

# HEALTH PROFESSIONALS RESEARCH EDUCATION PROGRAM –

## Session 3: IMPROVING THE APPROPRIATENESS AND BENEFIT OF RESEARCH WITH ABORIGINAL PEOPLE



12.15 – 2.00pm Friday 31 August 2018  
John Hunter Hospital – Large Lecture Theatre [6065]



**PROFESSOR JODIE SIMPSON**

***Acting Assistant Dean Research  
Faculty of Health and Medicine***

# INTRODUCTION

# WELCOME TO COUNTRY

## AUNTY JUNE ROSE



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

**We acknowledge and pay respect to the Awabakal people,  
traditional custodians of the land  
on which the John Hunter Hospital is situated  
and also acknowledge and pay respect to other Aboriginal and  
Torres Strait Islander nations from which our students,  
staff and community are drawn**



# SCENE SETTING

**JOHN WIGGERS**

*Director  
Clinical Research and Translation  
HNELHD*

**SHARYN TYTER**

*Senior Program Manager Aboriginal Chronic Care  
Aboriginal Health Unit  
HNELHD*



# Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health: Improving appropriateness and benefit of research

Sharyn Tyter  
Snr Program Manager  
Aboriginal Chronic Care  
Aboriginal Health Unit HNELHD

*Healthy Aboriginal People - Now and into the future*





# Acknowledgement of Country



# Overview of Session

- Improving benefit of general research
  - Context in the HNE area (Sharyn Tyter)
  - Opportunities re research processes (John Wiggers)
  - Service delivery strategies (Hannah Briggs and Matt Crawford)
  - Research project strategies (Belinda Tully and Mel Kingsland)







# Why does this matter?

*Healthy Aboriginal People - Now  
and into the future*

- Respect and recognition for Australia's First Peoples
  - Facilitate inclusion
  - Provide space for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to have a voice about what is meaningful and important
  - Value diversity and strengths in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Contribute to closing the gap
  - Review data
  - Avoid risk of increasing the gap
  - Consider research setting/s and design to facilitate equitable access
  - Design research to positively inform culturally appropriate, safe and beneficial practice
  - Provide employment opportunities and build research capacity
  - Ensure research practices don't cause harm



# New Resources

- NHMRC, Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities: Guidelines for researchers and stakeholders (2018), Commonwealth of Australia: Canberra
- NHMRC, Keeping research on track II: A companion document to Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities: Guidelines for researchers and stakeholders (2018), Commonwealth of Australia: Canberra





**Health**

Hunter New England  
Local Health District

Health Professionals Research Education Program - #03

# Enhancing the appropriateness and benefit of research and improvement initiatives with Aboriginal peoples

**Professor John Wiggers**

Director, Health Research and Translation  
Hunter New England Local Health District

August 2018





- Strategic context
- Ensuring appropriateness and benefit
  - Design of research and improvement initiatives
  - Conduct of research and improvement initiatives



# HNE Strategic Context

- **Strategy 1.4:**  
Close the gap between Aboriginal and Non Aboriginal Health
- **Strategy 3.3:** Facilitate innovation and translational research to improve patient centred care
- **Goal 4:** Enhance Aboriginal Health Research and the cultural safety and appropriateness of all HNE research





# Broader Context



- Medical Research Futures Fund
- NSW Translational Research Grant Scheme

# Ensuring appropriateness and benefit



## 1. Design of Research and Improvement Initiatives

- Burden of illness (problem to be addressed)
  - Describe extent (prevalence) for Aboriginal peoples
- Describe evidence of likely benefit of proposed solution for Aboriginal peoples
  - Will the impact of the initiative Close, maintain or increase the Gap?
- Ensure access to, and acceptability of proposed solution for Aboriginal peoples
- Ensure proposed evaluation design, participant recruitment and measurement methods, materials, and reporting approaches are acceptable for Aboriginal peoples



## 2. Conduct of research and improvement initiatives

- Engagement/involvement of Aboriginal peoples/organisations
  - As Investigators
  - In project governance
  - As team members (including employment)
- Engagement/involvement to occur through all stages of the initiative
  - Problem/solution identification, initiative design, conduct, analysis, reporting, dissemination
- Partnership

# Patient Stories



When it works and when it doesn't

**Hannah Briggs**  
*Aboriginal Health Worker (Peel Sector)*  
*Integrated Chronic Care for Aboriginal People*  
*Program*  
*Hunter New England LHD*

**Matt Crawford**  
*Clinical Nurse Consultant (Peel Sector)*  
*Integrated Chronic Care for Aboriginal People Program*  
*Hunter New England LHD*



## **Acknowledgement to country**



# Integrated Chronic Care for Aboriginal People Program

Improve access to health services for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 years and over who have or are at risk of *diabetes*, *cardiac*, *respiratory* or *renal* disease across Hunter New England Local Health District.





## **Peel Sector**

Matt & Hannah

## **Mehi Sector**

Nat & Alwyn

## **Lower Hunter, GNC & MNC**

Donna, Troy, Tammy

## **Tablelands Sector**

Peter & Brad

## **Staff Specialist**

Pat

## **Program Coordinator**

Sharyn

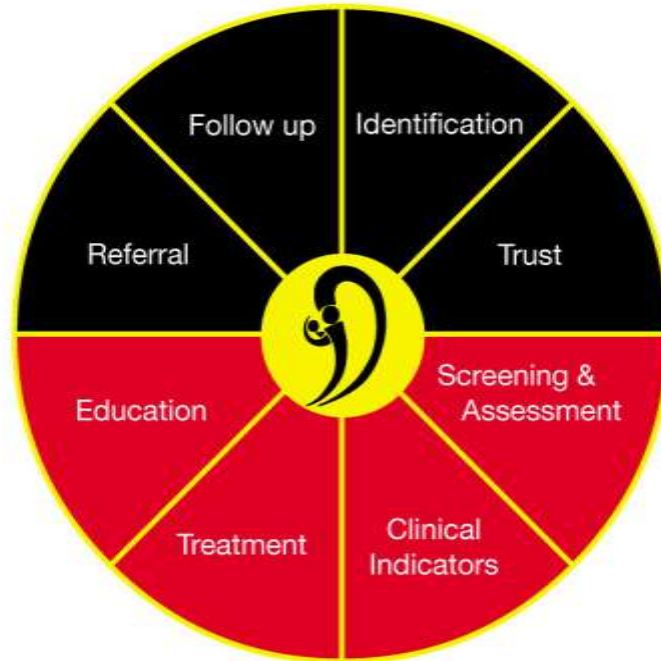
## **Project Officer**

Sarah

## **Discharge F/U for Aboriginal People**

Anna & Tammy

# ICCAPP Model of Care



**Donna**

# Background Hx

- 70 year old Gamilaroi woman
- Large family & extended family
- Lives with husband who has major health issues
- IHD, CCF, AF, Type 2 DM, COPD, Stage 3 CKD
- Smoker
- BMI 37kg/m<sup>2</sup>



# Issues

1. Regular hospital admissions related to CCF or chest pain
2. Difficulties adhering to daily fluid restriction
3. Poorly controlled Type 2 DM
4. No regular GP
5. Medication problems
6. Social isolation & family stress
7. Not sleeping relating to dyspnoea, coughing + fear
8. Leg weakness (decrease mobility)
9. Smoking
10. Diet

## Hospital presentations 2015-2017

Date	Diagnosis	Admitted days	ICU
15/05/15	CCF	10	-
07/10/15	Resp Infec	3	-
31/08/16	CCF	15	4
01/01/17	Chest pain	4	-
19/01/17	CCF	6	-
Total		38	4



# We have a plan



# Steps forward

Building Relationship

Home visits

Options

**Set of scales for home**

Finding regular GP

Pathology home visits

Exercise group

ICCAPP Physician input via telehealth + F2F

Webster pack + insulin

Diet education

Social & emotional support



## ICCAPP Contacts 2015-2018

Year	F2F	Phone/Text
2015	-	-
2016	-	3
2017	21	13
2018	10	15
Total	30	29

**Hospital presentations  
Feb 2017 - present**



**Kelly**

# Background Hx

- 48 yr old Aboriginal woman
- Has 3 children, 20yr daughter, 23yr son and 27yr son
- No current partner
- Diagnosed with Type 1 DM in 2006
- Significant Peripheral Neuropathy, Gastroparesis, CVA, Depression, T11 crush #, chronic pain, opioid dependence & Stage 2 CKD.
- Smoker
- Long term unemployment

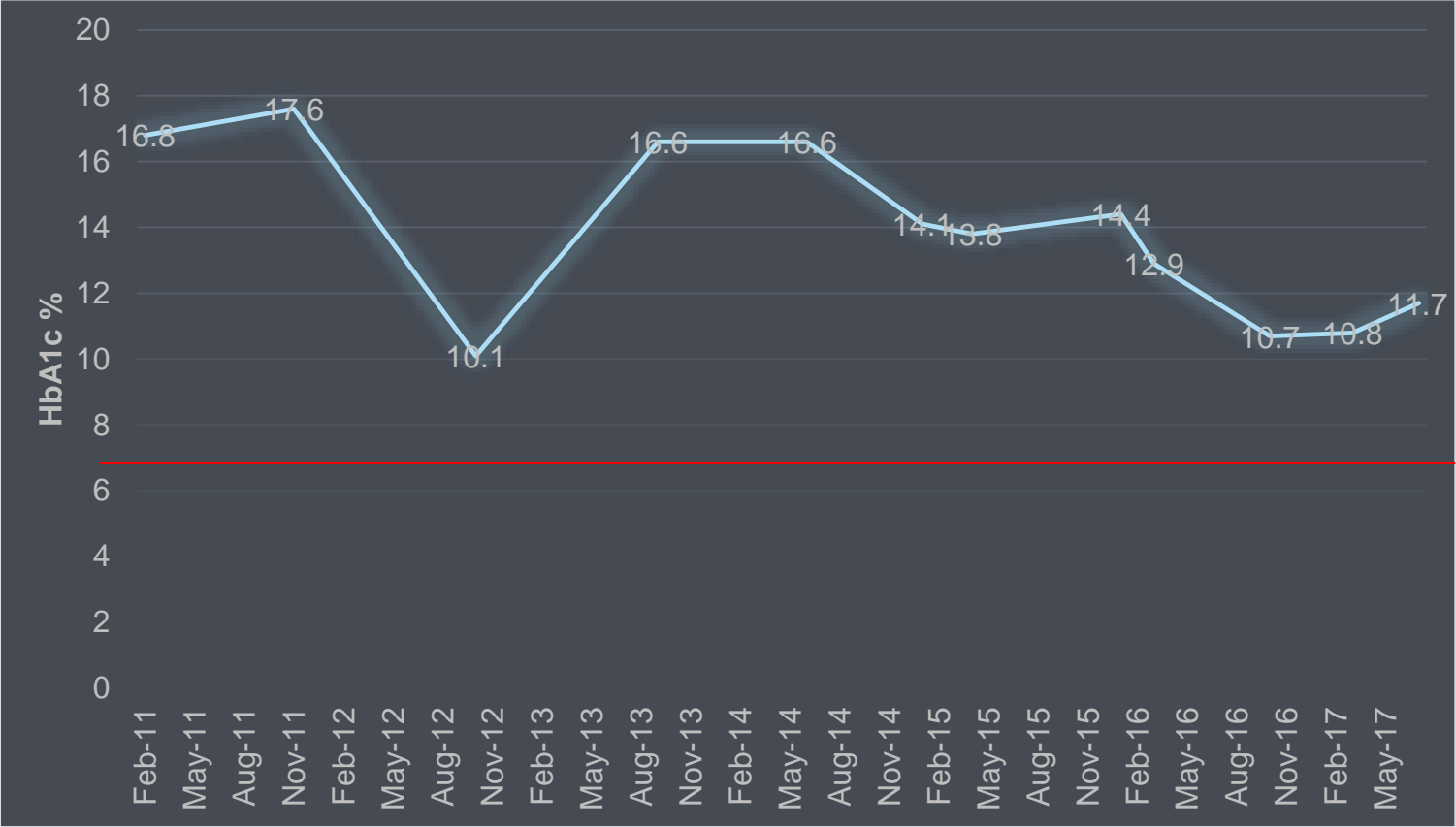




# Issues

1. Ongoing hospital admissions related to DKA
2. Depression/suicidality
3. Very poorly controlled Type 1 DM
4. Associated complications from Type 1 DM
5. Documented allergies to Glargine & Detemir insulin
6. Chronic pain
7. Social isolation
8. Labelled as “frequent flyer”, “attention seeking” etc
9. Diet
10. Smoking

# Average Blood Glucose – HbA1c %



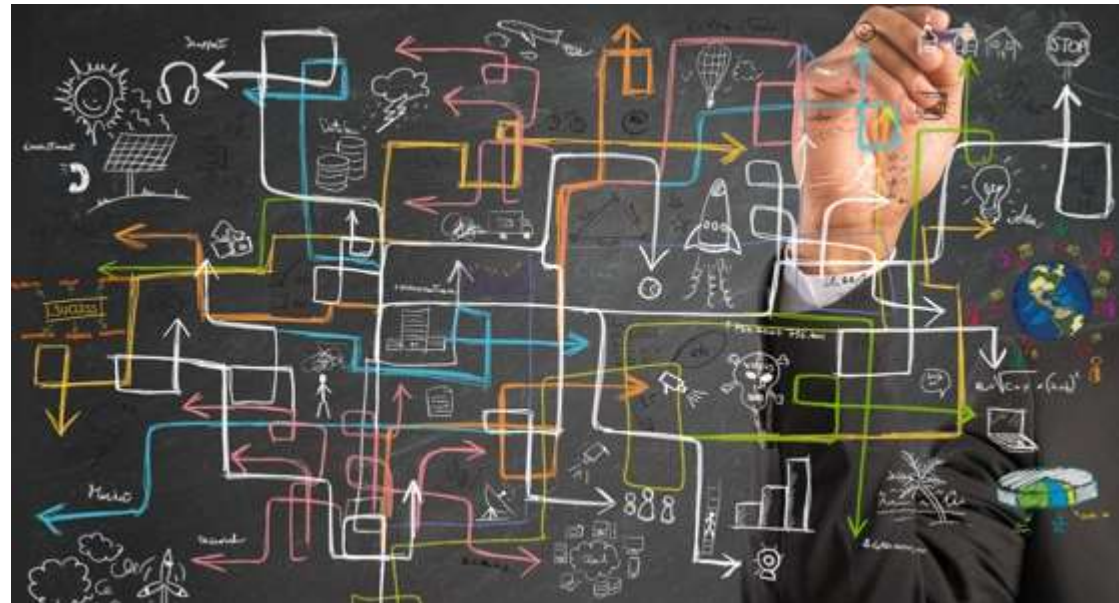
## Hospital presentations 2014-2017

Date	Diagnosi s	Admitted days	ICU
29/01/14	DKA	47	7
17/09/14	? O/D	3	2
18/03/15	DKA	15	3
12/09/15	DKA/Seps is	14	1
04/03/16	DKA/HG	18	-
24/03/16	DKA	57	2
24/05/16	DKA	3	3
15/09/16	DKA	4	3
05/10/16	DKA	1	-
06/11/16	DKA	2	1

## Hospital presentations 2014-2017 (cont'd)

Date	Diagnosis	Admitted days	ICU
19/03/17	DKA	12	3
11/07/17	DKA	15	-
26/07/17	Comp of DM	64	3
Total		255	28

# Another plan



# Steps forward

Building Relationship

Home visits

**IPT commencement**

Options

Finding regular GP

ICCAPP Physician input

TIPS input

Applying for own IPT device

No judgements

Social & emotional support

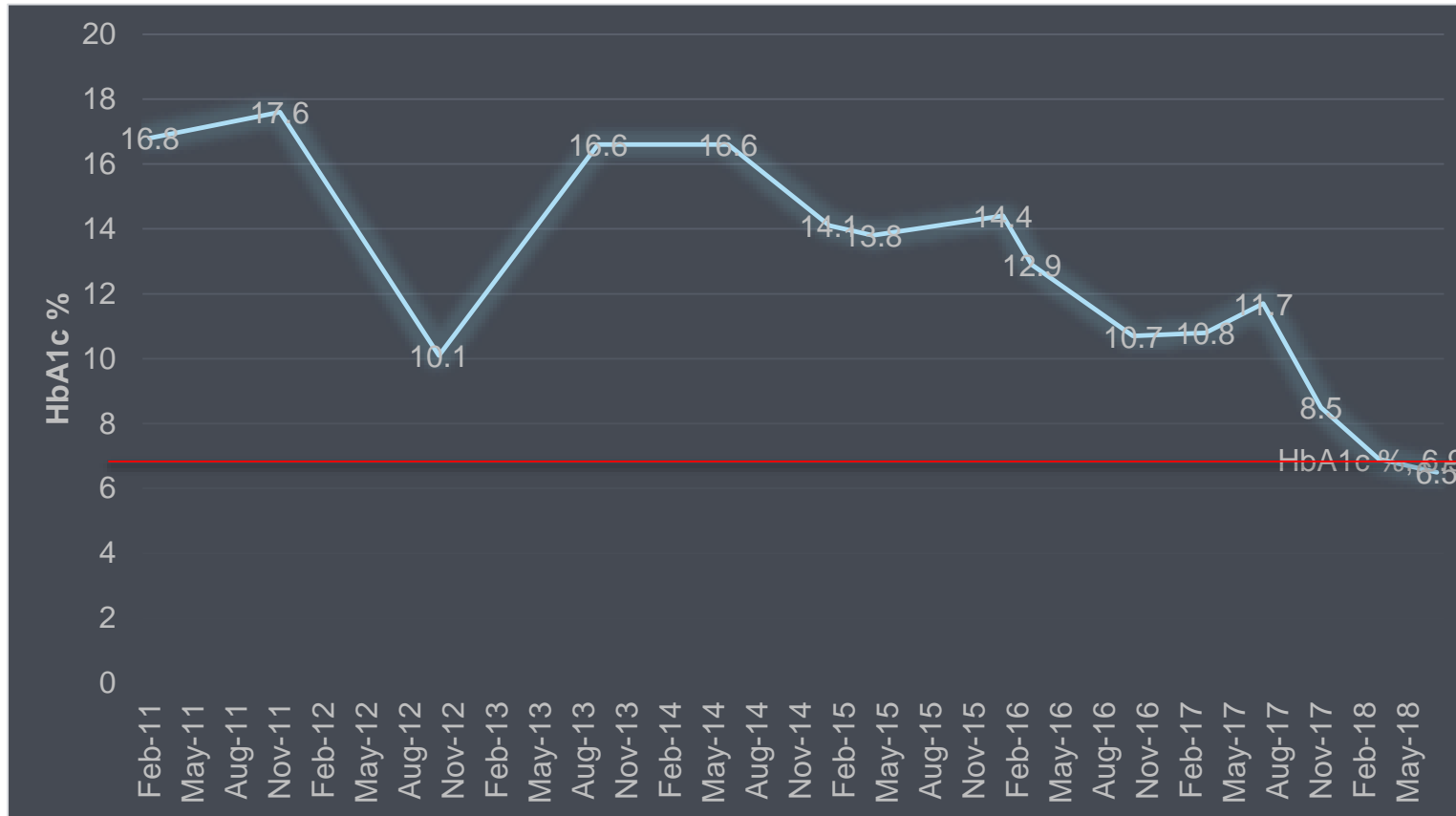


## ICCAPP Contacts 2014-2018

Year	F2F	Phone/Text	Est Cost
2014	-	-	
2015	-	-	
2016	-	-	
2017	34	29	
2018	14	25	
Total	48	54	



## Average Blood Glucose – HbA1c %



**Hospital presentations  
October 2017 - present**



## What works

- Persistence, consistency & continuity
- Building therapeutic relationships
- Empathy
- Options
- The value of case management /care coordination (time needed) vs cost of hospital/ICU stay
- Partnership in health
- Flexibility in own role and system processes
- Health literacy
- Empowerment
- Flexible access to good medical/allied health advice when needed eg telehealth, 'mindful' referrals, collaboration





# PATIENT STORIES

**MELANIE KINGSLAND**

Program Manager/Postdoctoral Researcher, HNE Population Health/UON

**BELINDA TULLY**

Aboriginal Population Health Trainee |HNE Population Health



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THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**NEWCASTLE**  
AUSTRALIA

# **A trial of an initiative to improve antenatal screening and care for alcohol consumption during pregnancy**

*Empowering Aboriginal women and babies  
by mobilizing Indigenist research methods and  
governance models*

Belinda Tully & Melanie Kingsland  
Hunter New England Population Health

**31 August 2018**





# Acknowledgment of Country



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# Today's presentation



1. A practice change initiative to improve antenatal screening and care for alcohol consumption during pregnancy
  - **Why we are undertaking the trial and what it involves**
2. Ensuring appropriateness to empower Aboriginal women and babies
  - **Consultation and engagement process**
  - **Cultural advice embedded into the trial**



# **A practice change initiative to improve antenatal screening and care for alcohol consumption during pregnancy**

# Alcohol consumption during pregnancy



- NHMRC Guidelines recommended **no alcohol** is consumed at any stage **during pregnancy** based on potential risks to the pregnancy and baby<sup>1</sup>
- 25% of Australian women report consuming alcohol after knowing they are pregnant<sup>2</sup>



# Recommended antenatal care



Recommended that antenatal health professionals:

- ✓ **Assess** alcohol consumption of all pregnant women
- ✓ **Advise** women not to consume alcohol during pregnancy and of risks of doing so
- ✓ **Refer** to appropriate support services

At booking in antenatal visit and multiple times during pregnancy

This level of care is not routinely provided

# Implementation trial across 3 HNE sites



- **Aim:** to test effectiveness of implementation strategies (reminders, training, etc.) in improve screening and management of alcohol consumption during pregnancy
- **Stepped-wedge trial:** antenatal services in Greater Newcastle, Peel and Lower Mid North Coast sectors
- **Partnership project:**
  - HNELHD Maternity, Population Health and Drug and Alcohol
  - Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education
  - NSW Health, Office of Preventive Health



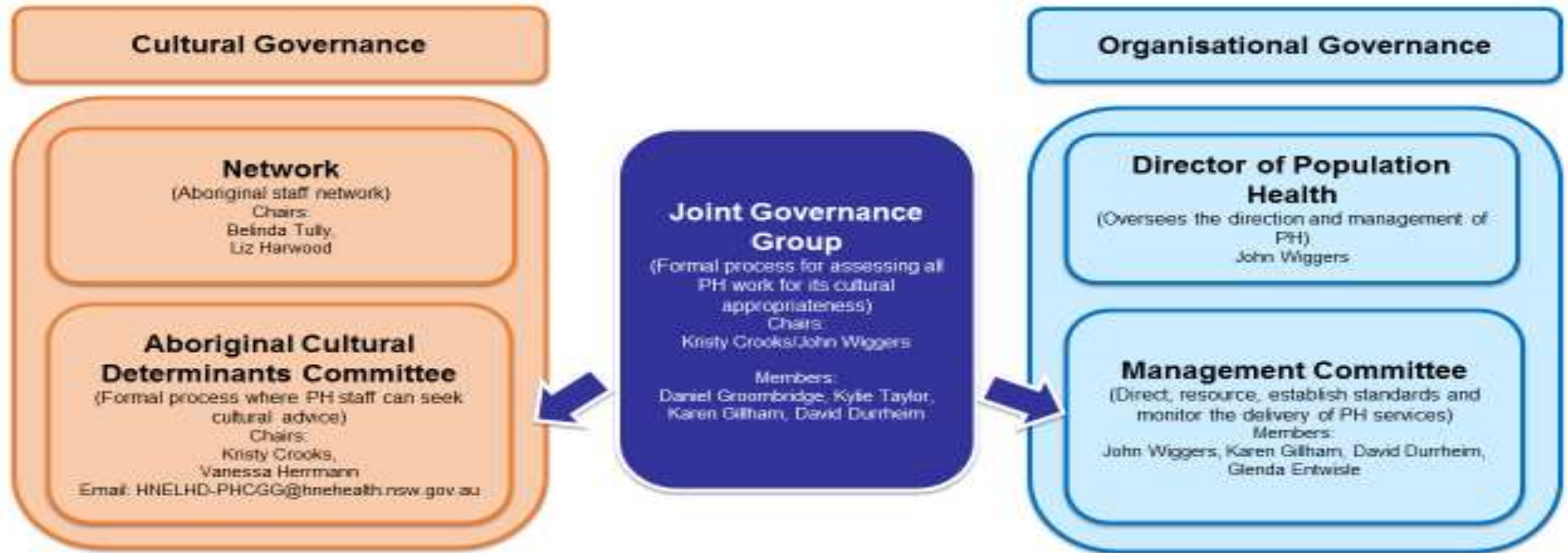
# **Ensuring appropriateness to empower Aboriginal women and babies**

## **CULTURAL GOVERNANCE & CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT PROCESS**



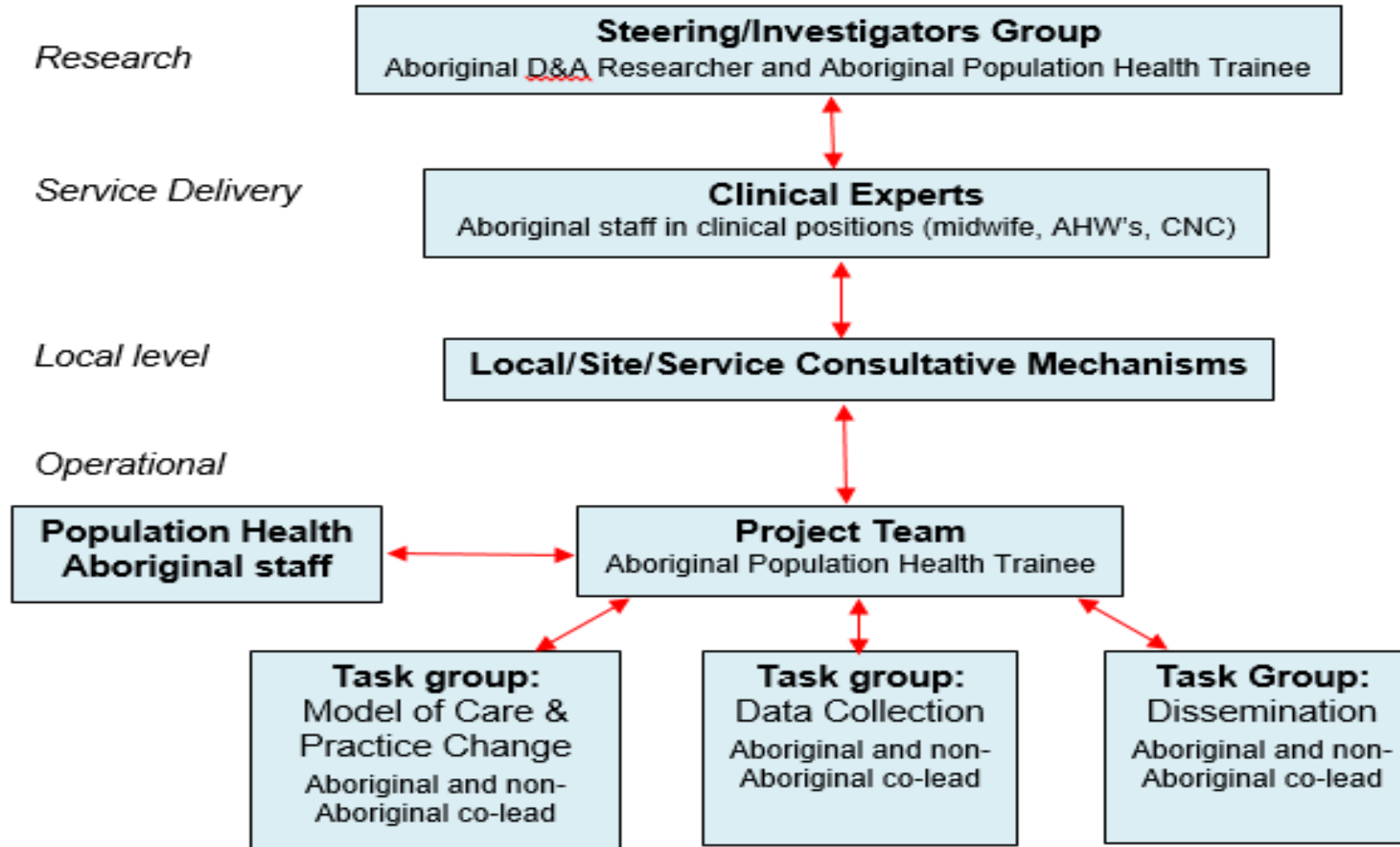


## Population Health Governance





# Cultural governance for the trial



# Cultural consultation and engagement process



We sought advice from:

- Aboriginal mums
- Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services
- Aboriginal Maternal and Infant Health Services
- HNE Aboriginal Health staff – including submission of Aboriginal Health Impact Statement
- HNE Close the Gap Collaboratives
- HNE Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol
- Population Health Aboriginal Cultural Determinants Committee
- Task groups developed specifically for the initiative - co-led by an Aboriginal staff member
- Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council (trial approval)

# Cultural consultation with Aboriginal mums



## Focus Groups with Aboriginal mums

- 2 Aboriginal Population Health staff members led 6 focus groups with 4-6 women in each group-Newcastle and Peel sectors
- Aboriginal women who attended a HNE maternity services in the past 18 months invited to participate through existing Mums and Bub groups or similar.



## Focus Groups with Aboriginal mums (cont.)

- Sought to hear women's experiences and seek advice on what culturally safe antenatal care for alcohol consumption in pregnancy would look like to the women.
- Key preliminary findings include:
  - importance of understanding women's experiences
  - providing safe and consistent care / building trust
  - adopting strength-based approaches
  - issues around stereotypes, stigma, perception and judgement

# Cultural advice embedding into the trial



Through the consultations **3 key components** of the trial were identified as requiring adaptations to empower Aboriginal women in an attempt to increase cultural safety of care

1. **Data collection processes** which involve pregnant women reporting on care received for alcohol consumption in pregnancy
2. **Content of the care** provided to women for alcohol consumption in pregnancy
3. **Content of the implementation support** strategies for antenatal services

# 1. Data collection processes



**ADVICE RECEIVED:** participation by Aboriginal women would be enhanced by providing an alternative to participating in the data collection through a telephone survey

**WHAT WE DID:** For Aboriginal women and/or women attending an Aboriginal Maternal and Infant Health Service for antenatal care:

- Choice of participating in data collection via online or telephone survey
- Choice of undertaking telephone survey with an Aboriginal interviewer
- Interviewers are all women

## 2. Content of care for alcohol consumption in pregnancy



### **ADVICE RECEIVED:**

- Culturally appropriate resources
- Appropriate referral services for Aboriginal women, beyond telephone services
- Alternative D&A options



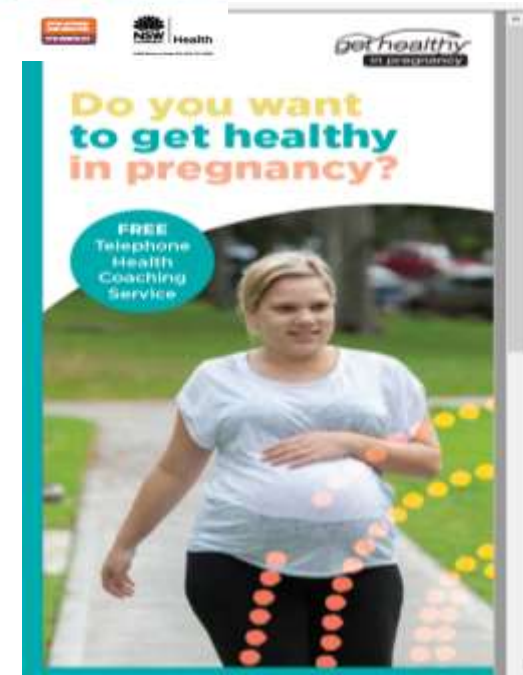
## 2. Content of care for alcohol consumption in pregnancy

**WHAT WE DID:** with advice from Aboriginal women and Aboriginal partners

- **Stay Strong and Healthy Resources**
- Women with 'Medium risk of harm' due to alcohol use in pregnancy:
  - **Aboriginal Medical Service referral** or
  - Get Healthy in Pregnancy telephone service (female **Aboriginal Liaison Officer** for support)
- Women with 'High risk of harm' due to alcohol use during pregnancy:
  - Drug and Alcohol clinical services (supported by workers, transports, etc. from **Aboriginal Maternal and Infant Health Services** or **Aboriginal Medical Services**)



find out more at [www.premiere.com.au](http://www.premiere.com.au)  
f StayStrongAndHealthy



### 3. Implementation support strategies for antenatal staff



#### **ADVICE RECEIVED:**

- Continuity of care
- Explain what is going to be asked and how often
- Open and transparent communication
- Dispel myths and stereotypes about alcohol and Aboriginal women

### 3. Implementation support strategies for antenatal staff



#### **HNELHD Local Guideline and Procedure**

- Developed and includes the different referral pathways for Aboriginal women and links to Aboriginal specific resources



No alcohol during pregnancy is the safest choice.

# 3. Implementation support strategies for antenatal staff



## Staff Training: Online and face-to-face training

Includes:

- Dispelling myths with facts
- Translating what it means to be open and transparent
- Scenario for providing an Aboriginal woman with care that was expanded on in face-to-face training



### 3. Implementation support strategies for antenatal staff



#### Accountability and Monitoring

- Performance measures developed for maternity services and antenatal outpatients
- 3 measures relating to antenatal care for Aboriginal women across all services:
  - % Aboriginal women with alcohol assessment conducted at 28 weeks gestation
  - % Aboriginal women with alcohol assessment conducted at 36 weeks gestation
  - % Aboriginal women for whom appropriate referral for alcohol use in pregnancy offered/followed-up





- **Monitoring and review of participation in data collection**
  - by Aboriginal women and non-Aboriginal women
  - to further improve participation in future trials
- **Monitoring and review of primary outcome** (care provision for alcohol consumption):
  - for Aboriginal women compared to non-Aboriginal women
  - to ensure there is no gap in care delivery and modifying support strategies (e.g. clinician training) as needed



# Thank you



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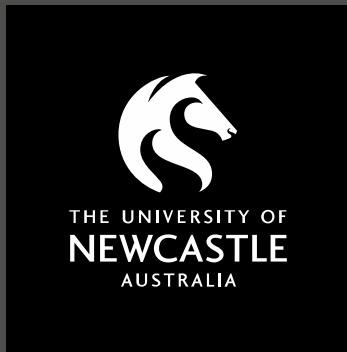


- ***Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities: Guidelines for researchers and stakeholders*** provides a set of principles to ensure research is safe, respectful, responsible, high quality and of benefit to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities.
- ***Keeping research on track II*** was developed to provide advice on how these values and principles can be put into practice in research.

Both of these guidelines support the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research 2007 (updated 2018)* and can be accessed via the Research Ethics Governance website under “Policies and Guidelines



# Questions?



# WRAP UP



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## WHAT'S NEXT in 2018

**Health Professionals Research Education Program:**  
***Session 4: Research Support Services***  
**12noon – 1:30pm 9 November 2018 [John Hunter Hospital]**

**Save the Date!**

**2019:**  
**Friday 15 March**  
**Friday 14 June**  
**Friday 30 August**  
**Friday 8 November**

<http://www.newcastle.edu.au/research-and-innovation/resources/research-advantage>