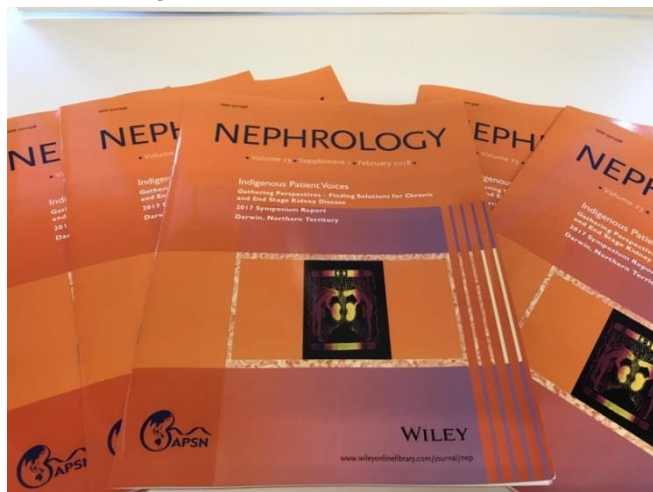


**The Indigenous Patient Voices Symposium Report was published in full on 12th February 2018**

**National Renal Health Roundtable convened by Hon Minister Wyatt AM MP on 22 February 2018**



### How does publishing research advance kidney health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people?

Publishing in health journals is a way of sharing and storing research knowledge - that is findings, interpretation and recommendations for health care. Published research can inform:

1. Clinical care guidelines for best health care. These are used by health care staff and health services.
2. Health policy decisions and the funding required to achieve best health care outcomes.

The published Indigenous Patient Voices Symposium Report is now securely stored in a journal repository system - so that health service planners can access and use this knowledge to develop effective health care policies aligned to the priorities identified by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and families affected by kidney disease.

Evaluation research also has an important role in reporting the kidney health advancement which is achieved as a result of strong policy and funding decisions.

**Report (Nephrology journal website):**

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/nep.2018.23.issue-S1/issuetoc>

**Symposium videos (Menzies website):** <http://bit.ly/2zBw4ol>

February 2018

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### Report Key Themes

- Respect
- Information and Education
- Kidney Care close to home
- Access to specialist treatments including transplantation
- Workforce enhancement- building a culturally safe workforce and valuing and building Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the kidney workforce

The Report includes a detailed Call to Action to drive change at local, state, Territory and Federal levels.

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## Minister for Indigenous Health, Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP hosts the National Renal Health Roundtable, Darwin 22 February

The Indigenous Patient Voices Symposium Report was written to bring the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and families impacted by kidney disease to national attention, especially to help develop effective kidney health strategies. Minister Wyatt AM wrote to us in January 2018, thanking us for the report. He said:

*“I believe that lasting gains are made when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and patients, are given a voice in those areas that impact upon their health and wellbeing” and “I will be convening a Renal Health Roundtable on February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2018 in Darwin”.*

Minister Wyatt AM addressed the Renal Health Roundtable, which brought together key community, health service, research and government stakeholders, stating...

*“We are a jigsaw, in pieces. We need to bring this together”*

The Roundtable focussed on developing Australia’s first Road-Map for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Renal Health. We recognise the important opportunity for discussion, agreement and collaboration, which brought together local, state / territory and national stakeholders to advance kidney health now for people, families and communities. We look forward to working with Minister Wyatt to improve how we prevent kidney disease and deliver healthcare that addresses the priorities expressed by patients and their families.

### Meaningful partnerships between health care users & health services

***Kidney health is a community issue and requires holistically delivered care*** – was feedback received from participants at the Indigenous Patient Voices Symposium in September 2017. Top-End Health Services (TEHS), in the Northern Territory, an invaluable partner in the successful delivery of the Symposium, is committed to patient-centered care and TEHS has continued its support to the Voices raised in the 2017 national forum.

TOP END  
HEALTH SERVICE

TEHS has committed to support information needs of patients and their families, and Care closer to Home for Territorians living with kidney disease. Two key patient-centered initiatives delivered by TEHS in 2017 include:

- **Kidney Yarning Circles: Pathways to My Home workshops** – Following positive feedback from patients and staff, the workshops will be funded at Royal Darwin Hospital during 2018
- TEHS initiated a **Renal Indigenous Patient Reference Group (IRG)** in early 2017, and jointly developed a Consumer Partnership Framework for supporting effective renal health policy. This framework was developed within the TEHS funded “ME & Kidney Care” Study. The IRG will continue this critical advocacy role with Top End Renal Services in 2018.

### Thankyou & please share the Newsletter

Sharing the newsletter in your community and with your health service leaders helps everyone be part of driving change and building the best health care systems for all Australians. Editors of health journals have a critical role in advocating health advancement by making publication space which value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health. I thank Peter Kerr, Donna Quinn and Jovelyn Sotoya from “*Nephrology*” for publishing advice and assistance. I look forward to sharing updates about the Renal Health Roundtable and Road-Map, and news from other kidney and community research projects.

JH