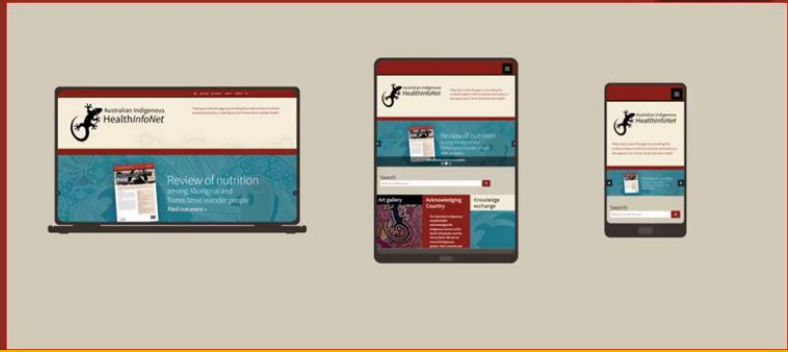
Digital evolution and knowledge exchange at the Australian Indigenous Health*InfoNet*

Brisbane July 2019



Dr Michael Adams
Dr Neil Drew

Core funding is provided by the Australian Government Department of Health

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- I would like to acknowledge and pay my deepest respects to the Traditional Owners, Elders past, present and emerging of the lands on which we meet today the Yuggera and Turrbal people.

Ubiquity of data

- We live in the information age.
- A vast data ecosystem
- 120,000
- 50
- 174
- 86
- ‘informavores’

- 2005
- 17,000
- 30,000
- 7
- 19
- 2017
- 38,200
- 67,560
- 42
- 40
- 1680

The know – do gap!

- The gap between what we know and what we do is far greater than the gap between what we know and what we don't know.

(Bammer, Michaux &Sanson, 2010).

- As the diameter of our knowledge increases, the circumference of our ignorance expands
(Humphries and Vines, 2010)

The Health*InfoNet*

Our Team

Administration

Director
Neil Drew

Business Manager
Pauline Louise Shanley

Administrative Officers
Sandra Rogers
Donna McFetridge

Administrative Assistant
Monique Cumming

Development and Marketing

Development and Marketing Manager
Tara Elizabeth Hoyne

Social Media

Social Media Coordinator
Emily Lloyd*

Library

Senior Library Technician
Graham Barker

Library Technician
Aleina Humphreys

Research

Senior Research Fellow
Uncle Mick Adams

Research Team Leaders
Jane Burns
Kathy Ride

Research Coordinators
Andrea MacRae
Christine Potter

IT

IT Manager
Renae Bastholm

IT Officer
Rob Etherington

Senior Research Officers
Anomie
Trish Amaranti
Sam Burrow
Michelle Elwell
Millie Harford-Mills
Miranda Poynton
Avinna Trzesinski

Research Officers
Vilma FitzGerald*
Jesse Fleay
Emma Neil*
Tamara Swann*

** New staff in 2018*

Key Projects

THE AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS HEALTHINFONET

THE ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

HEALING PORTAL

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PORTAL

EYE HEALTH

TACKLING INDIGENOUS SMOKING PORTAL

PALLIATIVE CARE PORTAL

Digital Evolution Strategy 2014- 19

From clearinghouse to knowledge exchange research centre

Implementation Science

- … involves making research and other information available in a form that has immediate, practical utility.
- Which is basically about getting the research rubber on the road…

- *Knowledge translation is a **dynamic** and **iterative** process that includes **synthesis**, **dissemination**, **exchange** and **ethically sound** application of knowledge to improve the health of Canadians, provide more effective health services and products and strengthen the health care system.*

Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR, p.1)

But in cultural settings…

- **Homogenising**
- **Monocultural**
- **Colonial**
- **Appropriating**
- **Indigenous Framework**

Repeating the sins of the past?

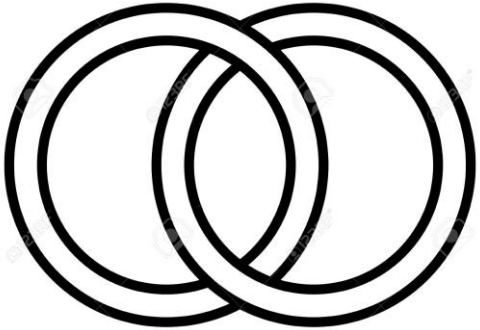
(Adams et al, 2014; Indigenous Peoples' Health Research Centre, 2005)

*Knowledge translation is **Indigenously led** sharing of **culturally relevant** and **useful** health information and practices to improve Indigenous health status, policy, service and programs.*

Smylie (IPHRC, 2005, p. 19)

The intercultural space

- A place of privilege and … responsibility.
- The dual lens…



New art

The artwork featured on our site is very important to us to as we want to represent the diversity of our users and be inclusive of the many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures throughout Australia. All artwork is ethically sourced and purchased as well as copyright and used with the written permission of the artist.

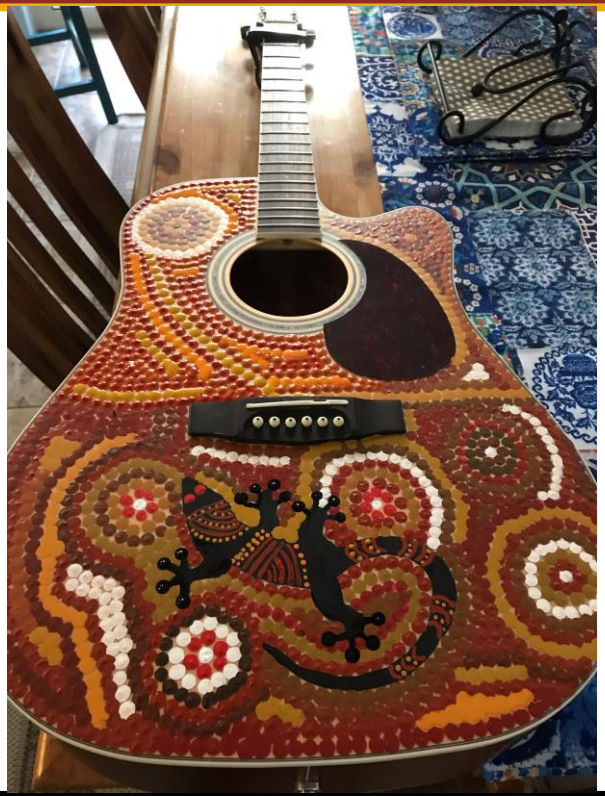
A selection of art added to our collection this year includes

This page L-R, top to bottom:

Carried lightly Brian Robinson, Living and Hunting Together by Melanie Robinson, Bush Potato Dreaming by Rene Dixon, Untitled by Robert Nester Mosby

This page L-R, top to bottom:

Mina Mina Jukurrpa (Mina Mina Dreaming) by Sabrina Napangardi Granites, Connections by Mick Adams, Ngapa Jukurrpa (Water Dreaming) - Puyurru by Chantelle Nampijinpa Robertson, Tidal Changes by Melanie Robinson, Communities Gathering to Live as One by Melanie Robinson



Knowledge Production at the Health*InfoNet*

- 1st Gen
- 2nd Gen
- 3rd Gen

Health*InfoNet* funded exclusively to create 2nd and 3rd

Some principles for guiding knowledge exchange activities in cultural settings

- **wise** practice
- **cultural safety** and **responsiveness**
- **decolonising** and **socially transformative** practice
- **strengths based**
- **data sovereignty / governance**

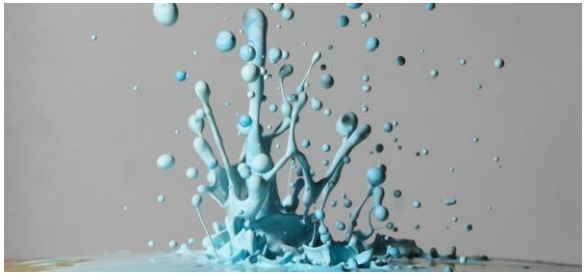
Technical principles

- **timely**, **accessible** and **relevant**
- **co-designed, co-constructed and co-produced**
- **audio**, **visual**, **tactile**
- **fit for purpose**

(Giles, 2016; Jancey et al, 2017)

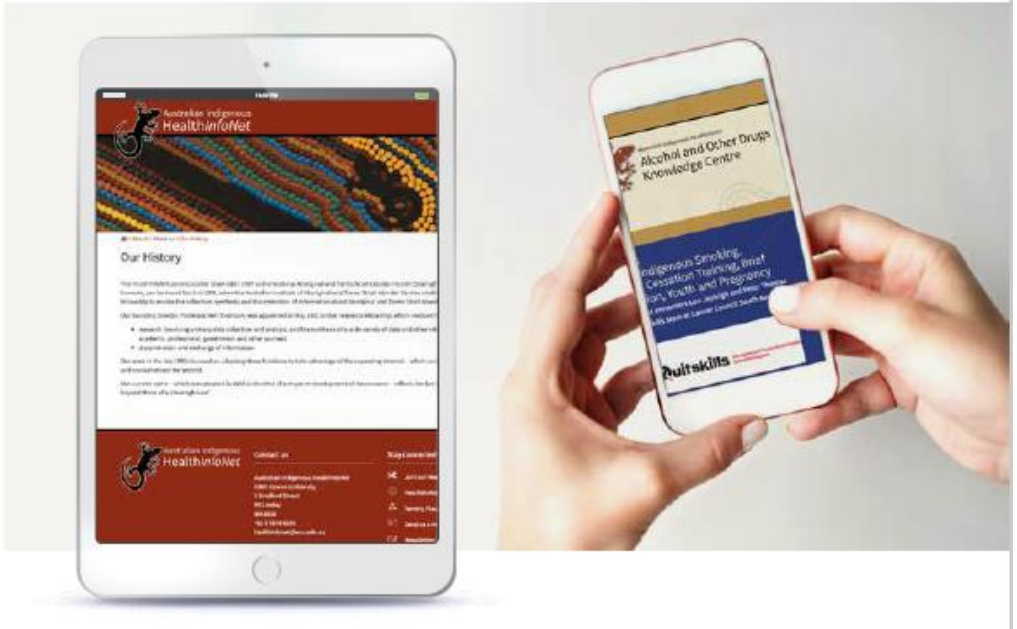
Some new teams

- Impact and Evaluation Team



- Knowledge Exchange Products Team

Responsive Design Launch



Feedback

What our users said:

"Looking for information about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health. Couldn't suggest anywhere better to start your search. Loving the new look."

The new website looks fantastic! Can't believe you were able to do it in house – impressive!!

"It is beautiful and affirming."

I can see that you've put a lot of thought into this, as well as the amount of work. You should be very proud of yourselves.

"The changes are fantastic – the information on this site has been critical in advocating for culturally safe practice in the mainstream service sector. Thank you for the thought given to the communication."

The website is looking so good and it's so easy to use.

14%
increased average session duration*

>35% increase
number of pages viewed per session*

Overview and Health Topic Reviews

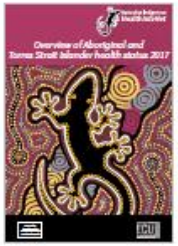
- Review of nutrition among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

- Review of programs and services to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nutrition and food security

- Review of cancer among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

- Review of respiratory diseases among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

- Overview of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health status 2017



- Review of eye health among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

2018 Health Bibliography

We provide a comprehensive repository of resources in our easy to search database. These include journal articles, reports, grey literature, policies and resources. The Bibliography also provides a valuable archive of resources for the sector.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF 2018 WE HAD

34,788

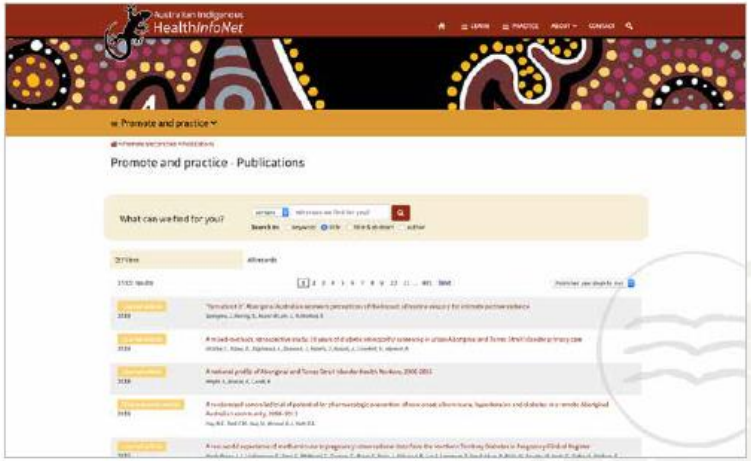
PUBLICATION ENTRIES

2018

CLOSE TO

2,000

WERE ADDED IN THAT PERIOD.



Social Media

2,408
FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

3,906
LINKEDIN FOLLOWERS

143
MESSAGES, COMMENTS AND REPLIES RECEIVED

Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet

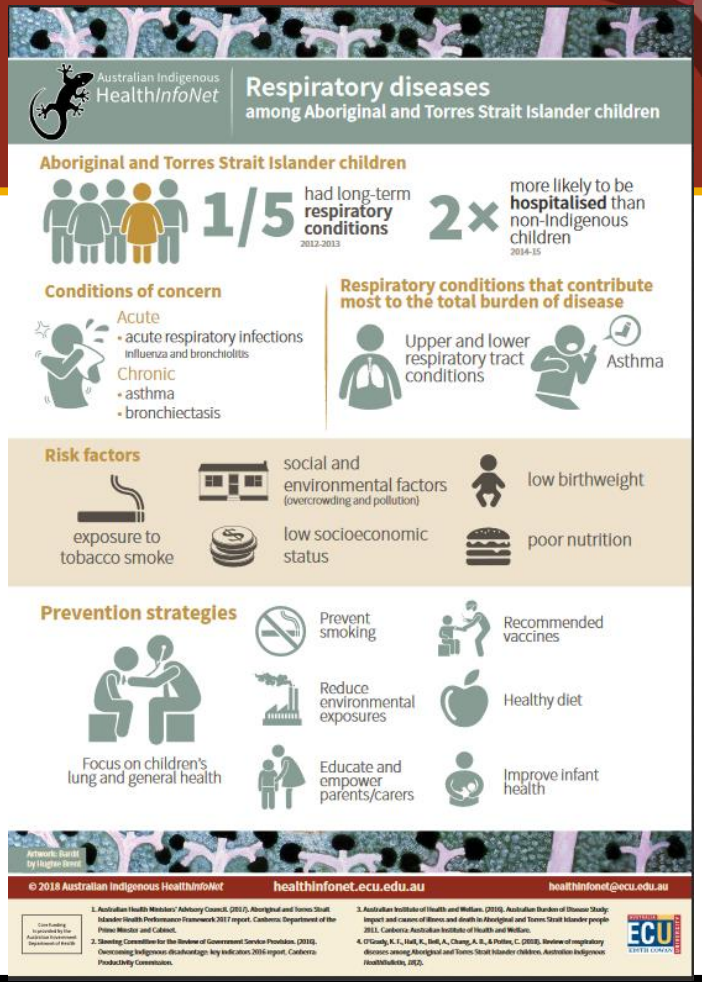
5,420
YARNING PLACE MEMBERS

7,791
TWITTER FOLLOWERS

359,131
TIMES OUR POSTS WERE SEEN

Factsheets

Australian Indigenous Alcohol and Other Drugs Knowledge Centre
Key facts
Alcohol use
among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are
1.3x more likely to abstain from alcohol
than non-Indigenous people [1]
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who do drink alcohol are more likely to drink at levels that are dangerous for their health
Drinking levels
Health and social impacts: alcohol use can lead to many health and social problems [2]
Physical
• organ and brain damage
• high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer
• infections
• liver disease
• FASD (fetal alcohol spectrum disorder)
• road accidents
Mental
• depression and stress
• mental illness
• sleep problems
• suicide
Social
• separation from culture
• unwanted pregnancies
• money problems
• violence
Hospitalisation
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were
hospitalised 4x more
than non-Indigenous people in 2013-2015[3]
Prevention and treatment
Supporting strong communities and families
Increasing the price of alcohol [4]
$$$
Effective treatment services need to [5]:
• be community driven
• be culturally safe
• have good ongoing care


Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet
Respiratory diseases
among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
1/5 had long-term respiratory conditions 2012-2013
2× more likely to be hospitalised than non-Indigenous children 2014-15
Conditions of concern
Acute
• acute respiratory infections
Influenza and bronchiolitis
Chronic
• asthma
• bronchiectasis
Respiratory conditions that contribute most to the total burden of disease
Upper and lower respiratory tract conditions
Asthma
Risk factors
exposure to tobacco smoke
social and environmental factors (overcrowding and pollution)
low socioeconomic status
low birthweight
poor nutrition
Prevention strategies
Focus on children's lung and general health
Prevent smoking
Reduce environmental exposures
Educate and empower parents/carers
Recommended vaccines
Healthy diet
Improve infant health
Artwork: Bardi by Hughie Brent
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Podcasts

Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet

Transcript

Introducing the Health*Info* Podcast

NEIL DREW: Hello there. My name is Neil Drew, Director of the Australian Indigenous Health*InfoNet* and it's my absolute pleasure to welcome you to the HealthInfo Podcast. This is a series bringing you stories *for* and *about* the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workforce. I'd like to begin by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters of Australia and pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people—their customs and their beliefs. We also pay our respects to Elders past and present, with particular acknowledgement of the Whadjuk people of the Nyoongar nation, the traditional owners of the lands where our offices are located.

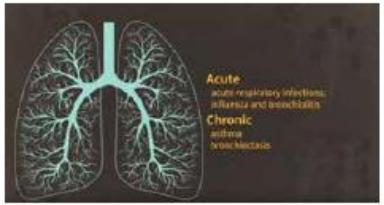
In each episode, we'll bring you stories about what's happening across the sector. We'll be chatting with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and other health professionals about initiatives contributing to the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities. We'll also talk to academics to hear about the latest research. It's our goal in this series to provide you with the information you need for your work, and to share the many wonderful, inspiring and practical stories from across Australia. As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting a strength-based approach to understanding and responding to the challenges you all face in your everyday work, we have an unapologetic bias towards showcasing the many positive examples of work being done by people and communities throughout Australia.

Subscribe in Apple Podcasts or wherever you get your podcasts to make sure you never miss an episode. And if you have an idea for an upcoming show, we'd love to hear about it. Send us an email or tweet us, we're @HealthInfoNet. Episodes start next week.

Webinars

Webinars in 2018 included:

- **Respiratory illnesses in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children: contemporary challenges?**



This webinar featured guest presenters Dr Kerry-Ann O'Grady from Queensland University of Technology and Dr Kerry Hall from Griffith University.

- **The Overview of Aboriginal and Torres strait Islander Health 2017 and the new responsive website**

- **Finding information and sharing knowledge on the Eye Health Portal**

Film

View - Leading in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander allied health [online video, 7:15]

Conferences

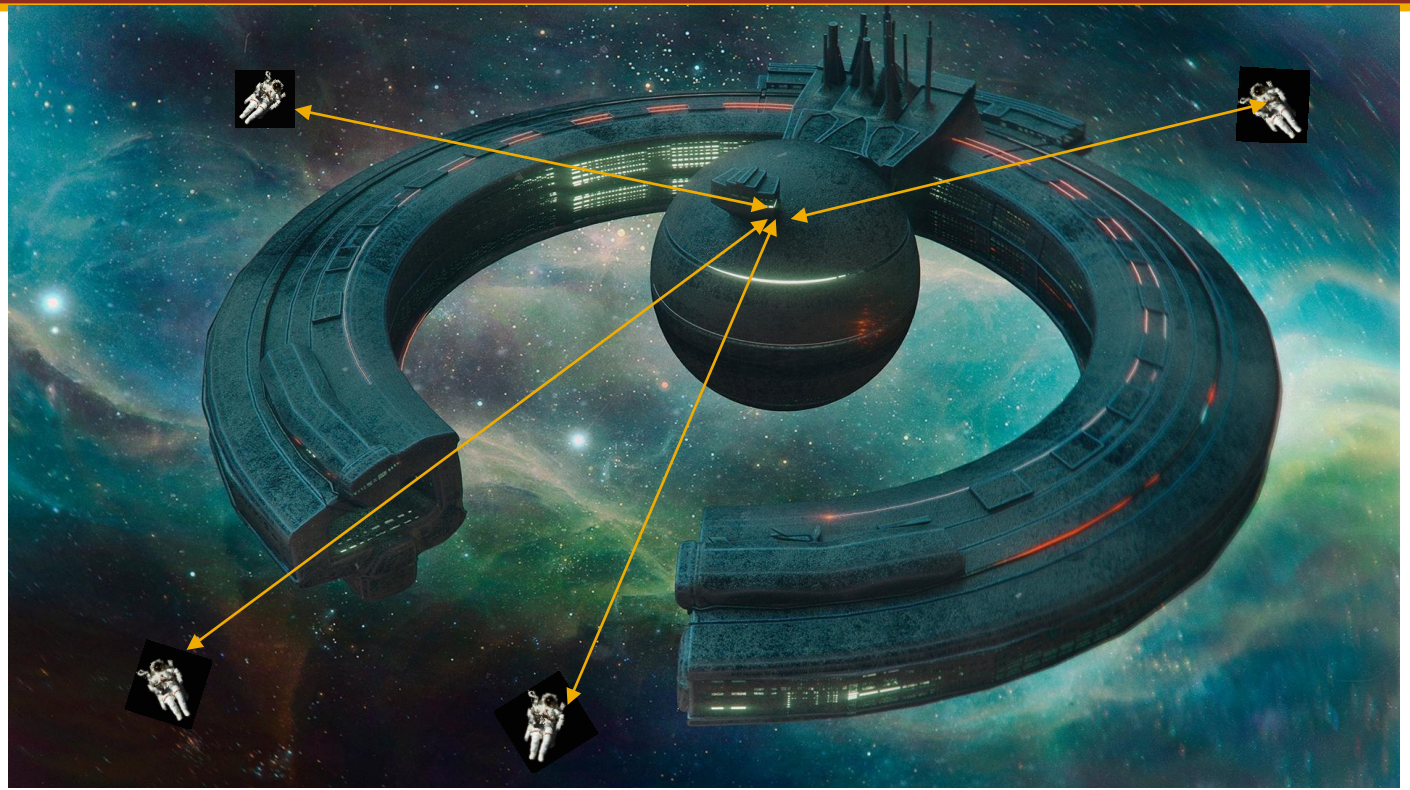
Some of the people we met in 2018

- INDIGENOUS MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING FORUM PERTH
- WA AOD CONFERENCE PERTH
- CLOSE THE GAP FOR VISION MELBOURNE
- WANADA PERTH
- AHCWA PERTH
- AADANT DARWIN
- NRHA 6TH RURAL AND REMOTE HEALTH SYMPOSIUM (PROVIDED BAGS)
- ARMS CLOSE THE GAP CONFERENCE CANBERRA (PROVIDED BAGS)
- APNA BRISBANE (WE ALSO PRESENTED)
- DAA SYDNEY
- ADDICTION CONFERENCE GOLD COAST (WE ALSO PRESENTED)
- NURSE EDUCATOR'S CONFERENCE MELBOURNE
- NATIVE TITLE CONFERENCE BROOME
- RURAL HEALTH WEST ABORIGINAL HEALTH CONFERENCE PERTH (WE ALSO PRESENTED)
- MENTAL HEALTH NURSING PERTH
- ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PERTH (PRESENTED AND LAUNCHED THE NEW CLIMATE CHANGE SECTION)
- AIDA PERTH
- RURAL MEDICINE DARWIN
- NIDAC ADELAIDE
- IAHA (LAUNCHED THE FILM PROJECT WITH IAHA)
- HEALING OUR SPIRIT WORLDWIDE SYDNEY
- 2ND AUSTRALASIAN FASD PERTH
- NDIS MELBOURNE

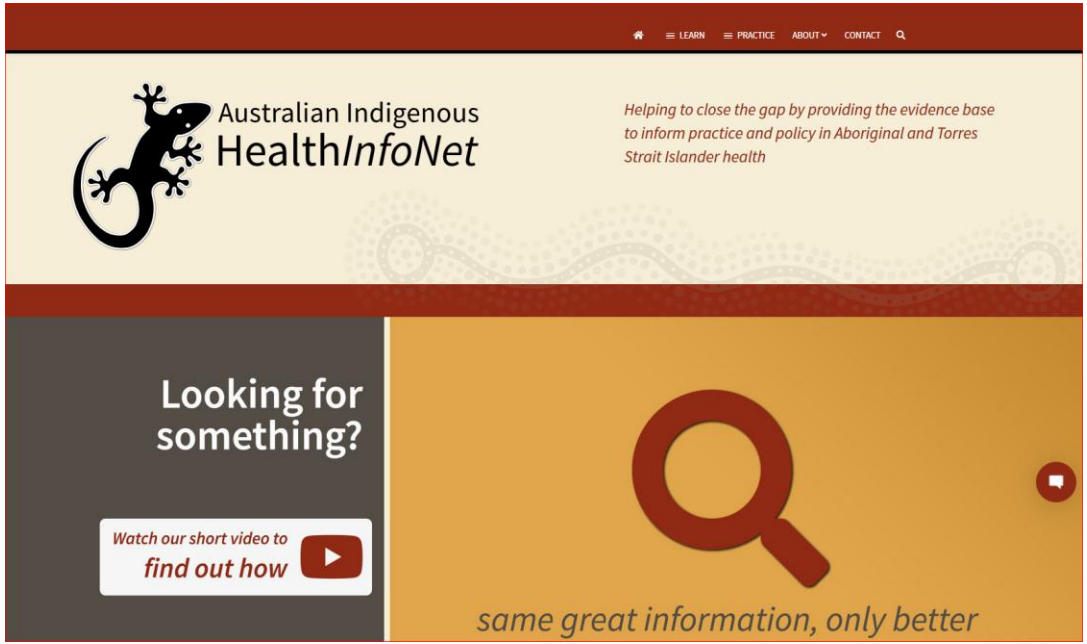
Meta ignorance…

- AI….?
- AR….?
- VR….?

AIH Space Ship



Thank you


LEARN
PRACTICE
ABOUT
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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
Looking for something?
Watch our short video to find out how
same great information, only better