

Thursday, 25 July 2013

## **Interviews available: New research on cancer among Indigenous children**

### **What:**

The first ever study of the national patterns of incidence and death rates for cancers diagnosed amongst Indigenous children has been undertaken to help understand and reduce the risk and impact of cancer in Indigenous youth.

The study was led by the Menzies School for Health Research's Associate Professor, Patricia Valery in collaboration with the Australian Paediatric Cancer Registry.

The study entitled, *Cancer Incidence and Mortality in Indigenous Australian Children, 1997–2008*, investigated the overall burden of cancer in this population, and where disparities exist, to plan what action is required.

### **It found:**

- Overall, Indigenous children were 36% less likely to be diagnosed with cancer than non-Indigenous children
- There was not much difference between the mortality rates of Indigenous and non-Indigenous children

The Brief Report has been published in the latest edition of the Pediatric Blood Cancer Journal and can be viewed at: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/pbc.24239/abstract>

### **For interviews:**

Associate Professor Patricia Valery is available for comment. She is a senior cancer researcher and Head of Menzies' Cancer Epidemiology Group.

View her profile at: [http://www.menzies.edu.au/page/Our\\_People/Researchers/Patricia\\_Valery/](http://www.menzies.edu.au/page/Our_People/Researchers/Patricia_Valery/)

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