



Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities Health Advisory Group

Update: 3 August 2023

The Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Communities Health Advisory Group (Advisory Group) held its 2nd meeting on 3 August 2023.

Updates from the meeting

The Department of Health and Aged Care (department) welcomed members to the second meeting of 2023. An update on the National Women's Health Advisory Council was provided, including the #EndGenderBias survey, available in 17 languages.

The Department of Home Affairs provided members with an overview of the Multicultural Framework Review. The Review will consider whether Australian Government policy settings and institutional arrangements are suitable in supporting Australia's multicultural society. The Review and report will be finalised by March 2024 and will identify potential areas for reform, action and further exploration.

The department provided an overview of the Content Strategy developed for the best-practice delivery of health information, including translated content, to CALD communities.

The Health and Social Care Unit at Monash University provided an overview of:

- the review of COVID-19 Vaccine engagement activities for CALD communities
- the co-designed Engagement Strategy
- the Enhanced Communications for CALD Communities Campaign project

The department discussed the 2023-24 Budget commitments supporting CALD communities through Primary Care Reform measures:

- Strengthening Medicare Taskforce Recommendations
- Primary Health Network (PHN) Multicultural Access Program

Dr Vijay Roach, Chair of the [Migrant and Refugee Health Partnership](#) (the Partnership), presented on the project to develop *Guidelines for Ethical Conduct of Research among People from Migrant, Refugee and Refugee-like Backgrounds*.

An update was provided on the establishment of Australia's Centre for Disease Control (CDC) and the priority areas to involve and partner with the Advisory Group. This included the need for culturally appropriate training in the CDC and the translation of critical information and advice. The department will involve members as this work progresses.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) spoke about the importance of engaging with CALD communities and their Medical Devices Consumer Working Group (MDCWA). The MDCWA assists the TGA to engage with consumers.

The department also presented preliminary analysis of COVID-19 associated mortality by vaccination status for the fourth Omicron wave.

The Advisory Group will hold its next meeting on 30 October 2023.

See [Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities Health Advisory Group](#) and [terms of reference](#) for more information.