



Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing



CLOSING THE GAP
tackling
Indigenous
chronic
disease



CLOSING THE GAP

GP NSW CTG Workshop

Department of Health & Ageing

March 2011

Linda Mere (OATSIH)



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COAG Indigenous Reform Agenda targets for Closing the Gap

- To close the gap in life expectancy within a generation
- To halve the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade
- To ensure all Indigenous four years olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years
- To halve the gap in reading, writing and numeracy achievements for Indigenous children within a decade
- To halve the gap for Indigenous students in year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment rates by 2020
- To halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade.



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The Indigenous Health NPA (IHNPA) five priority areas

Funding of approximately \$1.6 billion over 4 years:

- Commonwealth: \$805.5 million
- States and Territories: \$771 million

Five Priority Areas

- Tackling smoking
- Primary health care services that can deliver
- Fixing the gaps and improving the patient journey
- Providing a healthy transition to adulthood; and
- Making Indigenous health everyone's business.

The Commonwealth will contribute to the first three and state and territory governments will contribute to all five priorities.



ICDP Measures

Reducing smoking rates

- Social marketing campaigns
- Tobacco Workforce (Regional Coordinators, Tobacco Action Workers & Healthy Lifestyle Workers)
- Regional budgets to develop local smoking reduction strategies)
- Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Tobacco Control have been funded to provide induction training



ICDP Measures

Reduce risk of CD & CD Self-Management

- Training for 400 health professionals (nurses & Aboriginal Health Workers)
- 41 Healthy Lifestyle Workers (now linked in with Tobacco teams)
- Training to health professionals to provide flexible CD health interventions (home, groups or services)
- Training package



ICDP Measures

Local Community Campaigns to Promote Better Aboriginal Health

- Funding for Local Community Health Campaigns
 - Community Days to promote Better Health
- Development of the Aboriginal Health Promotion Toolkit
 - ‘Get Active, Eat Good Tucker, Live Longer’
- Contact Cox, Inall and Ridgeway
 - Contact Sharon (from CIR) directly on 8204 3777



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ICDP Measures

Medical Specialist Outreach Program - ICD

Measure:

- Provides funding for additional specialist, GP and allied health services in rural, remote and urban regions
- Based on multi-disciplinary teams
- Services are provided through ACCHOs and NSW Health



ICDP Measures

Monitoring & Evaluation

- Develop 32 sentinel sites nationally
- Rollout web-based system to measure CTG KPIs
- Both Case study sentinel sites and tracking sentinel sites
- Nominated sites in NSW



ICDP Measures

Primary Care Workforce

Nationally, over 4 years, the measure will provide:

- 86 ATSIOWs in ACCHOs
- 86 ATSIOWs in DGPs & 94.5 Project Officers in DGPs
- 42 additional Practice Managers in ACCHOs
- 33 additional health workforce (nurses and GPs)



ICDP Measures

Primary Care Workforce

So far in NSW, the department approved:

- **34 ATSIOWs**
 - 8 ATSIOWs in ACCHOs
 - 26 ATSIOWs in DGPs
- 28 Project Officers in DGPs, AH&MRC and GPNSW
- 6 additional Practice Managers in ACCHOs
- 4 Tobacco Action Workers, 4 Regional Tobacco Coordinators
- 8 Healthy Lifestyle Workers
- 1 nurse and GP team



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ICDP Measures

Roles & Responsibilities

Project Officers

- Address Barriers to access of mainstream health services by the Aboriginal community
- Improve capacity of mainstream primary care services to provide culturally appropriate services
- Increase knowledge of CtG policy in mainstream primary health care
- Collaborate with Aboriginal Health Services



ICDP Measures

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ICDP Measures

Roles & Responsibilities

ATSIOWs

- Community liaison
- Administrative support
- Provide practical assistance
- Provide feedback regarding access problems



ICDP Measures

Workforce Education and Training

Provides:

- Training for ASTIOWs in DGPs and ACCHOs
- 38 additional GP registrar training positions in ACCHOs
- 50 additional nursing scholarships for nurses to work in ACCHOs
- 50 clinical placements for undergraduate nurses to work in ACCHOs



ICDP Measures

Workforce Education and Training

ATSIOWs

- Employing organisations need to contact Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council of NSW.
- AHMRC will liaise with the relevant Registered Training Organisation and arrange for the training to be delivered.
- There will be no cost to the Outreach Worker or the employing organisation for the training; including costs associated with travel and accommodation.



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ICDP Booklet

Thank-you

<http://www.health.gov.au/tackling-chronic-disease>

Closing the Gap Website/Booklet

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ctg/publishing.nsf/Content/home-1>