



Marthakal Homelands Health Service



As we approach the end of the project, we are pleased to share some of our successes over the years and to celebrate progress towards meeting and exceeding National Strategy Targets in all areas.

We celebrate the hard work of all partners and look forward to collaborating with additional partners in the Northern Territory and nationally to continue the work of the project beyond this partnership grant.

Stay tuned as we publish final project outcomes in upcoming publications and at the 14th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference, taking place in Darwin, August 2024. We look forward to seeing you there.

2023 highlights:

Conferences and invited speakers;

- Global Hepatitis Summit, Paris, France
- 3rd International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Summit, Cairns, Australia
- International HIV Coinfection + Viral Hepatitis Elimination Conference, Brisbane, Australia

National Recognition:

"Existing successful, innovative person-centred models of care, **such as the Hep B PAST program in the NT**, should be considered for expansion and national scale up, including in rural, remote, regional and other underserved areas."

Fourth National Hepatitis B Strategy 2023-2030

"...the largest increase over time (in all measures) occurred in Northern Territory. Previously declining mortality is predicted to plateau or increase in all jurisdictions except the Northern Territory."

Modelling jurisdictional disparities in the cascade of care for chronic hepatitis B in Australia: impact of treatment uptake on mortality.

DOI: [10.1016/j.anzjph.2022.100011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anzjph.2022.100011)

Publications:

"The most culturally safe training I've ever had".

"...the co-design of a culturally safe Managing hepatitis B training course with and for the Aboriginal health workforce of the Northern Territory of Australia".

<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-023-09902-w>



Above: Hep B PAST Investigator meeting in Darwin.

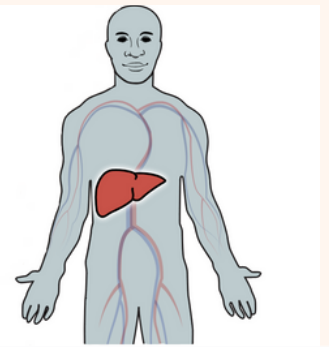
Right: Hep B PAST Team in Ngukurr.

Below: Investigator Research Group meeting in Darwin.



Aim 1

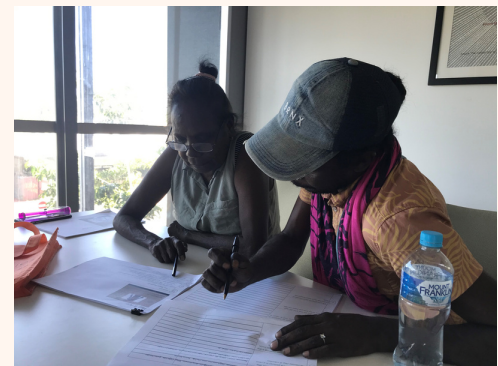
Aim 1: To improve health literacy about hepatitis B virus amongst Aboriginal communities, people living with HBV and primary health care providers.



In the past 5 years the project has successfully:

- Evaluated in a culturally appropriate way the impact of the “Hep B Story” in increasing HBV health literacy amongst First Nations NT community members. Provided evidence to inform the adaptation and translation of the app into a further 10 Aboriginal languages.
- Developed an education tool for use in communities in 9 Aboriginal languages, meaning approximately 47,000 (around 60% of the NT’s Aboriginal population) have access to hepatitis B educational information in their first language.
- Developed a transferable model and toolkit to develop health resources with and for Aboriginal people.

Language	Speakers	Progress
Yolngu matha	6806	Available
Kunwinjku	2000	Available
Tiwi	2102	Available
Arrernte	5475	Available
Warlpiri	2509	Available
Pitjantjatjara	3000	Available
Murrinh-Patha	3100	Coming soon
Burarra	1000	Available
Anindilyakwa	1600	Available
Kriol	20,000	Available



Above: Sylvia, Victor, Rachel, Greg and Francis working on the Hep B Story app.

Ongoing evaluation of the app is being undertake with plans to:

- Continue promotion of the app at health care workforce trainings, specialist outreach, and at relevant networking opportunities such as symposiums and conferences.
- Embed the ability to record the number of patients who have received education in their first language through electronic health record systems such as PCIS and Communicare.
- Adapt and translate the app into a further 4 languages: Torres Strait Creole (Torres Strait Islands), Nunggubuyu (Numbulwar), Warumungu (Tennant Creek), Luritja (Alice Springs).

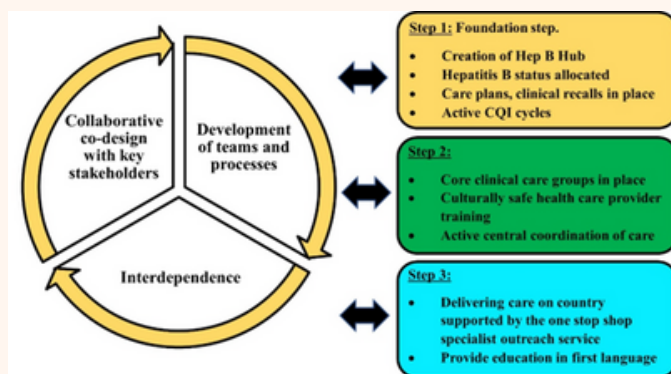
You can view the app online [here](#), download it via the [Apple](#) or [Google Play](#) app stores:
HepB Story - Menzies

Aim 2

Aim 2: Improve the cascade of care for individuals living with CHB in the NT

Aim 2 of the project has achieved:

- A viral hepatitis specific work unit – the Hep B Hub, has been established within the electronic health record system (PCIS). All individuals identified as living with CHB within the NT are within the Hep B Hub, ensuring up to date, streamlined access for practitioners looking after those living with CHB in the NT.
- Standardised hepatitis B status codes have been implemented within electronic health record systems for all partners.
- Continuous quality improvement cycles have been established and are ongoing within all NT Health and partner organisations ensuring timely, guideline-based care.
- A hub and spoke model of care has been established within communities, with core clinical care teams trained and iteratively developing to facilitate timely, on country, guideline-based care for those living with CHB.
- A culturally safe hepatitis B management education course has been developed with and for the Aboriginal health workforce, with a transferable model for the development of culturally safe training established.
- Approximately 150 Aboriginal health workers have undertaken Managing Hepatitis B training, with course participants demonstrating clear improvement in knowledge post course.
- Approximately 200 medical practitioners and nurses have undertaken the Hepatitis B s100 Prescriber course with 72 current accredited GP/NP prescribers in the NT.



Above: Managing Hep B Course in Alice Springs, the Hep B PAST team presenting in Brisbane, the Hep B PAST Model of Care.

Approximately 41,000 people in the NT have been assigned a verified hepatitis B status with care plans as appropriate. This represents 66% of the total Aboriginal population of the NT.

For all correspondence please contact:
hepbpast@menzies.edu.au