

Nationally recognised hepatitis B tool now available in 11 languages

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The Hep B Story App, a leading hepatitis B health education resource by Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies) is now available in 11 Aboriginal languages, with the recent addition of Wubuy and Murrinh Patha.

Launched today at Menzies, the app is now accessible in the first language of more than 70 percent of Aboriginal people living in the Northern Territory (NT).

This important resource is part of the Hep B PAST program which has been [acknowledged nationally](#) as a successful and innovative model - one that should be considered for national scale up as part of Australia's strategy to eliminate hepatitis B as a public health threat by 2030.

Known for its ease of use and being culturally tailored, the app sets itself apart from others, through the Menzies Hep B team's on-going engagement and consultation with community and health services across the NT.

First launched in 2014 in English and Yolŋu Matha, the app was developed through extensive consultation and partnership with healthcare workers, the Galiwin'ku community in North East Arnhem Land, and people living with chronic hepatitis B.

Through the sustained efforts of researchers, Aboriginal Health Practitioners, community members, translators and program partners, the app has been expanded to now include 10 additional languages: Kunwinjku, Tiwi, Arrernte, Warlpiri, Pitjantjatjara, Burarra, Anindilyakwa, Kriol, Wubuy and Murrinh Patha.

The Hep B Story App is a visual, interactive app that is designed for patients living with hepatitis B (hep B) and their families. It tells the story of the hep B virus, and shares how it can be transmitted, the symptoms of the virus and ways it can be treated and prevented.

The Hep B Story can be [accessed online](#) as well as downloaded from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

Quote attributable to Menzies Hep B PAST program Chief Investigator and Hep B Story App author, [Professor Jane Davies](#):

"Having hepatitis B information available in Aboriginal languages has transformed the way I provide care. I'll never forget the moment a long-term patient heard the story in his own language, shared by a Community-Based Researcher – his eyes lit up. It was deeply humbling and showed just how powerful culturally appropriate communication can be."

Quotes attributable to Menzies Hep B PAST project manager and Hep B Story App author, [Dr Paula Binks](#):

"It has been a privilege to collaborate with so many talented individuals to create an educational tool about chronic hepatitis B in the preferred language of most Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory.

"Translation is a rigorous process, far more than simply converting words, it's about ensuring the accurate and meaningful transmission of concepts. Word-for-word translation risks both misinformation and the loss of vital cultural context"

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About Menzies School of Health Research

Menzies is at the forefront of health and medical research dedicated to improving the lives of peoples across the Northern Territory, Asia Pacific and beyond. By joining scientific knowledge with community wisdom, Menzies strives to Close the Gap, and shape a healthier, more equitable future where communities can thrive.

About Menzies Hepatitis Program:

The Hep B PAST (Partnership Approach to Sustainably eliminate Chronic Hepatitis B in the Northern Territory) Program is working towards the elimination of chronic Hepatitis B from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Northern Territory. [Learn more about their work and collaborators via the Menzies website.](#)