



Australian Indigenous
HealthInfoNet

Helping to 'close the gap' by providing the evidence base to inform practice and policy in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health

Media Release – Latest review shows many cancers are preventable among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

13 September 2018

The Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet (HealthInfoNet) at Edith Cowan University has published a new *Review of cancer among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people*.

HealthInfoNet Director, Professor Neil Drew said, 'The review shows that cultural safety in service provision, increased participation in breast, bowel and cervical screening and reduction in risk factors will improve outcomes for cancer among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The good news is that many cancers are considered to be preventable. Lung cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, followed by breast cancer, bowel cancer and prostate cancer. Tobacco smoking is still seen as the greatest risk factor for cancer'.

The review, written by University of Western Australia staff (Haigh M, Thompson S and Taylor E), in conjunction with HealthInfoNet staff (Burns J, Potter C, Elwell M, Hollows M, Mundy J), provides general information on factors that contribute to cancer among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It provides detailed information on the extent of cancer including incidence, prevalence and survival, mortality, burden of disease and health service utilisation.

This review discusses the issues of prevention and management of cancer, and provides information on relevant programs, services, policies and strategies that address cancer among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Link to the review and related products: <https://healthinonet.ecu.edu.au/learn/health-facts/reviews-knowledge-exchange-products/>

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About the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet:

The HealthInfoNet healthinonet.ecu.edu.au is a massive Internet resource that informs practice and policy in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health by making up to date research and other knowledge readily accessible via any platform. In this way, it contributes to closing the gap in health between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians. For over 20 years, working in the area of knowledge exchange with a population health focus, the HealthInfoNet makes research and other information freely available in a form that has immediate, practical utility for practitioners and policy-makers in the area of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, enabling them to make decisions based on the best available evidence.

Core funding