

New Review says Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are disproportionately affected by bronchiectasis

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The Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet has produced a new [Review of bronchiectasis among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people \(0-18 years old\)](#).

Authored by Professor André Schultz and Professor Anne Bernadette Chang, the new review confirms that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are disproportionately affected by bronchiectasis.

Professor André Schultz said “The timely diagnosis and optimal management of bronchiectasis and its precursors in children, which can potentially prevent a lifetime of chronic disease, can be achieved through comprehensively addressing risk factors, and the provision of guidelines-based, culturally secure health care”.

The review recommends that there should be true partnerships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, experts (in paediatric respiratory health, environmental health, public health, the social determinants of disease and smoking cessation), government institutions and other institutions.

Professor Anne Bernadette Chang said “Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people-led-and-administered health services and initiatives must be given priority”.

HealthInfoNet Director Professor Bep Uink says “This timely review highlights the importance of addressing respiratory disease early to avoid long-term health issues. We are grateful to the authors for this valuable review and to our partner organisation *Lung Foundation Australia* who will make the review available at the 8th World Bronchiectasis Conference 14-17th July 2025 which they are hosting”.

The world conference will bring together healthcare professionals, researchers and patients from around the globe to advance the understanding and treatment of bronchiectasis.

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More information: The HealthInfoNet is a comprehensive Internet resource that informs practice and policy in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health by making up to date research and other knowledge readily accessible. It contributes to closing the gap in health between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians. For over 27 years, working in the area of knowledge exchange with a population health focus, the HealthInfoNet makes research and other information freely available in a form that has immediate, practical utility for practitioners and policy-makers in the area of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, enabling them to make decisions based on the best available evidence. www.healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au