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Cancer Australia

The development of the *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cancer Framework*

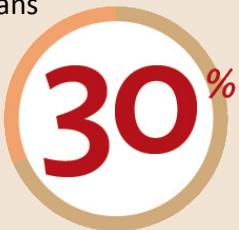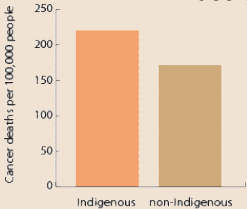**World Indigenous Cancer Conference 2016 Brisbane**

April

Isabella Wallington / Samantha Webster

Manger Indigenous and Rural / Senior Project Officer

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Cancer in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

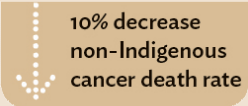Indigenous Australians more likely to die from cancer than non-Indigenous Australians

Cancer deaths per 100,000 people

250
200
150
100
50
0
Indigenous   non-Indigenous

30%

Cancer mortality gap widening

1998 ——————→ 2012

16% increase

Indigenous cancer death rate

10% decrease non-Indigenous cancer death rate

1. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2014. Cancer in Australia: an overview, 2014. Cancer series No 90. Cat. no. CAN 88. Canberra: AIHW.
2. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2015. The health and welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples 2015. Cat. no. IHW 147. Canberra: AIHW.
3. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2015. The health and welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples 2015. Cat. no. IHW 147. Canberra: AIHW.

National cancer control agency

Cancer Australia identified the need for the development of an evidence-based, nationally agreed, strategic Framework to guide future cancer control efforts for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Approach to Framework development

Key principle 1: collaborative

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Approach to Framework development (cont.)
Key principle 2: evidence based
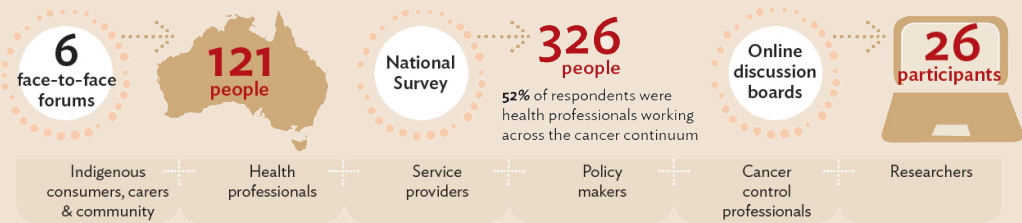
Systematic review identified key themes, barriers and enablers

68 articles

Prevention
Screening & early detection
Diagnosis & treatment
Palliative care
Survivorship

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Approach to Framework development (cont.)
Key principle 3: consultative

6 face-to-face forums

121 people

National Survey

326 people
52% of respondents were health professionals working across the cancer continuum

Online discussion boards

26 participants

Indigenous consumers, carers & community

Health professionals

Service providers

Policy makers

Cancer control professionals

Researchers

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Synthesising the evidence

Refining and validating

National Leaders' Forum

Framework priorities

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1) Improving knowledge, attitudes and understanding
2) Focusing on prevention activities
3) Increasing access to and participation in cancer screening
4) Ensuring early diagnosis
5) Ensuring optimal and culturally appropriate care
6) Ensuring families and carers are supported
7) Strengthening services and systems to deliver good quality, integrated services

Framework enablers

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Several enablers identified through the evidence span more than one priority area:

▶ provide access to timely and culturally appropriate information and care across the cancer continuum
▶ ensure Indigenous health professionals are skilled and enabled to provide evidence-based cancer information and care, from prevention to palliation
▶ increase access to mainstream cancer services by addressing cultural and geographic barriers
▶ build a culturally competent workforce

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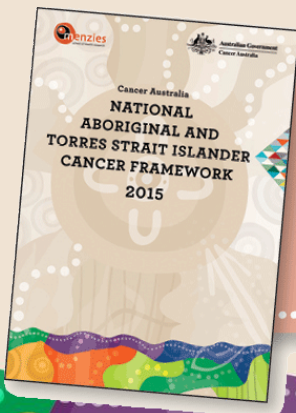## Putting the Framework into practice

The Framework can be used to inform future cancer control priorities and directions. Examples include:

➤ informing new cancer control policies and strategies
➤ informing state and territory cancer plans
➤ informing cancer control activities (across prevention, screening, treatment and support services)
➤ enhancing how the cancer control sector works collectively to address the disparities
➤ raising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cancer as a research priority

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The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cancer Framework

Cancer Australia
NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CANCER FRAMEWORK
2015

A shared agenda for improving Indigenous cancer outcomes in Australia

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www.canceraustralia.gov.au/atsi

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