

MASTER PARTICIPANT INFORMATION BRIEF



INFORMATION SHEET (THIS IS FOR YOU TO KEEP)

Title	<i>Integrating Pharmacists within Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service (ACCHSs) to improve Chronic Disease Management Project (IPAC)</i>
Short Title	<i>Putting Pharmacists into ACCHSs</i>
Project Sponsor	<i>James Cook University</i>
Coordinating Investigators	<i>Associate Professor Sophia Couzos (JCU), Ms Deb Bowden (PSA), Mr Mike Stephens (NACCHO), Ms Dawn Casey (NACCHO)</i>
Evaluation Team	<i>Prof Rhondda Jones (JCU), Dr Emily Callander (Griffith Uni), Dr Erik Biroz (JCU), Dr Deborah Smith (JCU), Prof Bev Glass (JCU), Dr Robyn Preston (JCU), Ms Priscilla Page (JCU), Mr Donald Whaleboat (JCU), Assoc Prof Michelle Bellingren (JCU), Ms Nicole Bates (JCU), Mr Mark Thomas (JCU), Dr Nadia Lusic (VACCHO), Dr Elizabeth Moore (AMSANT), Mr Roderick Wright (QAIHC), Dr Katie Panaretto, Dr Douglas Boyle (UniMelb).</i>
Location	

What is the IPAC Project?

Our Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service [ACCHS] has put a Pharmacist in this clinic for 15 months as part of the IPAC Project. The Pharmacist will help people by talking with them about their medicines and health. In this project they will not give out medicines. They will be part of the clinic like other staff.

This Project will help the Government to know if ACCHSs should be given money for a pharmacist to stay on in the clinic like other staff.

Do I have to take part? How will it work?

You are invited to take part in this project. If you don't want to, you can say no. This will not affect your health care at this clinic. A doctor, nurse, or health worker will ask some people coming to this clinic if they want to see the Pharmacist to help them with their medicines. A staff member will tell you about this Project and ask if you want to take part. You will then be asked to sign a consent form. You may see the Pharmacist straight away or make an appointment for a later time.

The Pharmacist will ask you about your medicines and your health. This is to find out how to make it easier for you to take the right medicines. The pharmacist will work with the doctor and other staff about your medicines, and will see you again to help you as much as possible. You can still see the Pharmacist even if you say no. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you can withdraw from the project at any time. You can tell the Pharmacist or a staff member in the ACCHS that you no longer wish to take part.

Who is running the Project?

Aboriginal leaders in many organisations have all supported this Project. This ACCHS has said how this Project will run in this clinic.

Ethics approval has been received from the St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne Human Research Ethics Committee and this means that the project has been checked as safe and fair for people living in this part of Australia. This and other committees will watch over this Project. Aboriginal leaders and peoples from ACCHSs involved in this Project are also watching over this Project.

Who can be in this Project?

People coming to this ACCHS for a good while can be part of it if they are over 18 years of age, and if they have a health condition like diabetes, heart disease or other disease that means they need to take a lot of medicines. To be part, you must be able to show that you understand and agree that information about your health will be collected when seeing the Pharmacist.

What does taking part in this Project involve?

If you agree to take part, you will be seen by the Pharmacist in the clinic who will check your medicines and make sure they are the right ones for you. They will ask if you would like a full check of your medicines in the clinic, or at home, or a place that is best for you. The Pharmacist will listen to you and help you to get what you need

You can see the Pharmacist as many times as you like, whenever you like, and to ask for help about anything to do with your medicines. The Pharmacist will check how you are going, and may ask to see you in again. You will not need to pay any money for this service.

How will information be collected?

The information we need will already be in your clinic health record. It will just be copied from the record and include information from 12 months before you saw the pharmacist and information after you saw the pharmacist. No information about your name, date of birth, Medicare number, or any other personal information, or who you are, will be copied from your records. Your information will just be given a number and not a name. Information will be collected about your health, prescriptions, clinic visits, and Medicare information. Some information about people like their gender, age, Aboriginality, being a pensioner, and if they smoke will also be collected. The information that is collected will only be used for this project.

Are there any risks or benefits to me from taking part?

The Pharmacist is a qualified and registered health professional who has also been trained to work in this ACCHS. The risks are the same as if you saw a Pharmacist in a Pharmacy, except that you will be seeing them in this clinic.

Who can I talk to for more information or to make a complaint?

If you would like to know the results of this project or if you have any worries you can talk to staff at ACCHS. If you have any other worries, or need more information or would like to make a complaint, you can contact the NACCHO Project Lead: Mike Stephens, Tel: 02 6246 9300; Email: mike.stephens@naccho.org.au. Other Project staff to contact include: Deb Bowden from the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia: Tel: 02 6283 4740; Email: Deb.Bowden@psa.org.au. You can also contact the NACCHO Deputy Chief Executive Officer: Ms Dawn Casey at dawn.casey@naccho.org.au.

You can contact the Ethics Committee with any concerns about the safety and fairness of the Project at: Executive Office of Research, St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne, Tel: 03 9231 2394, or email: research.ethics@svhm.org.au:

Thank you on behalf of the IPAC Project Team.

The *IPAC Project* is the *Integrating Pharmacists within ACCHSs to improve Chronic Disease Management Project (IPAC)*. The Project Partners and Project Operational Team for the *IPAC Project* include: The National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO); Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, and the College of Medicine and Dentistry, James Cook University. *Evaluation Team* members include the Project Partners, and the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO); Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council (QAIHC); and the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance in the NT (AMSANT). The Project Reference Group includes representatives of NACCHO, Affiliates and ACCHSs.