

- ### Indigenous Research Reform Agenda
- Historical experience of cultural and physical anthropology
 - Biomedical research co-developed with physical anthropology; health research has grown in its own right significantly over last 2-3 decades
 - Focus of research practice
 - Indigenous critique of research ethics and relations with Indigenous communities

Indigenous Research Reform Agenda

Australia	Original Research			
	All	Measurement	Descriptive	Intervention
1987-88	19	2 (11%)	17 (89%)	0
1997-98	80	6 (7%)	60 (75%)	14 (8%)
2001-03	101	9 (9%)	79 (78%)	13 (13%)

Source: Sanson-Fisher et al MJA 2006

- ### Indigenous Research Reform Agenda
- **Key aspects of the Indigenous Health Research Reform Agenda:**
 - Priority Setting
 - Collaborative Relationships
 - Research agenda development
 - Research implementation and transfer
 - Capacity building
 - Research infrastructure, method & networks
 - Service, Policy and Community Engagement
 - Indigenous Leadership
 - Ethics

- ### Burden of Disease and Injury
- Burden of Disease and Injury: 2.5 times that of non-Indigenous Australia
 - 18% total - ischaemic heart disease and stroke
 - 15% total - mental disorders
 - 8% each - chronic lung disease, diabetes and cancers

- ### Burden of Disease and Injury
- In the top seven broad cause categories largest differential was in cardiovascular disease, diabetes mellitus and intentional injuries.
 - 10 major risk factors to which the disease burden can be attributed,
 - 10% tobacco smoking causes
 - 9% high body mass
 - 7% physical inactivity
 - 4-3% each high blood cholesterol, alcohol, high blood pressure, low fruit and vegetable intake

Burden of Disease and Injury

- Indigenous health gap - Indigenous burden of disease would be 59% lower if Indigenous Australians had the same level of mortality and disability as the Australian population. :
- 70% of gap was non-communicable diseases - cardiovascular disease at 23%; diabetes (12%), mental disorders (12%) and chronic respiratory diseases (9%).
- 15% of the gap - Injuries and group I conditions (communicable diseases, maternal and neonatal conditions)

Burden of Disease and Injury

- 11 selected risk factors - total burden would be 29% lower if no health gap accounting for half the overall Indigenous health gap of 59%.
- Tobacco accounted for 17% of the health gap; high body mass 15%; and physical inactivity 12%.

Role of clinical care

- Significant contribution of mortality and disability as a consequence of disease:
 - Access to health care
 - Quality of health care (treatment protocols, organisation of care, treatment relationships)
 - Effective clinical care, interventions

Our Vision

Sustained improvement in Aboriginal Health through strategic research and development



INDUSTRY

- Central Australian Aboriginal Congress (Congress)
- Danila Dilba Butji Binnilutlum Medical Service (Danila Dilba)
- Commonwealth Department of Health & Aging (DoHA)
- Northern Territory Department of Health & Community Services (DoHCS)

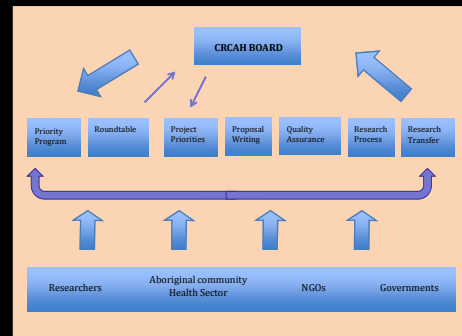
Research Partners

- Menzies School of Health Research
- Charles Darwin University
- Flinders University
- La Trobe University
- University of Melbourne
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies
- University of Queensland
- Queensland Institute of Medical Research

The Programs

- Primary Health Care, Health Systems and Workforce;
- Chronic Conditions;
- Healthy Skin;
- Social Determinants of Aboriginal Health; and
- Aboriginal Social and Emotional Wellbeing.

Research development



Changing how clinical services are organised: ABCD project

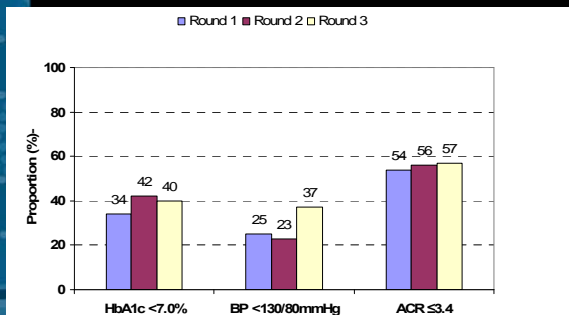


ABCD project

- Continuous quality improvement
- Enthusiastic uptake from staff, services and jurisdictions
- Simple organisational changes
- Impact on care
- Improvements in health indicators

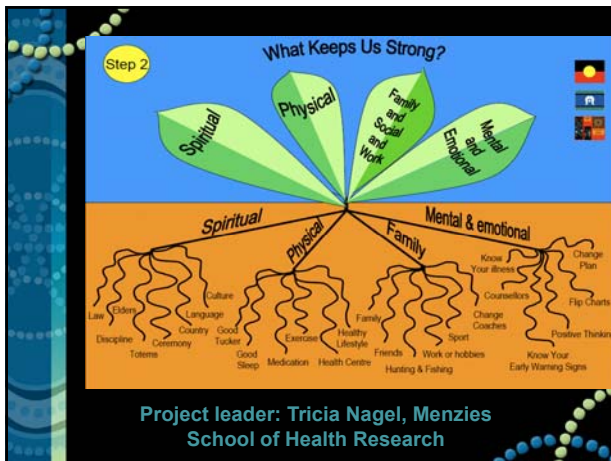
Project leader: Ross Bailie, Menzies School of Health Research

Changes in intermediate patient outcomes – ABCD sites



Better tools for mental health care in primary settings: AIMHI

- Development of appropriate messages and ways of talking about mental health
- Care plans and assessment tools
- Working with workforce agencies and practitioners to increase capacity
- Integration of tools into ABCD systems approach



- Skin disease a major cause of illness for Aboriginal children in nth Australia
 - Emerging resistance to current treatments
 - Treatments unpleasant and onerous
 - Current clinic practice inadequate
 - Environmental factors important
- Project leader: Ross Andrews, Menzies School of Health Research

Cooperative Research Centre for
Aboriginal Health

www.crcah.org.au