

From: Wardliparingga Population Health <phpwardliparingga@sahmri.com>
Sent: Thursday, 27 April 2023 9:24 AM
To: Sarah Crossing
Subject: Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Healthy Ageing e-newsletter 3rd Edition

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ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTHY AGEING E-NEWSLETTER

**3rd Edition
April 2023**



Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity of the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute acknowledge and pay respect to the Kaurna people, the traditional custodians of the land on which our institute is located. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we live, work, and conduct research. We acknowledge their continuing connection to culture and country, and pay our respect to Elders past, present, and emerging.





INTRODUCTION



Welcome to the third edition of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healthy Ageing e-Newsletter! We have developed this newsletter as one way to connect with the older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, our research partners, and the organisations that provide services to older Aboriginal and Torres Strait people in South Australia.

In this edition, we announce two new projects in our healthy ageing and aged care program of research, provide an update on current projects, and highlight the launch of Bindjareb Aged Care Services (Mandurah), the first Aboriginal Aged Care Service in Perth. Details of professional development opportunities including upcoming conferences, training and education are also included.

We hope you find this newsletter useful and enjoy reading! We encourage you to subscribe to our mailing list, and to forward the newsletter to any other researchers, aged care and health care providers or community members who might be interested.

This e-Newsletter is produced by the Population Health Platform, Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity, South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI).

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NEW PROJECTS



Connecting aged care, health care and social services systems to support older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to live their best lives (MRFF2024389)

2023-2027

We are excited to announce that Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity was awarded funding in the MRFF 2022 Dementia, Ageing and Aged Care grant round!

Our Aboriginal-informed System Connector Model for Ageing Well builds on the findings of our program of ageing research and will link individuals to services and strengthen relationships between aged care, health care and social services. The project will increase access to

consistent, quality services across systems to support older Aboriginal people in South Australia to age well.

We look forward to sharing more about this important project over the coming months.

Chief Investigators & Wardliparingga research team: Associate Professor Odette Pearson, Ms, Kim Morey, Dr Adriana Parrella, Ms Sonia Waters, Mr Kurt Towers, Ms Trischia Ritchie, Dr Jenni Caruso, Dr Courtney Ryder, Associate Professor Natasha Howard, Dr Rachel Reilly, Dr Saravana Kumar, Mr Michael Watkins, Dr Greer Humphrey, Mr Jonathon Zagler, Dr Sally Johns, Professor Alex Brown, Dr Yasamin Veziari



Building capacity of the aged care workforce to meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (ARIIA R3GA00075)

2023



Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity in partnership with Aboriginal Elders and Community Care Services (ACS) are recipients of the Aged Care Research and Industry Innovation Australia (ARIIA) Round 3 Grant program, for our professional development training program for workers providing aged care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

A long standing challenge in aged care is a lack of suitable professional development training programs for workforce that are tailored towards comprehensively meeting the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in care. This project addresses the identified training needs of an Aboriginal community controlled aged care organisation and its workforce. The design and content of the training program and resources developed will draw upon the knowledge and experience of workforce who coordinate and deliver care in diverse settings. A professional development training program will be co-designed in collaboration with the ACS leadership and workforce representing direct care workers and care coordinators across diverse aged care settings.

Chief Investigators & Wardliparingga research team: Associate Professor Odette Pearson, Mr Graham Aitken, Dr Adriana Parrella, Mr Jonathon Zagler, Dr Anna Dawson



CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS



Leaving no-one behind: Informing Indigenous aged care policy with big data (NHMRC2004089)

Jul 2021 – Dec 2025

Initial project findings were presented at the Australian Association of Gerontology (AAG) Conference in Adelaide in November 2022, and two manuscripts are in preparation for the publication of these findings. The research team continues to analyse the aged care data from the Registry of Senior Australians (ROSA) for around 6,000 older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who first entered the aged care system between 2016-19. Current areas of focus include:

- prevalence of multimorbidity
- geographical variation in service access and timeliness of access
- barriers to accessing services

Chief Investigators and Wardliparingga research team: Associate Professor Odette Pearson, Professor Gillian Caughey, Dr Clare Bradley, Professor Maria Inacio, Professor Alex Brown, Dr Robert Jorissen, Ms Noeleen Tunny, Dr Greer Humphrey, Ms Tracy Air, Ms Sarah Crossing



Insights into supporting the wellbeing of older Aboriginal people receiving home care packages who are experiencing grief and loss and the wellbeing of staff who care for them: a pilot project (AIATSIS OG00094)

Nov 2021 – Nov 2022

In February 2023, the project team followed up with participating aged care coordinators to share and receive feedback on the project's workforce findings. The coordinators provided additional insight into our themes, and we thank them for their generous contribution to the study. The project team are currently validating the study findings with community member participants, which will be completed by the end of April.

This research has identified several enablers and barriers to meeting the social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people receiving a Home Care Package. The findings also show the need for tailored training opportunities for the aged care workforce.

Study advisory group member Tameeka Ieremia, and research project officer Jonathon Zagler will present the research findings in June at the 3rd International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference, hosted by the Lowitja Institute. We look forward to sharing the project findings with national and international researchers and hearing other current research on Indigenous health and wellbeing.

Chief Investigators and Wardliparingga research team: Mr Graham Aitken, Professor Alex Brown, Associate Professor Odette Pearson, Dr Adriana Parrella, Mr Jonathon Zagler



Port Augusta, South Australia

Designing Indigenous Aged Care with a ‘whole of community’ perspective (NHMRC1170496)

2019-2022

The project team will be interviewing aged care service providers for the second stage of this research, to gain insight into how service providers are supporting the healthy ageing needs of their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients, and the challenges they may face in providing these services across community and residential settings.

As the project draws to a close, we are planning a Healthy Ageing in Aged Care Symposium to be held in June 2023 at SAHMRI. The symposium will bring together community members, health and aged care practitioners and related stakeholders from across South Australia to learn more about Wardliparingga's healthy aging and aged care research, and to workshop strategies to inform policy and practice improvements. More information to come shortly!

Chief Investigators & Wardliparingga research team: Professor Alex Brown, Professor Annette Braunack- Mayer, Dr Carol Davy, Dr Helen Barrie, Mr Shane D'Angelo, Associate Professor Odette Pearson, Dr Adriana Parrella, Mr Jonathon Zagler



Welcome to Yasamin Veziari!



Yasamin joined Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity in Dec 2022. Yasamin is a registered nurse, with additional training in complementary and alternative medicine. Yasamin was awarded her PhD for her thesis entitled, “*Barriers and enablers to the conduct and application of research among complementary health professionals in Australia and New Zealand*”.

Yasamin is interested in contributing to the research evidence base to guide the development and implementation of quality and safe health and aged care interventions and services, and in translating research into practices and strategies that enable consumers and care providers to make informed decisions.

Yasamin will be working on several current and future projects within our Healthy Ageing program of research.



HEALTHY AGEING HIGHLIGHT



Bindjareb Aged Care Services (Mandurah), the first Aboriginal Aged Care Service in Perth was launched in Mandurah on 01 Feb 2023. Operated by the South West Aboriginal Medical Service (SWAMS), the service will be the hub for home and community care activities, services and supports for First Nations Elders in the Bindjareb region.

The culturally tailored and community led model will help to improve access to aged care services for Aboriginal community members over 50, with the service aiming to assist 100 Elders by Jun 2023 to receive the home and community care services they are entitled. The service will also work with the regional Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) to secure Home Care Packages for Elders.

Congratulations to Lesley Nelson (SWAMS CEO) and everyone involved over many years for establishing this important aged care service.

For more information, visit the [SWAMS website](#), or contact the Mandurah office on 0499 718 501 or the Admin office on 08 9797 8111



PRESENTATIONS



55th AAG (Australian Association of Gerontology) Conference

22-25 Nov 2022

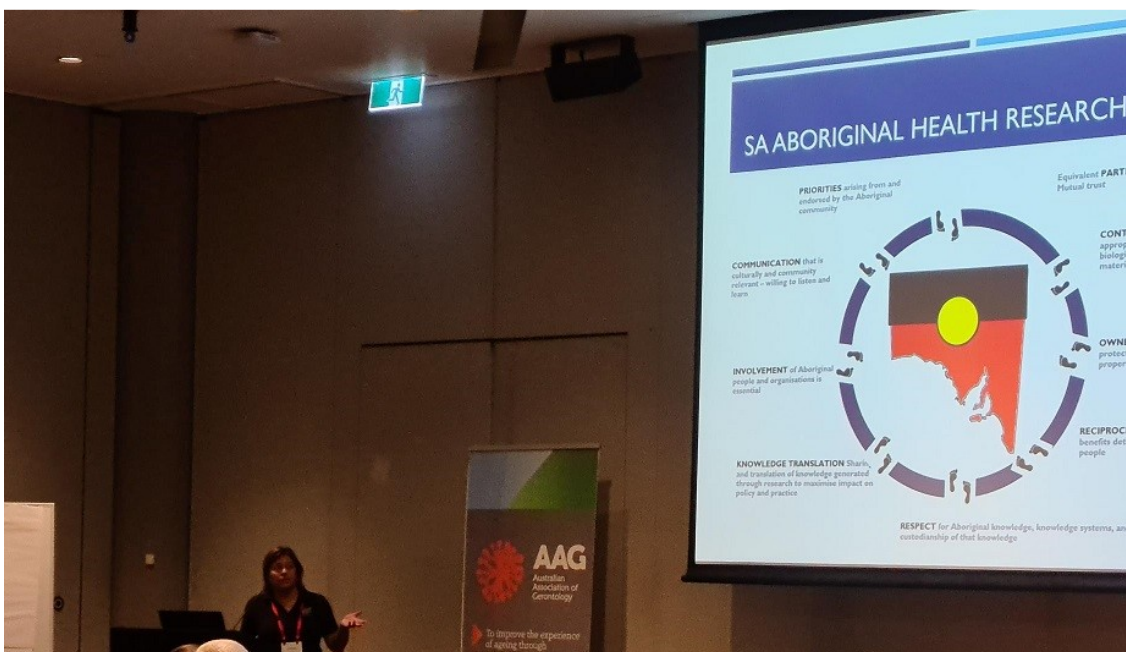
Adelaide Convention Centre

“The Future of Ageing Well, 2022 and Beyond: Inspire, Motivate, Innovate”

At the end of last year, researchers from Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity (AHE) and the Registry of Senior Australians (ROSA) attended the AAG conference to present a short symposium showcasing our research into the experience and perspectives of Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander peoples receiving aged care. Convened by A/Prof Odette Pearson (AHE), the symposium included presentations on:

- Understanding the demographic and health characteristics, health needs and aged care access challenges for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (Ms. Tracy Air, Dr Greer Humphrey)
- Identifying strategies to engage key stakeholders across the aged care system in addressing the identified themes (Dr Adriana Parella)
- Informing the co-design of services that support healthy ageing (Mr Jonathon Zagler)



A/Prof Odette Pearson (Co-Theme & Population Health Program Lead, Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity) leading the team's symposium at the AAG Conference.



ATSIAG presents: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healthy Ageing

Following our symposium at the AAG conference, we were invited by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ageing Advisory Group (ATSIAG) to present our research at an online webinar. Held on 15 Mar 2023, the webinar enabled us to connect with a wider national audience and generate conversation about how our research can inform aged care practice, advocacy and policy to meet the healthy ageing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Thank you to Ellen Finlay and ATSIAAG for the opportunity to present. We look forward to collaborating with our new connections, and hope we can present further findings in the future.



UPCOMING EVENTS



ARIIA Conference

15-16 May 2023

Adelaide Oval

"Facing the Future: Aged Care 2030 and Beyond"

[Register here](#)

Lowitja Institute: 3rd International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference

14-16 Jun 2023

Cairns

"Truth. Rights. Response"

[Register here](#)

56th AAG (Australian Association of Gerontology) Conference

14-17 Nov 2023

Gold Coast, Queensland

"Reimagining ageing: Diving into an ocean of possibilities"

[Abstracts now open](#)



TRAINING



Certificate IV in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Theory and Practice

From 2023, the Lowitja Institute is supporting AHMRC Training to deliver the Certificate IV in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Theory and Practice, a nationally accredited qualification.

The course is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are looking to formalise and extend their experience in research, complement and extend their qualifications in Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander health care, or gain an entry-level qualification for pursuing a career in research and a stepping stone to further university-level study.

Check out the [Lowitja Institute website](#) to learn more!



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



PhD scholarship opportunity

Leaving no-one behind: Informing Indigenous aged care policy with big data

Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity, in partnership the Registry of Senior Australians (ROSA), are offering a PhD scholarship, aligned with an awarded Category 1 research grant. The project responds to evidence-driven reforms in aged care from the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, and the Indigenous community, to improve health and wellbeing for older Indigenous Australians. The successful candidate will be supported to define a PhD program of research that aligns with the overarching project aims.

The ideal candidate for this opportunity is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student who is keen to develop and apply Indigenous approaches to generating and applying evidence to inform policy and practice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander aged care. Applications from non-Indigenous candidates are also welcome.

The successful candidate will receive a tax-free payment, indexed annually.

For further information about this opportunity, please contact:

Sarah Crossing

Project Officer, Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity, SAHMRI

sarah.crossing@sahmri.com

08 8128 4345



Research Governance

If you are interested in being on any of our research governance groups, please contact the Population Health Platform team at PHPWardliparingga@sahmri.com

The Registry of Senior Australians (ROSA) Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee is seeking expressions of interest for new members. For more information and a copy of the Terms of Reference, contact Associate Professor Odette Pearson on 08 8218 4230 or at odette.pearson@sahmri.com





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