation team with participants at the Mandurah workshop held at the Winjan Aboriginal Corporation facility in August.



COVID-19 project

Led by Dr Uncle Mick Adams, Senior Aboriginal Research Fellow at the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet, and supported by community Cultural Consultant Brett Hill, the project asked natural helpers about their experiences of COVID-19. The WA based workshops, held in Narrogin, Bunbury, Mandurah and Armadale, attended by over 60 people, were very revealing. Despite the overwhelming weight of information available, many participants feel that they still lacked information that they could trust. Natural helpers are those in the community who are naturally turned to in times of crisis for information and support. A particular focus was to explore where people get their

information from and how trustworthy they feel those sources are. Using a visual methods approach developed for the project in collaboration with ECU's Associate Professor Stuart Medley, participants visually 'mapped' their sources of information from those that were nearest to them and trusted, to those that were further away and considered less reliable. Another very strong theme is that people wanted resources that are visual and simple to understand. The story was pitched by ECU exclusively to ABC, which resulted in widespread coverage: including ABC Radio National (AM), ABC Online, ABC TV and several ABC radio stations. There were 179 media mentions, reaching a total audience of 27,880,423 people.

Focus group for National Consultation Review, Roanna Lobo (Curtin University), Kristy Stewart (Cancer Council WA), Natalie Ciccone (ECU), Leanne Pilkington (WA Health), Neil Drew and Michelle Elwell.



Major Review of Cultural Governance project

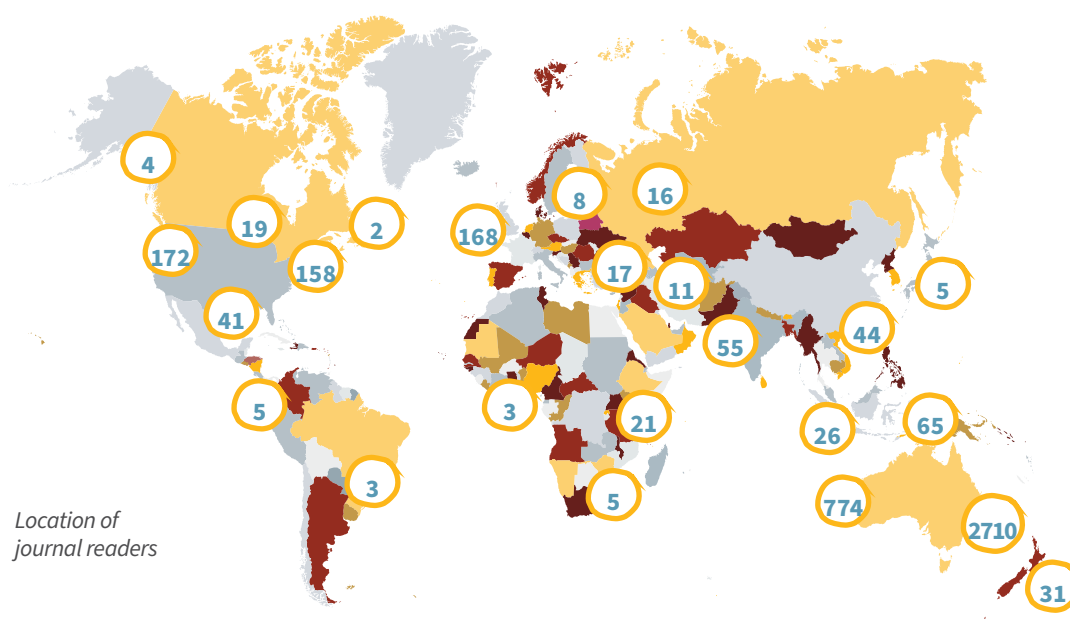
With the support of our key funding partners in the Australian Department of Health Cultural, we are undertaking a nationwide consultation to review our cultural governance practices to ensure that we remain at the forefront of best practice in this important area of activity. As a data driven organisation that designs and releases knowledge products and resources to support the health sector workforce, the HealthInfoNet continues to develop its understanding of data sovereignty/governance and how they inform the way data and statistics are used on the site and how the co-design our knowledge products. This project is being led by Dr Uncle Mick Adams, our Senior Aboriginal Research Fellow and Michelle Elwell, Research Coordinator at the HealthInfoNet.

Healing Right Way

Statistics show Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians are more than twice as likely than non-Aboriginal Australians to suffer a stroke and are likely to have the stroke at a much younger age. The new booklet, called 'Our Stroke Journey', was launched during National Stroke Week, covers everything about life after a stroke. Our Stroke Journey was made specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians and was created in collaboration with Aboriginal organisations and community members.

Book chapter

Uncle Mick Adams co-authored a chapter *How the Practical Perspectives of Health Impact on Aboriginal Males, Family and Communities* in a recently released book *Aboriginal Fields of Practice*, edited by Bindi Bennet.



New Journal name

In 2021 we renamed and relaunched the Journal of the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet (formerly the HealthBulletin). The name change was required to ensure that the journal was differentiated from the HealthBulletin, which remains on our website to provide information on recent research published elsewhere. The new journal is attracting attention from Australia and around the world. The remit of the Journal remains the same: to facilitate access to information to support those working in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health sector. Reflecting the wide range of readers – policy makers, service providers, researchers, students and the general community – the HealthBulletin will continue to keep people informed about recent research and promotes knowledge exchange.



NT AOD sector awards night.

We sponsored the 'Excellence in Indigenous AOD Programs' and the winner was the CAAPS Healthy Families Program.



HealthInfoNet's Ashleigh Parnell (left) presenting the award to the CAAPS Healthy Families Program winner.

Conference presentation highlights



Vilma FitzGerald presenting at the Environmental Health Australia WA Conference 25-26 February 2021, Perth.

- FitzGerald V., *The Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet: supporting Indigenous EH Practitioners by providing timely, accessible and relevant information* 74th Environmental Health Australia WA State Conference 25 February
- Deves, D., *Working collaboratively to share information about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander allied health.* 14th National Allied Health Conference, 9-12 May
- Parnell A., *Finding information about substance use and reducing harm among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.* Australian & New Zealand Addiction Conference 8 June
- Elwell M., Potter, C, *Working collaboratively to share information about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander allied health.* Indigenous Mental Health Symposium, 26 October
- Parnell A., *Providing information for the health workforce relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander substance use and contact with the justice system* e-Poster APSAD Scientific Alcohol and Drug Conference, 7 – 10 November
- Elwell, M *An online healing resource for those working with children to collaborate across sectors.* 9th SNAICC National Conference, 6-9 December
- Elwell, M. *Online healing resources for those working with children to collaborate across sectors.* 2021 Indigenous Wellbeing Conference, 7-8 December
- Horeau J., *Rural Medicine Health Conference on the 22 October 2021 on the topic of Promoting access to culturally safe resources and programs.*



Amanda Hart Engagement Manager Royal Darwin Hospital and Laura Blowers organised a Reconciliation Week morning tea for Hospital staff.



Some of the Royal Darwin Hospital staff enjoying the morning tea.

Meetings in Darwin in May included NTPHN, NTCOSS, AADANT, RDH palliative care, Aboriginal health division and customer engagement team, NT Health, Cancer Council and NT Healthy Living.

In person attendees at the meeting. (Left to right) Vilma FitzGerald, Joanne Hoareau, Dennis Gray (Adjunct Professor at NDRI) Neil Drew, Anna Stearne (NDRI) Ashleigh Parnell.



In September, Tam Swann and Hannah Tarrant had the opportunity through Cancer Council WA to update AHCWA staff about our comprehensive cancer section.



Rural Health West Conference delegates Michelle Kickett and Christine Ross visit our stand.



Conference delegate Azizah Roe visits our stand Rural Health West Conference 24-25 March 2021, Perth.

Knowledge exchange

The HealthInfoNet aims to remain at the forefront of innovation and development in providing high quality, evidence-based materials to support the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workforce. Our strength-based, culturally co-designed resources cut through enormous amounts of information, delivering massive time savings for Health Workers, policymakers, GPs, nurses, allied health workers, academics and professional health associations, and supporting the training and development of future health professionals.

Our knowledge exchange (KE) products and tools recognise that users require access to information in multiple formats to capitalise on emerging information technologies. To achieve this, written material is enriched by adding visual elements like information graphics and icons as well as providing the material in video and audio formats. Visual elements are increasingly becoming the tool of choice by many information hubs to visually and efficiently share information; they are particularly useful for sharing statistical and survey data.

Our activities in this area are guided by several principles that ensure that the HealthInfoNet works in authentic partnership with Aboriginal

and Torres Strait Islander people and other stakeholders, including:

- engaging with users to co-design, co-construct and co-produce resources that meet the needs of users
- ensuring that we engage in culturally responsive and safe ways with all people
- striving to enact socially transformative, decolonising and socially just practice.

Social media summary

In 2021, we continued our social media knowledge exchange strategy with the aim of remaining connected to our communities through the sharing of relevant, timely and useful content.

We continued to share COVID-19 related resources from our site as the global pandemic continues and interest in the topic remains high.

The introduction of scheduling content around the relevant national and global observance dates created new opportunities for increasing engagement through our platforms.



Facebook

10%
increase



Twitter

4.5%
increase



LinkedIn

38%
increase



Instagram

347%
increase

We maintained an above average engagement rate of

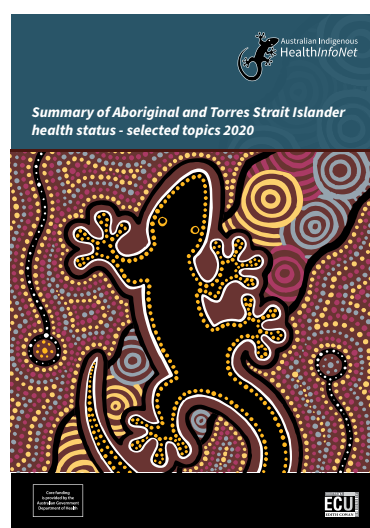
4.4%

Overview and Summary



Overview of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health status

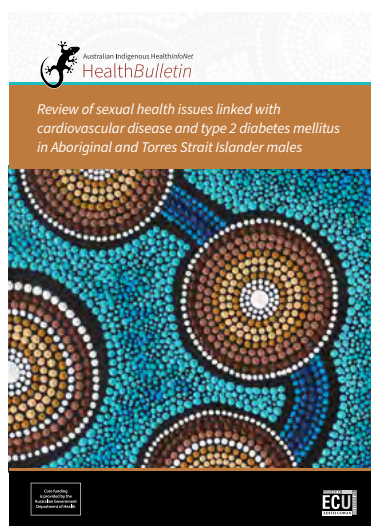
The *Overview* aims to provide a comprehensive outline of the most recent indicators of the health and current health status of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



Summary of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health

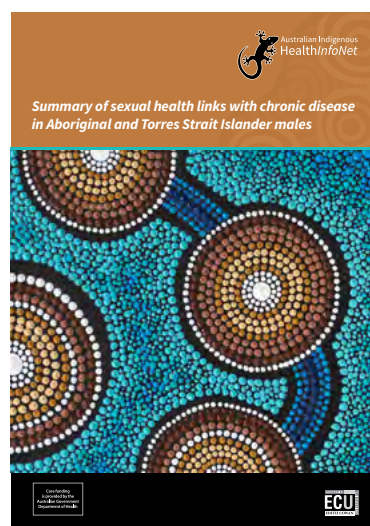
The *Summary* presents statistical information from the *Overview* in plain language and in a visual format that is quick and easy for users to digest.

Reviews and Summaries



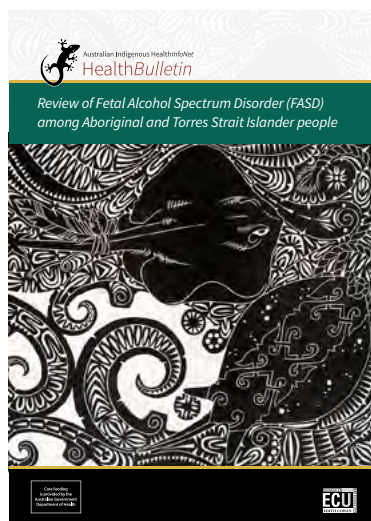
Review of sexual health issues linked with cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes mellitus in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males

A comprehensive synthesis of key information about the links between male sexual problems and chronic disease among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males in Australia.



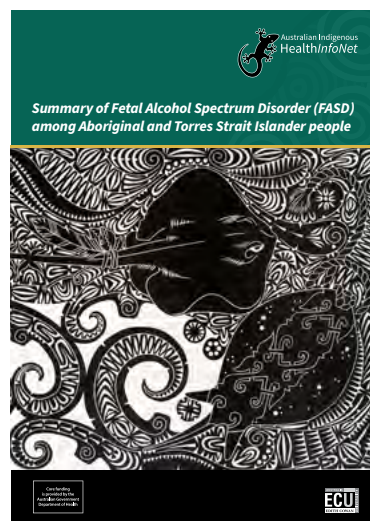
Summary of sexual health links with chronic disease in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males

A plain language summary of information from the *Review of sexual health issues linked with cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes mellitus in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males*.



Review of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

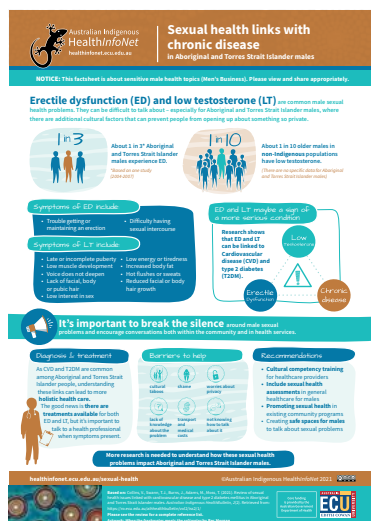
This review provides a comprehensive synthesis of key information on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia.



Summary of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum disorder (FASD) among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

A plain language summary of information from the *Review of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum disorder (FASD) among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people* (2021).

Factsheets



Sexual health links with chronic disease in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males [factsheet]

This fact sheet provides a number of key facts about male sexual health, with a focus on erectile dysfunction (ED) and low testosterone (LT).



Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people [factsheet]

This factsheet highlights key information and recommendations in responding to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Videos



Links between sexual health and chronic disease among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males [video]

This short animated video highlights the links between male sexual health and cardiovascular disease (CVD) and type 2 diabetes (T2DM), with a focus on erectile dysfunction (ED) and low testosterone (LT). It highlights the need to increase awareness of how sexual health can be linked to chronic disease among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males and health professionals.



Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people [video]

This short video highlights key information and recommendations in responding to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

HealthInfoNet User Statistics

HealthInfoNet website:

During the year, there were 1,936,100 pageviews and 646,651 sessions recorded on the HealthInfoNet website. The top three searched terms were diabetes, mental health and smoking.



1,936,100 pageviews
646,651 sessions

Alcohol and other Drugs Knowledge Center website:

During the year, there were 229,264 pageviews and 82,939 sessions recorded. The same time in the previous year showing an 11% increase in pageviews and a 21% increase in sessions. The top three searched topics alcohol, chronic and smoking.

11% increase in pageviews
21% increase in sessions

Website features added to enhance the user experience were added to both websites:

- links were added to the bottom of each content item to the topics it was relevant to
- search filters were streamlined and made more user friendly

- common search phrases added to speed up common searches
- upgraded software platform
- improved page load times.

Backend features:

- loading of pages for tagging was improved
- preparations made for upgrading server software
- improvements for the reporting pages.

Our library database

With over 44000 entries in the library database - the engine room of the entire HealthInfoNet - expert library staff, Graham Barker and Aleina Humphreys, have highly developed systems and processes for ensuring the library database remains the most complete repository of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health information anywhere in the world. The library continues to provide a valuable repository and archival history of resources for the sector. Adding the latest new content is only the beginning. The massive and growing collection of over 85,000 links to publications and resources requires ongoing maintenance to overcome address broken links. 2021 saw more than 14000 links updated - more than in any other year - ensuring the website's content is always relevant, current and useful.

44,000
Entries in our library
database

85,000+ Links

providing direct access to other online publications and resources

Celebrations

Our team news



HealthInfoNet 24th Birthday celebration.

Special guest



It was wonderful to host a morning tea with special guest Dr Nan Roma Winmar, ECU's Elder-in-Residence to hear some of her extensive and inspiring experiences and achievements, and for her to meet our staff.

New staff



Marianne Durbin and Stephanie Huynh.



Social Media Content Creator Joey Chua, a fulltime Research Officer, Hannah Tarrant and a casual Admin Assistant, Carla Gibbney (front centre).

Milestone



Jane Burns celebrates her 21st anniversary working with the HealthInfoNet.

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