



Indigenous Eye Health, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET Survey

This Is For You To Keep

Project title: Evaluating regional implementation of The Roadmap to Close the Gap for Vision

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Ethics Clearance/Reference numbers:

- The University of Melbourne Ethics: **1954583.1**
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies: **EO166-21012020**
- Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW: **1632/2**
- Aboriginal Health Research Ethics Committee of South Australia: **04-20-868**
- Human Research Ethics Committee of the Northern Territory: **2020-3788**
- Central Australian Human Research Ethics Committee: **2020-3788**
- Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee: **1019**
- Townsville Hospital and Health Service Human Research Ethics Committee: **QTHS/69809**

Thank you for your interest in participating in this evaluation. This information sheet is about the **regional implementation survey** and the following few pages provide further information about the project, so that you can decide if you would like to take part.

What is this research about?

The Roadmap to Close the Gap for Vision (Roadmap) was published in 2012 by Indigenous Eye Health at The University of Melbourne. The Roadmap made a number of recommendations about what is needed to close the eye care and eye health gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians. It was developed after extensive national consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations and people working in the Aboriginal health and the eye care sectors.

One of the key recommendations from those consultations was that activities to improve eye care for Indigenous Australians should be organised and considered locally. Implementation of the Roadmap has supported an approach where local stakeholders work together with the

aim to improve eye care services, systems and outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in their local area or region.

This survey is part of a project that is evaluating the progress of regional implementation of the Roadmap to consider if it has been effective, including what sorts of changes are happening at a local and regional level, what has supported these changes and what successes and challenges people working in the area have experienced.

Other elements of the evaluation include a review of publicly available information about regional implementation, a small number of regional Case Studies, and interviews with stakeholders about the specific role of the Indigenous Eye Health group. Some people may be asked to participate in more than one part of the evaluation and will be provided with the relevant information sheets.

Who is being asked to participate?

Information is being requested from people involved in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye care across the country, including those participating in regional eye care stakeholder groups and in Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations. Even if you haven't been part of a formal regional stakeholder group, we still want to hear from you. All participants will be over the age of 18 years.

Who will be conducting the evaluation?

Independent evaluators from Clear Horizon and ARTD Consultants have been contracted by IEH to work together to conduct the evaluation.

Experienced staff from ARTD administering the survey and analysing the data and will prepare a report on the findings. The evaluators have been engaged to provide additional evaluation expertise and an independent perspective.

Do I have to take part?

No. Participation is completely voluntary. If you decide to start filling out the survey and decide to stop before it is finished, you can do that at any time. There will be no judgement made towards you because of this decision.

What will I be asked to do?

If you agree to participate, we will ask you to complete a 15-20 minute survey.

The survey can be done either online or over the telephone with an independent evaluator from ARTD Consultants.

You won't be asked to give your name, the name of your organisation, or any personal details in the survey but you will be asked some questions so that the evaluation information can include an idea of the roles, organisations and the geographical area of survey respondents.

The survey will include questions about activities you have been part of or are aware of to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye care and eye health at a regional or local level. It will include questions about any successes or challenges you know about, and what

else you think is needed to support improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's eye care and eye health.

If you prefer to do the survey over the telephone, you can arrange a telephone interview by emailing rachel.aston@artd.com.au. The telephone survey will take around 30 minutes to complete.

What if I change my mind?

If you wish to withdraw from the evaluation while completing the survey, simply close the web browser without submitting your responses. If you have completed the survey and clicked on the 'Submit' button, then we will no longer be able to withdraw your data as there is no way to identify your responses.

What are the possible benefits?

This is the first national evaluation of regional implementation since the Roadmap was published. It will provide a level of context and information that adds to the existing national, State and Territory data on eye health access, services and outcomes.

This evaluation will be a valuable way to hear from people working across the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye care system, including in Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, about their experiences and views on regional implementation and to understand the kinds of changes that have been achieved as well as challenges experienced.

The evaluation will provide an opportunity to identify successes across regions and opportunities for improving eye health outcomes in the future.

Lessons of what has worked well will be shared with those involved in regional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health, to help with efforts to close the gap in vision between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Prize draw

Participants who complete the survey will have the chance to go into a draw to win a 'Check Today, See Tomorrow' t-shirt, or a pair of sunglasses to the value of \$50.

At the end of the survey you will be asked if you want to join the prize draw and to provide contact details so that we can let you know if you have won a prize. We will securely store your contact details completely separately from your survey responses and they will only be accessible to the researchers. We will only keep your contact details long enough to contact you if you win. After this point, they will be permanently deleted.

When will the research happen?

The evaluation will be happening between July 2020 and June 2021.

What are the possible risks?

The published results will not contain identifiable information such as names of individuals or organisations. However, there is a small chance that some answers from people taking part in the survey may be identifiable to an organisation or region because of the number of people surveyed.

The evaluators will carefully review all reports before publishing them to minimise this risk.

Will I hear about the results of this project?

Yes. A copy of the results will be made available to everyone taking part in the project. The results will also be published in a variety of ways including on the Indigenous Eye Health group website, at forums and conferences and in reports and journals.

If you want to receive a copy of the results directly you will need to provide your email address so that the researchers can contact you. Your email address won't be stored with your responses.

What will happen to information about me?

The information provided by people taking part in the survey will be analysed by the evaluators to identify key themes, successes, challenges and recommendations. The information will be published in a way that minimises the risk that the organisation that you work for could be identified.

We will collect, store and destroy your data securely and confidentially, in accordance with The University of Melbourne Policy on the Management of Research Data and Records and related legislation, which is available on the following link:

<https://policy.unimelb.edu.au/MPF1242>

We will keep your survey responses for five years without any identifying information attached to them. After this time, we will destroy all of your data

All researchers are bound by a confidentiality agreement. This means they have agreed not to talk about you or any information you give them to anyone outside the research team. Results written or discussed will not make mention of anyone's name, personal or contact details or the name of their organisation.

Who is funding this project?

This evaluation is funded by Indigenous Eye Health at The University of Melbourne and includes external funding support provided by the Paul Ramsay Foundation.

Who can I contact for questions or if I want more information?

If you would like more information about the project, please contact the project leads; Professor Hugh Taylor (03) 8344 9140, or Mitchell Anjou (03) 8344 9324.

Who can I contact if I have any concerns about the project?

If you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of this research project, you are welcome to contact Indigenous Eye Health or, alternatively, if you do not wish to discuss this with the research team, you can contact the relevant ethics committee listed below:

The Manager, Human Research Ethics, Research Ethics and Integrity, The University of Melbourne

University of Melbourne, VIC 3010.

Tel: +61 3 8344 2073 or Email: HumanEthics-complaints@unimelb.edu.au.

The Chairperson of the AH&MRC NSW Ethics Committee

P.O. Box 1565, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

Telephone: 9212 4777

Human Research Ethics Committee of the Northern Territory

Telephone: 08 89468600 or Email: ethics@menzies.edu.au

Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee

Telephone (08) 9227 1631 or Email: ethics@ahcwa.org

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

The Executive Director of Research or The Chair of the AIATSIS Research Ethics

Committee, AIATSIS, 51 Lawson Crescent, Acton ACT 2601 Email: ethics@aiatsis.gov.au

If you think there has been a breach of your privacy you can write to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner, GPO Box 5218 Sydney NSW 2001 or call 1300 363 992.

All complaints will be treated confidentially.

Please provide the name of the research team or the name or ethics ID/reference number of the research project in any correspondence.

This Information Sheet is yours to keep. You may want to read it later or ask the researcher more questions about it later on.