National Indigenous Women’s Health Workshop

An open, interactive, engagement forum to move towards a National Partnership as a united voice in Indigenous Women’s Health.

We aim to collectively establish key priorities, inform the research agenda and provide evidence to inform policy and practice.

25 & 26 October 2013
Monash Medical Centre, 246 Clayton Road, Clayton, Victoria, 3168

Workshop draft program
Description

The workshop will be the first step in the establishment of a national partnership to Close the Gap in poor health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women. This requires national engagement from a range of stakeholders. The workshop is designed to be interactive and promote discussion among participants, providing a chance to inform what areas the partnership will tackle first. Researchers, consumers, clinicians and community service providers will have opportunities to share their knowledge and expertise and voice their opinions on how to ensure women have access to good evidence, good information, good services and increased opportunities to be healthy.

Purpose of a partnership

To develop a cohesive, comprehensive, national approach through a national partnership aiming to

- deliver broad stakeholder engagement and strong cross sectorial input across urban, regional, rural and remote communities
- collaboratively determine which women’s health priorities in the National Aboriginal Health Plan will be the focus of the partnership
- facilitate research into the development and delivery of effective, evidence based programs
- facilitate implementation and evaluation of these programs to deliver measureable, improved health outcomes for Indigenous women.
- engage with and Influence policy makers.

Specific aims of the workshop

To establish a national partnership for Indigenous women’s health

1. To facilitate broad and diverse stakeholder engagement and input into the future model and governance structure of the proposed partnership
2. To prioritise and work towards implementation of key elements of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013 – 2023 that will maximise health improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women
3. To collectively determine what activities the proposed partnership may engage in (e.g. a website, journal, research, evidence synthesis and dissemination into policy and practice etc.)
4. To set timelines for the development of a formal partnership
**Friday 25 October**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00 – 9.05</td>
<td>Lecture theatre 1: Welcome to Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.05 – 9.10</td>
<td>Lecture theatre 1: Welcome and overview of forum aims</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.10 – 9.20</td>
<td>Lecture theatre 1: Ministerial launch</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.20 – 9.35</td>
<td>Lecture theatre 1: Why a gender perspective on health?</td>
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<td>9.35 – 9.55</td>
<td>Lecture theatre 1: Consumer views – cultural concept of health and gaps in Indigenous women’s health</td>
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<td>9.55 – 10.15</td>
<td>Lecture theatre 1: Health equity and equality</td>
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<td>10.15 – 11.05</td>
<td>Lecture theatre 1: National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013 – 2023: Key health priorities across the lifespan</td>
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<td>11.05 – 11.30</td>
<td>Lecture foyer: Morning tea</td>
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<td>11.30 – 12.30</td>
<td>Lecture theatre 1: Set the scene for breakout groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.30 – 14.00</td>
<td>Lecture foyer: Pick up lunches, Poster presentations, networking</td>
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Some health issues are relevant across the life-course and others are more specific to either early childhood, adolescence, young adults or older women. These will be explored and synergies with National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013 – 2023 identified for discussion.

Attendees have been encouraged to submit a poster. These will be displayed throughout the duration of the forum. Presenters will be asked to stand by their posters during the lunch break to answer questions and interact with other attendees. This is a great opportunity for networking and for sharing and celebrating the diverse work currently being undertaken nationally.
14.00 – 15.45  
**Breakout rooms**

**Facilitated interactive discussion groups to capture voices of all participants**

Attendees will break into groups according to lifespan interest to identify priority areas across the lifespan which align primarily with the *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013 – 2023*. The 4 groups will be girls 0-9 years; girls and women 10 – 24 years; women 25 – 45 years; women > 45 years.

15.45 – 16.00  
**Lecture theatre foyer**

**Afternoon tea**

**Why a national partnership for Indigenous Women’s Health: Informing the research agenda and driving evidence based policy and practice.**

1600 – 16.10  
**Lecture theatre 1**

**Australian Alliance - benefits and lessons learned from the PCOS Alliance**

16.10 – 16.20  
**Lecture theatre 1**

**National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women’s Alliance (NATSIWA) – benefits and lessons learned**

16.20-16.30  
**Lecture theatre 1**

**National Indigenous Cancer Network – benefits and lessons learned**

16.20 – 16.30  
**Lecture theatre 1**

**Why a single voice- working with Government**

16.30 – 17.00  
**Lecture theatre 1**

**National partnership for Indigenous women’s health model: Interactive forum**

- Pre forum survey results
- How might it work
- Governance – interim steering group

Prior to the meeting attendees will be requested to complete an online survey which will scope attendee opinions on the proposed partnership regarding the future model, including governance and activities of the partnership. Results from the survey will be reported and discussion invited.

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**Saturday, 26 October**

9.00 – 9.15  
**Lecture theatre 1**

**Aboriginal kids dance group**

9.15 – 10.00  
**Lecture theatre 1**

**Feedback from previous day breakout groups : Interactive discussion and feedback**

A chair from each breakout group will report on key identified priorities from the previous day breakout group discussion.

*Facilitated discussions*
Determine top 3 priorities: Interactive discussion

Considering the feedback from the breakout groups, attendees will be asked to determine priorities for action.

Facilitated discussions

10.45 – 11.00
Lecture theatre foyer

Morning tea

11.00 – 11.30
Lecture theatre 1

Formation of special interest groups.

Attendees interested in progressing work on the 3 identified priorities will be asked to break into special interest groups. Groups will discuss the ‘where to from here’.

Facilitated discussions

11.30 – 12.00
Lecture theatre 1

Optimising funding and advocacy opportunities: Interactive panel discussion

This session will be a question and answer forum focused on how to maximise opportunities for research, funding and translation and how to promote evidence based policy and practice in priority areas.

12.00
Lecture theatre 1

Close

Acknowledgements

This forum was funded primarily by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing with seed funding from the Victorian Department of Health and Monash Partners.

We gratefully acknowledge the contribution of members of the Steering Committee:

- **Professor Bronwyn Fredericks**: Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement) and BMA Chair in Indigenous Engagement, CQ University Australia
- **Professor Kerry Arabena**: Chair of Indigenous Health, Centre for Health and Society, University of Melbourne
- **Dr Jacqueline Boyle**: School of Public Health Preventive Medicine, Monash University, Menzies School of Health Research, Jean Hailes for Women’s Health
- **Professor Helena Teede**: Head of Diabetes and Vascular Medicine - Monash Health. Director Monash Applied Research Stream and Head Women's Public Health Research, School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University
- **Professor Kerin O'Dea**: Population Health and Nutrition, University of South Australia
- **Professor Sandra Eades**: Professor of Public Health, University of Sydney
- **Dr Jacki Mein**: Senior Medical Officer, Apunipima Cape York Health Council
- **Dr Karla Canuto**: Research Associate, School of Population Health, University of South Australia
- **Sandra Miller**: Deputy Chair, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women’s Alliance