

MEDIA RELEASE

Creating better guidelines for kidney health management

Monday 23 April, 2018

Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies) is hosting the first consultation to establish patient and community led national guidelines to be added to the overall management plans for people affected by kidney health issues.

The consultation is part of the Catching Some AIR Project - Asserting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Information Rights in Renal Disease.

Project teams, based at Menzies, have invited patients, family members, carers and stakeholders to gain feedback towards creating bi-national guidelines development to advance kidney health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Maori.

Catching Some Air Coordinator Dr Jaquelyne Hughes says the consultation will used by the Australia and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Registry (ANZDATA) to develop an Indigenous data framework.

"This consultation process also informs the development of the inaugural Kidney Health Australia-Caring for Australians with Renal Impairment (KHA-CARI) Guidelines for the Management of Chronic Kidney Disease in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Maori," Dr Hughes said.

"By talking with people living with kidney disease, their carers and various service providers we can prepare meaningful, relevant guidelines and policy which will advance kidney health management.

"This is the start of the consultation process with our project partners the Top-End Renal Patient Advisory and Advocacy Committee with further sessions planned in Alice Springs and on Thursday Island in Far North Queensland."

Working together with Kidney Health Australia, Dr Hughes says she anticipates the consultation to continue across Australia in the near future.

"As a Territorian and a Torres Strait Islander woman who works in kidney health, I feel very privileged to be part of this tremendous team delivering the community consultation for guidelines development in the NT and Northern Queensland," said Dr Hughes.

The Darwin meeting is taking place at Menzies Building Red 9 at the Charles Darwin University Casuarina Campus on Monday and Tuesday 23 and 24 April, 2018.

Vision and interview opportunities are available.

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Media contact:

Paul Dale, senior communications officer

Phone: 0439 108 754 or (08) 8946 8658 | Email: communications@menzies.edu.au

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Available for comment:

Dr Jaquelyne Hughes - Post-doctoral research fellow – Menzies School of Health Research

Mr Lachlan Ross (Top-End Renal Advisory and Advocacy Committee)

Dr Lisa Murphy (Acting CEO, Kidney Health Australia)

Menzies School of Health Research

Menzies School of Health Research is one of Australia's leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving Indigenous, global and tropical health. Menzies has a history of over 30 years of scientific discovery and public health achievement. Menzies works at the frontline, joining with partners across the Asia-Pacific as well as Indigenous communities across northern and central Australia. Menzies collaborates to create new knowledge, grow local skills and find enduring solutions to problems that matter.