

Clinical and Technical Working Group for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Services Data Advisory Group

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Services Data Advisory Group (HS DAG) provides advice to the Department of Health (the Department) to shape a robust evidence base through Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health care data collections, supporting policy and program development and improved service delivery.

The **HS DAG clinical and technical working group** (working group) will support a partnership approach to managing and maintaining the data collections, through appropriate Sector representation as well as technical and clinical expertise. The HS DAG will be responsible for ensuring appropriate representation of the Sector within the working group. The working group will have a standing agenda item to provide an update at every HS DAG meeting over the life of the working group.

Functions

The working group will provide expert advice to the HS DAG to ensure the currency and relevance of the national Key Performance Indicators for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care (nKPI). The working group will provide options and recommendations to HS DAG on changes needed to ensure the nKPIs continue to be clinically relevant and align with better practice guidelines, and as a tool in clinical continuous quality improvement activities.

The nKPIs consist of 24 indicators covering maternal and child health, chronic disease management, and preventative health. The indicator set was endorsed by the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) in 2011 and data was first collected in June 2012.

The working group will meet as required when a particular need arises or conditions are met, and provide advice and recommendations within agreed time frames.

The working group will aim to reach consensus on all items discussed by the group. Where no consensus has been achieved, the views will be documented, and the Department will take these views into consideration and determine the way forward in consultation with HS DAG.

The role of the HS DAG clinical and technical working group is to provide timely advice and support to the Department on:

- minor modifications required to the 22 of the 24 nKPIs, and ensure alignment with clinical best practice guidelines;
- changes required to the clinical information systems to enable data collection in line with minor modifications for December 2019 collection; and
- matters referred by the HS DAG which require expert consideration and advice.

The HSDAG is currently waiting on the decision by the AHMAC about several new nKPIs. Until the AHMAC decisions are received by the HSDAG the focus of the working group is on modification of

the existing AHMAC approved indicators. The HSDAG may call on the working group to provide advice about the new items in the future.

Membership

Chair

Ms Kate Thomann, Assistant Secretary, Indigenous Health Division, Department of Health

Current Membership:

Dr Jason Agostino, ANU

Mr Damian Cutler, Galambila Aboriginal Health Service

Mr Brian Dunstan, Independent Consultant

Ms Beth Fiedler, NACCHO

Ms Sarah Fraser, Aboriginal Health Council SA

Ms Debra Gent, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress

Ms Rachel Hayhurst, NPS MedicineWise

Dr Ana Herceg, Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services

Dr Liz Moore, AMSANT

Dr Carmel Nelson, Institute for Urban Indigenous Health

Ms Kim Passante, Carbal Medical Services

Dr Fadwa Al-Yaman, AIHW

Ms Felicity Murdoch, AIHW

Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest

To receive confidential agenda papers, members will be required to sign an overarching Department of Health Deed of Undertaking in Relation to Confidential Information and Conflict of Interest form. However, to assist members to consult effectively, meeting papers that require broader input will not be assigned as confidential. Papers that are confidential will be marked as such (with Committee In Confidence) and members must abide by the Department's non-disclosure requirements.

The Chair will decide on a course of action should any Conflict of interest declarations be made.

Timing

The HS DAG clinical and technical working group has been formed as a result of a number of reviews identifying the need to maintain the relevance and currency of the nKPI data collection. The working group was formed during the COVID-19 pandemic and initial meetings will be by teleconferences to provide advice on the minor modifications required to 22 of the 24 nKPIs to ensure alignment with clinical best practice guidelines. The advice on the first tranche of minor modifications to the 22 nKPIs are due in June 2020 to ensure implementation in clinical information systems and the Health Data Portal in time for the 1 January 2021 nKPI reporting period.

Secretariat

The Primary Health Care Reporting and Data Quality Section of the Primary Health, Data and Evidence Branch, Indigenous Health Division will provide Secretariat support.