

Health Services Research Association of Australia and New Zealand

Indigenous Health Services Research Interest Group (IHSRIG)

The purpose of the HSRAANZ is to facilitate communication across Australia and New Zealand between researchers and policymakers, to promote education and training and ensure sustainable capacity in health services research to improve health services delivery.

The Association is committed to reducing inequity, to improving outcomes in indigenous peoples' health and to building capacity in indigenous health services research in Australia and New Zealand.

Guiding Principles

The HSRAANZ aims to operate in a manner that is respectful, inclusive, accessible and accountable to:

- build each country's overall capacity in indigenous health services research;
- support Indigenous Australian and Maori health services researchers;
- encourage research to include the needs and aspirations of Indigenous Australians and Maori peoples;
- encourage research where Indigenous Australians and Maori peoples determine and define the research;
- encourage the development of research processes that actively seek input from Indigenous Australians and Maori individuals, families, groups and communities;
- encourage research that respects individuals' cultural and personal sensitivities and their right to choose not to participate in research;
- encourage the recognition of Indigenous Australians and Maori knowledge and expertise;
- ensure participants in research receive the results in a timely, accessible and acceptable manner;
- encourage benefit to the community of research and promote the employment of local people in collaborative research activities;
- encourage respect of Indigenous Australian and Maori culture in relation to publication, the use of photographs and identification of individuals; and
- encourage the conduct of sound and ethical research practice according to best practice and published ethical guidelines in operation in each country.

Indigenous Health Services Research Interest Group (IHSRIG) Terms of Reference

The Indigenous Health Services Research Interest Group (IHSRIG) has been established to:

- advise the HSRAANZ Executive Committee on matters relating to Maori, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and health services research;

- encourage researchers, practitioners and policy makers to advocate and commit to building capacity in indigenous health services in both countries to improve outcomes in indigenous health; and
- provide a forum for sharing knowledge, challenges, methods and best practice in indigenous health services research in Australia and New Zealand.

Membership

Membership of the group is open to all researchers, practitioners, policy makers and advocates committed to reducing inequity and improving outcomes in indigenous health and to building capacity in indigenous health services research in Australia and New Zealand.

However, **IHSRIG** is an internal HSRAANZ Group and members of **IHSRIG** are encouraged to become members of the Health Services Research Association of Australia and New Zealand.

Operation of IHSRIG

The HSRAANZ will appoint two facilitators from the membership of the HSRAANZ to provide advice and guidance on indigenous health and research to the Executive Committee.

The facilitators are responsible for overseeing the operation of the Group and reporting on its activities to the Executive Committee and HSRAANZ membership.

IHSRIG will provide advice to the Association on its areas of expertise; however it may not speak on behalf of the Association unless Executive endorsement is obtained.

Operation of the Group is flexible and members will determine how active it becomes.

The HSRAANZ cannot guarantee financial support for the Group. However, the group may submit ideas including budgets to the Executive Committee for activities and events in conference and non-conference years.

Responsibilities

The HSRAANZ will:

- consult the Group on matters of indigenous health and research and on matters which may impact on indigenous health and research;
- assist the Group to establish web-based communication facilities that are moderated by members of the Group;
- provide opportunities for the Group to meet at the HSRAANZ's annual general meeting and biennial conference;
- consult the Group on conference activities relevant to the Group; and

- maintain a page on its website for the Group to provide news and articles of interest and encourage them to submit items for the HSRAANZ Website and HSRAANZ Newsletter

The IHSRIG will:

- report regularly on its activities to the HSRAANZ Executive Committee
- report annually to the HSRAANZ Annual General Meeting