

Menzies School of Health Research in support of Referendum

4 September 2023

Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies) recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the first peoples of Australia.

Menzies supports the Uluru Statement from the Heart. We support the referendum to enshrine a First Nations Voice in the Constitution. We stand together with First Nations communities and our key partners in supporting a YES vote in the upcoming national referendum.

Menzies believes that communities are best placed to make decisions about matters that directly affect them. We recognise the importance of self-determination and that people should have the ability to inform policies and practices that affect their lives.

Menzies believes that constitutional recognition and enabling Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to participate in decision making about critical issues affecting their communities is fundamental to Closing the Gap.

Menzies supports open, well-informed and respectful debate regarding the referendum. We will encourage and enable our staff and students to access information they need to make their own informed decisions.

Menzies remains committed to ongoing partnerships with First Nations Australians, their health services and communities to generate new knowledge, build shared understanding and capability and translate research to improve health and wellbeing. Our aim is to work together to achieve maximal impact in Closing the Gap.

Quotes attributable to Menzies School of Health Research Director, [Professor Alan Cass AO](#):

“As part of our everyday work, Menzies strives to understand, value and elevate the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, through building enduring partnerships with communities and their health services.

“We recognise the importance of this referendum, a genuine opportunity to enshrine a Voice to Parliament that is protected by the Constitution.”

ENDS

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Menzies School of Health Research

Menzies is one of Australia’s leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, and a leader in global and tropical research into life-threatening illnesses. Menzies continues to translate research into effective partnerships and programs in communities across Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.