

# First Nations Health Communication Symposium



*Stories that matter: reflecting and collaborating for change*

**21 August 2025 - Darwin, Alice Springs & online**

9:00	<p><b>Welcome to Country</b> Yvonne Odegard, <i>Larrakia Nation</i></p> <p><b>Event Welcome</b> Professor Anna Ralph, <i>Menzies School of Health Research</i> Camille Lew-Fatt, <i>NT Aboriginal Interpreter Service</i></p>
9:30	<p><b>Keynote Address</b> Navigating straight talking for hard stories - truth telling for us and others <i>Carol Christophersen</i></p>
10:10	<p><b>Stories from the Centre</b> Communication: making visible what's behind the curtain <i>Kenneth Lechleitner, NT Health</i></p> <p>Culturally congruent processes for collecting patient stories from speakers of Aboriginal languages in Central Australia <i>Sally Sena (independent contractor and former ALO) &amp; Emily Armstrong (Northern Institute)</i></p>
10:45	<b>MORNING TEA</b>
11:15	<p><b>Culturally safe conversations in practice</b> From conversation to practice: exchanging insights on intercultural communication. <i>Chair: Vicki Kerrigan, Presenters: Anna Ralph (NT Health/Menzies), Mario Faggion (Menzies), Tiana Alley (Menzies), Gisla Malimara (NT Health, Menzies) Mandy Ahmat (Independent Consultant)</i></p> <p><u>Lightning presentations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Djäkamirr: How we communicate in Two-Worlds <i>Helen Guyupul Wunungmurra (Djäkamirr Co-op Ltd and Molly Institute for First Nations Birth Rights)</i></li> <li>• Storying Strong Hearts and Healthy Skin: Community-led narratives to end RHD in Central Queensland <i>Teresa Leon (QLD Health) &amp; Adriana Johnson (Central QLD Hospital and Health Service)</i></li> <li>• Using direct observation to understand culturally safe communication <i>Stuart Ekberg (Flinders University)</i></li> </ul>
12:00	<p><b>Cultural safety first: rewriting the curriculum</b> Levelling the playing field <i>Professor Dianne Stephens &amp; Associate Professor Ian Lee (Charles Darwin University)</i></p> <p>Navigating the path to NAATI certification: Stories from interpreters in Northern Territory Hospitals <i>Lauren Campbell (Indigenous Interpreting Project, NAATI) &amp; Trish Paterson (Aboriginal Communicating for Safety Supervisor RDPH) and RDH interpreters</i></p>

	Walking Together: Intercultural Communication in Practice at GDH <i>Liz Jarvis, Nicole Nobbs (NT Health) &amp; Joanne Sweeney (Menzies School of Health Research)</i>
1:00	<b>LUNCH</b>
2:00	<p><b>Co-designing with language, culture and care</b></p> <p>Strongbala Minds - Walk in Talk In Space <i>Mavis Jumbiri &amp; Lara O'Grady (Jawoyn Association)</i></p> <p>Intercultural communication in NT healthcare: First Nations peoples stories and solutions <i>Tiana Alley (Menzies School of Health Research)</i></p> <p>Marrparaṅ Dhukarr: Gunga'yunami dhäwu'wu (The peaceful pathway: our helping story) - Piloting a health education co-design process <i>Djamalaka Dhamarrandji, Burrkitj Ngurruwuthun, David Bromot &amp; Dyahn De Santis (Miwatj Health)</i></p> <p>Accessible and meaningful breastfeeding support for mums <i>Kirsty-Anne Randell (Australian Breastfeeding Association)</i></p> <p>Bidirectional learning - benefit of interpreter health education for Donate Life team <i>Leigh Hill (DonateLife), Patricia Patterson (NT Health)</i></p> <p>Explaining risk in chronic conditions: the Yolngu science of signs <i>Alice Mitchell (Community Innovations for Health, NT), Emma Haynes (University of Western Australia), Minitja Marawili (Madarrpa clan, Baniyala, Laynhapuy Homelands)</i></p>
3:25	<b>AFTERNOON TEA</b>
3:45	<p><b>From words to meaning</b></p> <p>Panel - Co-designing number stories that matter in Galiwin'ku <i>Emily Armstrong, Jessica Davis, Rosemary Gundjarranbuy &amp; Rhoda Goluṅ (Molly Wardaguga Institute for First Nations Birth Rights), Karen Cieri (Department of Education), Anita Graham (Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance NT), Charlotte Geer &amp; Yenhu Gaylene Gurruwiwi (Connected Beginnings, Galiwin'ku)</i></p>
4:30	<b>SYMPOSIUM CLOSE</b>

### Information Stalls

During the breaks, we invite you to visit the following information stalls onsite to explore resources, connect, and share ideas.

#### Darwin:

- Aboriginal Interpreter Service
- CDU Medical Program
- Communicate Study Partnership
- DonateLife NT
- EQuals Project
- Hep B Story App
- Molly Wardaguga Institute for First Nations Birth Rights
- NAATI

#### Alice Springs:

- Charles Darwin University
- EQuals Project
- Menzies Remote Health System and Climate Change Centre