

# “Environmental Scan of research into Aboriginal health and well being in the Sydney Basin”

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## **Abstract**

### **Introduction:**

The Federal Government will provide \$160 million for a national research initiative to improve the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people - The Indigenous Health Research Fund, will be a 10-year research program funded from the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF).

### **Methods:**

The Mapping of Indigenous Health Research across the Sydney Basin Project endeavours to identify critical relationships between researchers within the Sydney catchment and Aboriginal communities. The data collected will be utilised initially to develop a directory of research engagement with Aboriginal community within Sydney and provide context regarding the environment in which these interactions occur. The project is governed by a research team with representatives from SPHERE and Sydney Health Partners. The project is managed by a Project Manager who receives administration support from the Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing CAG (SPHERE) and is funded by SHP, SPHERE and the office of the DVC at Sydney University.

### **Results:**

Three outputs are expected from the work: An environmental scan of current research being conducted into health & well-being for Aboriginal people. A literature sweep of libraries including Universities, local health districts, primary health networks, local councils, ACCHO's, NGO's and more. The development of a set of protocols to assist researchers when engaging community set by community and lead by community. These protocols will build upon The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Protocols Document, led by Professor Alex Brown and SAHMRI and look to provide those contact points within community for the participation in research.

### **Conclusion:**

The project team is working with the 14 partner organisations within SPHERE and the 14 partner organisations within Sydney Health Partners to track and record Indigenous research strengths, projects and opportunities. The developing map, and the way this integrates the current work led by SAHMRI, will be presented and disseminated at the meeting.