



**Aboriginal
Health Council**
of Western Australia

WAAHEC

Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee

Summaries of approved projects

January 2024 – June 2024

January 2022 – December 2023

January 2021 – December 2021

January 2016 – December 2020

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Project Title	HREC 1277 - Digital yarning using interoperable computer integration for sharing medical records and photographs to Close the Gap
Chief Investigator	Mr Janardhan Vignarajan
Organisation	CSIRO
Approval Date	2/8/2024
Project Narrative	The inability and the complexity involved in accessing patients' health information affects the treatment and leads to a negative health outcome. By following standardisation approaches and interoperability standards, it is possible to unite these disparate healthcare computer systems together. This project will provide a digital pathway for the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service Group workforce to deliver a streamlined health care.

Project Title	HREC 1279 - Tackling Indigenous Smoking Program Evaluation 2023 - 2026
Chief Investigator	Ms Lena Etuk
Organisation	Cultural & Indigenous Research Centre Australia
Approval Date	2/8/2024
Project Narrative	This project evaluates the Tackling Indigenous Smoking Program (TIS) with the aim of reducing smoking and vaping-related harms among Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples. This evaluation will focus on the extent to which the conditions have been met for the TIS Program to achieve its objectives, to capture the perspectives of TIS teams regarding the extent to which the program is achieving its outcomes, and to determine where program improvements can be made. The findings will not only inform future program enhancements, but also contribute to the broader knowledge and application of effective measures to reduce smoking harms and smoking and vaping-related illness in both the short and long term.

Project Title	HREC 1286 - iSISTAQUIT (implementing Supporting Indigenous Smokers To Assist Quitting) scale-up in Indigenous populations of Australia
Chief Investigator	Professor Gillian Gould
Organisation	Southern Cross University
Approval Date	2/8/2024
Project Narrative	The iSISTAQUIT project aims to determine the best method of implementation for iSISTAQUIT smoking cessation training for health providers to address smoking in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander pregnant women. It will determine the process of implementation that is sustainable and cost-effective in Aboriginal and mainstream health services in Australia.

Project Title	HREC 1287 - The National Australian HCV Point-of-care Testing Program: An observational cohort study to evaluate the use of finger-stick point-of-care hepatitis C testing to enhance diagnosis and treatment of HCV infection – HCV antibody testing minimal dataset
Chief Investigator	Professor Jason Grebely
Organisation	Kirby Institute

Approval Date	2/8/2024
Project Narrative	Progress towards hepatitis C elimination in Australia has been impeded by Covid-19, and complex diagnostic pathways that require multiple visits to health professionals. Point-of-care hep C testing technologies allow quick and effective diagnosis of hep C, which will help to reduce loss to follow up and streamline linkage to treatment pathways. This project aims to scale-up access to point-of-care hep C testing technologies and evaluate whether this leads to an increase in treatment uptake among those at risk of hep C infection.

Project Title	HREC 1290 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander AUS-mTBI Sub-study: Recovery from concussion in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
Chief Investigator	Professor Elizabeth Armstrong
Organisation	Edith Cowan University
Approval Date	2/8/2024
Project Narrative	Mild traumatic brain injury/concussion can have life-changing and long-lasting effects for many people including difficulties in concentration, memory, mood and problem-solving abilities. However little data is currently available that can predict those who will recover completely from the effects of mild injury and those who won't. This makes follow-up and treatment planning difficult. As a component of a three year national mild TBI/concussion study, this project contributes a unique Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspective. It involves direct engagement with Aboriginal community groups health service providers, and those with lived experience of mild TBI/concussion to identify the most relevant data to collect in regard to recovery and the most culturally secure methodology for collecting that data – using a 'doing it our way' approach to research. The ultimate aim of the sub-study is, together with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander colleagues in NSW and Queensland, to identify innovative mild TBI/concussion treatment pathways that will assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sufferers and their carers to make improved decisions and enhance the improvement of local community and service support systems while also modelling selfdetermination in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research.

Project Title	HREC 1292 - A healthy lifestyle program for kids
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Yvonne Anderson
Organisation	Child and Adolescent Community Child Health
Approval Date	2/8/2024
Project Narrative	Evidence for the need for programs supporting children with obesity is extensive and compelling. Aboriginal children are over-represented in these statistics, where data are collected, and there remains a lack of Aboriginal-led, co-created programs to support healthy lifestyle change in WA. Through already-established partnerships with stakeholders and consumers, we aim to adapt and co-create a culturally appropriate healthy lifestyle program for the Perth metropolitan context, prioritising Aboriginal families.

Project Title	HREC 1293 - Ear and Hearing Care in the East Pilbara – an analysis of 10 years of clinical and surgical data
Chief Investigator	Dr Anton Hinton-Bayre
Organisation	Royal Perth Hospital
Approval Date	2/8/2024
Project Narrative	Improvement to ear and hearing health are priorities for Indigenous communities in the East Pilbara. Using information collected by three service providers, this project will be able for the first time describe the levels of ear disease and hearing loss in this region, and the use of services such as surgery and hearing aids. This baseline data will be used to recommend and design improvements to services, for example, investment in better local primary care.

Project Title	HREC 1295 - Sole stories: Yarning about diabetic foot education and foot pressure mapping with Aboriginal people
Chief Investigator	Dr Deborah Schoen
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	2/8/2024
Project Narrative	Walk with us on a journey to improve diabetic (or sugar sickness) foot education for Aboriginal patients and their families. Our research seeks to bridge the communication gap between healthcare providers and Aboriginal people by understanding cultural preferences on education about medical footwear and devices used in diabetes treatment. This study contributes to a deeper respect of Aboriginal ways of knowing, being, and doing in healthcare, empowering Aboriginal people to have a say in improving diabetes treatment outcomes.

Project Title	HREC 1297 - Replanting The Birthing Trees
Chief Investigator	Professor Rhonda Marriott
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	2/8/2024
Project Narrative	Replanting the Birthing Trees aims to codesign and use evidence to support system change for perinatal and maternity services. Building on the extensive previous work, this research aims to continue to codesign resources and training for health professionals and embed and further refine the BCYR digital assessment and model of care in five sites in Western Australia. The project aims to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parents during pregnancy, birth and the first two years following birth embed intergenerational nurturing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parents and babies.

Project Title	HREC 1298 - Yorga Moorditj Koort (YMK), meaning Women's Solid Hearts in Noongar language
Chief Investigator	Professor Sandra Eades
Organisation	University of Melbourne

Approval Date	2/8/2024
Project Narrative	This project is about making Aboriginal women's hearts healthier. Aboriginal women are more likely to have heart disease or stroke than other Australian women and are also more likely to have these diseases earlier than other Australian women. Aboriginal women play important roles in supporting their families and communities and providing care. This means they often have less time available than other Australians to look after themselves and seek care when they need it. When they do seek care, the care they receive is often not tailored to their need. So, in this project, we will work with Aboriginal women, their community and Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service in Perth to create a program to improve Aboriginal women's heart health – a program that will take into account Aboriginal women's needs, their role in their family and community, and their culture.

Project Title	HREC 1301 - Evaluating the efficacy of a non-invasive microneedle patch (DermR® Patch) as a biopsy replacement for skin cancer screening
Chief Investigator	Mr Stefan Mazy
Organisation	DermR Health Solutions
Approval Date	2/8/2024
Project Narrative	The DermR® Patch is an innovative, non-invasive microneedle patch that serves as an alternative to traditional biopsies for collecting tiny skin tissue samples. It is designed for the early screening of skin cancers, with a particular focus on regional and remote communities in the Pilbara region, where access to healthcare is limited and skin cancer deaths are an issue. This groundbreaking approach harnesses genomics to not only decrease the need for unnecessary biopsy procedures but also improve early detection, ultimately saving lives and reducing health complications. By narrowing the healthcare accessibility gap between remote areas and urban centers, this research aims to expand our understanding of skin cancers and use that knowledge to enhance health outcomes, reducing the burden of illness in regional and remote communities.

Project Title	HREC 1303 - Health Innovation – Transformative Interconnected Digital Ecosystem (HI-TIDE)
Chief Investigator	Professor Tony Celenza
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	2/8/2024
Project Narrative	This project will evaluate a new digital health system and associated. This will provide information about how the system affects patients, carers, health staff and the health system. If the results are positive, this provides evidence to continue and expand the digital innovation to improve the health and well-being of people in the Pilbara region.

Project Title	HREC 1312 - Co-designing the implementation of the Good Spirit Good Life education package with aged care services.
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Chief Investigator	Professor Dawn Bessarab
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	2/29/2024
Project Narrative	The validated Good Spirit Good Life (GSGL) quality of life assessment package is currently being incorporated into aged care policy and practice for Aboriginal people. The GSGL can be used to identify and support the quality of life of older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, strengthening the connections required for a good life and a strong spirit. This research aims to address the GSGL training needs of the aged care workforce through the co-design of a GSGL education package to enhance aged care service capabilities to support Elders to have a good life.

Project Title	HREC 1317 - Closing the Gap Community Data Project
Chief Investigator	Professor Marcia Langton
Organisation	University of Melbourne
Approval Date	2/29/2024
Project Narrative	Greater access to data and information is critical for Indigenous community organisations to augment their own data sources. This project will fill major gaps in our knowledge of Indigenous data ecosystems in Australia. The findings will build the evidence base to inform policy development to support Aboriginal community-controlled organisations across Australia to enhance their data ecosystems, enabling Indigenous people to develop, access and make use of their own data in ways that are both locally relevant and useful for their communities.

Project Title	HREC 1280 - Smarter. Faster. Safer virtual care using XRAI Vision™
Chief Investigator	Ms Esther Oh
Organisation	agili8
Approval Date	3/12/2024
Project Narrative	This project aims to close the gap by improving healthcare accessibility for rural, regional, remote and Aboriginal patients by empowering clinicians to deliver Smarter. Faster. Safer virtual care collaboratively using XRAI Vision™ smart glasses. XRAI Vision™ connects frontline nurses and locums in these areas to offsite senior doctors to provide virtual support at the Point of Care without requiring costly patient transfers, travel or delays to medical treatment.

Project Title	HREC 1309 - Treating co-occurring substance use disorder and mental illness among Indigenous people released from prison will increase life expectancy, reduce incarceration, and contribute to Closing the Gap
Chief Investigator	Dr Jocelyn Jones
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	3/12/2024
Project Narrative	After release from prison, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are at markedly increased risk of poor health outcomes and preventable death, most

	often due to overdose or suicide. Policies and interventions that improve the health and well-being of Indigenous people released from custody have the potential to simultaneously reduce the incarceration rate and improve life expectancy. Ex-prisoners are rarely consulted about their health issues and what they need, their voices will be privileged to determine health priorities for data analysis and policy reform.
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Project Title	HREC 1313 - Developing a Blueprint for vaccine trials in Aboriginal Communities
Chief Investigator	Professor Roz Walker
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	3/12/2024
Project Narrative	This study aims to find out what Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people understand about Strep A illness, and their attitudes and concerns about using vaccines and or participating in a vaccine trial. It is part of the Australia-led Australian Strep A Vaccine Initiative (ASAVI). The results of this study will provide important information that will help us design strategies to encourage vaccine uptake to prevent Strep A serious diseases such as Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) in the future.

Project Title	HREC 1315 - The geographical distribution of Strongyloides stercoralis in Australia: Update
Chief Investigator	Dr Jennifer Shield
Organisation	La Trobe University
Approval Date	3/12/2024
Project Narrative	Strongyloides stercoralis are tiny roundworms that cause an ongoing illness called strongyloidiasis which can be fatal if the patients's immune system is depressed. It is a hidden disease as its symptoms are similar to those of common respiratory and abdominal illnesses. This diagnosable and treatable disease disproportionately affects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live in remote communities. There are guidelines for diagnosing and treating strongyloidiasis in immigrants who acquired the disease overseas, but none for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live in remote communities where strongyloidiasis is endemic. This study will map the occurrences of Strongyloides infection in Australia by regions and localities using deidentified Strongyloides serum test data of 2012-2016 inclusive from pathology laboratories by adding data from a pathology group that did not provide data to the original study published in 2021. The results will inform appropriate programs to eliminate Strongyloides infections.

Project Title	HREC 1316 - Lyfe Languages – a globally scalable and sustainable Pilbara community co-designed innovation ecosystem
Chief Investigator	Mrs Deborah Portugues

Organisation	Women & Infants Research Foundation
Approval Date	3/12/2024
Project Narrative	Closing the healthcare communication gap is a Pilbara-focussed, and globally-relevant, need. Lyfe Languages (LL) : a Universal Medical Translator (UMT), it transforms medical terminologies into Indigenous languages. Medical jargon can be daunting and made worse when you and your doctor speak different languages. LL enables healthcare providers to consult with patients and families in their first language. LL is community co-designed (via Yarlalu Nanmurr Graeme Thomas, a co-founder and director of LL), aims to retain and empower Indigenous languages, empower youth, connect youth and elders, partner with new technologies to equitably transform health and well-being, and create connected communities

Project Title	HREC 1310 - Development of the Solid Families Program
Chief Investigator	Dr Robyn Williams
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	3/13/2024
Project Narrative	The Solid Families project is an Aboriginal led collaboration between the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service (DYHS) and Curtin University with a focus on the development of a proposed model of care for supporting eligible Aboriginal women in the Child and Maternal Health Program at DYHS. The Solid Families project is being developed to address an existing gap in providing culturally safe long-term support of healthy pregnancies and best starts in early infant and childhood development, including (but not limited to) the prevention of FASD. Using a co-design approach, the project team will collaboratively develop a model of care for Solid Families with DYHS in early 2024. Qualitative interviews with staff of the DYHS, and participants will be held to explore strengths, challenges, opportunities and strategies for improved service delivery for the Solid Families Model of Care. Using qualitative and quantitative approaches grounded in Indigenous methodology, the project will evaluate the outcomes of this culturally safe model of care as evidence for improved practice for ongoing sustainability and resourcing in the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector.

Project Title	HREC 1321 - Taking a data driven approach to ensure equitable health service delivery in the East Metropolitan Health Service region
Chief Investigator	Professor Daniel McAullay
Organisation	Edith Cowan University
Approval Date	3/19/2024
Project Narrative	Currently, Aboriginal people may sometimes wait longer for health services or have worse outcomes when in contact with the health system. We want to look at how service delivery works for people in the East Metropolitan Health Service. By including expert stakeholders, in our research project, we aim to have findings which can be turned into improvements for health service delivery.

Project Title	HREC 1320 - Culturally based social emotional wellbeing prison program
Chief Investigator	Dr Michael Doyle
Organisation	The University of Sydney
Approval Date	4/10/2024
Project Narrative	This project will develop a culturally grounded evidence base and curriculum for a social-emotional wellbeing program that can be delivered to young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 18 to 24 in prison. This program is likely to improve outcomes for young people in prison.

Project Title	HREC 1318 - Improving understandings of and responses to alcohol-related family violence for Aboriginal people
Chief Investigator	Professor Marcia Langton
Organisation	University of Melbourne
Approval Date	4/11/2024
Project Narrative	Family violence and alcohol misuse have extremely detrimental effects on the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, contributing to a broad suite of acute and chronic physical and mental health disparities. This research will provide substantive evidence on the associations between family violence and alcohol misuse for Aboriginal populations at three field sites across Australia: Kununurra (East Kimberley, Western Australia); 2. Brisbane (South East Queensland); and 3. Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands (APY Lands). By incorporating cultural and social determinants of health and local priorities into the research design, Aboriginal partner organisations in the three study sites will have enhanced capability to codesign robust interventions to reduce violence and overcome health inequities in vulnerable, at-risk groups.

Project Title	HREC 1311 - Evaluation of Breathing Space Port Hedland
Chief Investigator	Professor Donna Chung
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	4/17/2024
Project Narrative	Curtin researchers have been contracted to evaluate Breathing Space Port Hedland, the first of this service to be implemented in a regional town. The evaluation aims to assess Breathing Space's effectiveness in achieving their outcomes and to examine the impact of establishing Breathing Space in Port Hedland; this will be achieved by gathering input through interviews from a range of stakeholders, analysing client data and conducting a social return on investment. If the evaluation identifies aspects of Breathing Space Port Hedland to be ineffective or needing improvements, then changes to service delivery will be recommended by the research team with the aim to increase safety for victim-survivors and improve accountability and change for men who use domestic and family violence.

Project Title	HREC 1284 - Jinda Maawit Project
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Carrington Shepherd

Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	4/20/2024
Project Narrative	This project will generate critical new knowledge to inform targeted strategies to prevent a significant number of Aboriginal stillbirths—including culturally effective health promotion and education interventions that support good maternal health, improvements in the health service system and patient-centred care.

Project Title	HREC 1230 - Understanding the experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people attending the Lions Inreach Vision (LIV) clinic in Perth, Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Dr Hessom Razavi
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	5/9/2024
Project Narrative	We hope to explore the experiences of Indigenous Australians attending Lions Inreach Vision, an optometry and ophthalmology service in Perth, Western Australia. These experiences will guide the development of strategies to improve the accessibility and quality of eye health services for Indigenous Australians. Ultimately, this will contribute to improving the eye health of Indigenous communities within Australia.

Project Title	HREC 1325 - Understanding chronic liver disease in Kimberley Aboriginal patients; liver disease aetiology, comorbidities and complications, and implications for closing the gap.
Chief Investigator	Dr Sarah Straw
Organisation	WACHS
Approval Date	5/9/2024
Project Narrative	We aim to look at our patients presenting to this clinic over the past 12 months, with chronic liver disease, and 18 years of age or older. We will look back at the clinical data for these patients and make observations of this data. Patients won't need to do anything to be involved, and data will be deidentified and protected to ensure no private information is shared.

Project Title	HREC 1305 - Exploring Nurses' Translation of Cultural Safety into their Clinical Practice at a Health Service in Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Dr Shirley McGough
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	6/6/2024
Project Narrative	While the principles of cultural safety have been embedded into the national standards, codes, and guidelines for practice for nurses, few studies have explored how Australian nurses understand cultural safety to commit to change or how they translate these principles into their professional practice. This study aims to address this gap by exploring nurses' understanding of culturally safe practice in the workplace and to identify barriers and facilitating factors influencing translation into practice.

Project Title	HREC 1314 - Co-design to identify best method to approach Aboriginal patients who do not wait (DNW) for treatment or discharge against medical advice (DAMA)
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Vicki Patton
Organisation	Royal Perth Hospital
Approval Date	6/6/2024
Project Narrative	There is a high number of Aboriginal patients who discharge themselves from hospital against medical advice (DAMA) or do not wait (DNW) for medical treatment at Royal Perth Hospital. These patients are often agitated and upset but we do not always understand or know why they have left. They frequently come back in a much worse condition and sometimes it can be life threatening. This study is about having a yarn with groups of Aboriginal people and ask them the best way to approach Aboriginal patients who DAMA or DNW to find out the reasons why they left the Hospital. We hope by doing this we can fix some of the troubling areas of the Hospital and make the Hospital feel more safe and approachable for Aboriginal people so in the long run we can improve access to healthcare.

Project Title	HREC 1326 - Impact of prenatal exposure to environmental risk factors (heat extremes and drinking water quality) on maternal and neonatal health: an epidemiological study.
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Caitlin Wyrwoll
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	6/6/2024
Project Narrative	Australia has a number of unique challenges in terms of environmental risk factors. Global warming is substantially changing the climate, with increases in the severity, duration, and frequency of extreme heat events. Additionally, due to the geological nature of some regions and the arid environment, available drinking water in many communities is contaminated with high levels of nitrates, heavy metals and microbiological contaminants.

Project Title	HREC 1327 - Enhancing climate justice and disaster resilience in the Western Australian community services sector
Chief Investigator	Dr Naomi Godden
Organisation	Edith Cowan University
Approval Date	6/6/2024
Project Narrative	Climate change is a symptom of deep disconnection rooted in systems of exploitation and extraction such as colonialism. The term climate justice reflects the intersection of climate change and social justice. The Climate Health WA Inquiry (Weeramanthri et al., 2020) provided significant evidence that people who are more likely to experience systemic disadvantage in WA are increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change; for example, as a person experiencing homelessness exposed to extreme heat in summer; a

	remote Aboriginal community experiencing drought or bushfire; or women and children at increased risk of violence during and after disasters. Across WA, climate events and slow onset climate change exacerbate existing injustices, and the people who are most affected by climate change are those who are already systemically disadvantaged. Community service organisations provide a range of services and programs for communities who are on the frontlines of climate change.
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Project Title	HREC 1334 - Karlka Nyiyaparli Health and Wellbeing Project Stage One: Research and Consultation
Chief Investigator	Dr Rose Whitau
Organisation	Grounded Impact
Approval Date	6/6/2024
Project Narrative	The Nyiyaparli Health and Wellbeing project, initiated by the Karlka Nyiyaparli Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (KNAC), aims to address the disproportionately high levels of kidney disease among Nyiyaparli people in the Pilbara region. Partnering with Grounded Impact Pty Ltd., KNAC seeks to co-design culturally safe models of dialysis care, kidney health support, and preventative programs. Grounded in indigenous methodologies and community voices, this collaborative effort prioritises on-country dialysis access, preserving cultural connections, and fostering sustainable health outcomes for the Nyiyaparli community.

Project Title	HREC 1335 - Exploring older Aboriginal people's quality of life through the application of the Good Spirit, Good Life framework
Chief Investigator	Mr Caleb Rivers
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	6/6/2024
Project Narrative	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are living longer lives. This means that the proportion of older people who might need to access health and aged care services is increasing. Preference-based quality of life tools are used by health economists for cost benefit analyses of health programs. This project will provide information about how the Good Spirit, Good Life tool can be developed into a preference-based tool for health economists, ensuring effective and efficient allocation of funding to correctly target programs or services that best strengthen the connections that are important to older Aboriginal people (ie health economic analyses).

Project Title	HREC1013 - An evaluation of Royal Life Saving WA Talent Pool Program for Increasing Aboriginal Youth Employment
Chief Investigator	Ms Meg Abercromby
Organisation	Royal Life Saving Society WA Inc.
Approval Date	2/05/2022
Project Narrative	The project aims to evaluate Royal Life Saving WA's Talent Pool youth training and employment program. The evaluation aims to measure effectiveness, explore social impacts, track participant experiences and assess community acceptability, with the aim of informing future program delivery and ultimately leading to improved employment outcomes.

Project Title	HREC1016 - Aboriginal Adolescents' Experiences of Racism Study (AAERS)
Chief Investigator	Dr Bep Uink
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	31/01/2022
Project Narrative	The study explores the experiences and effects of racism among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adolescents, as well as non-Indigenous adults' capacity to support these young people and to combat racism in the broader society. Findings will contribute to the development of anti-racist interventions in health care and education.

Project Title	HREC1045 - An Evaluation of the Royal Life Saving WA Remote Aboriginal Pool program; Cool Pools
Chief Investigator	Ms Meg Abercromby
Organisation	Royal Life Saving Society WA Inc.
Approval Date	2/05/2022
Project Narrative	The project aims to understand the unique relationship between people living in remote Aboriginal communities and their local swimming pool. The research

	will explore the impact of pools in remote Aboriginal communities on health and wellbeing, social, education and justice outcomes.
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Project Title	HREC1060 - The incidence and survival of primary liver cancer in Indigenous and non Indigenous Australians 2003-2017
Chief Investigator	Professor Michael Wallace
Organisation	Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital
Approval Date	17/03/2022
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1061 - Phase II Cancer Screening data linkage project
Chief Investigator	Dr Danling Zhou
Organisation	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Approval Date	9/04/2021
Project Narrative	The BreastScreen Phase II project will use linked data to examine the use of breast screening services and breast cancer outcomes for women in Australia. It will focus on screening access and cancer outcomes for Indigenous women. The results will inform future breast cancer screening policy and service delivery.

Project Title	HREC1073 - Investigating Aboriginal community knowledge and awareness of stillbirth risks
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Carrington Shepherd
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	15/06/2021
Project Narrative	The project responds to the calls from our network of Elders, community and other stakeholders to use co-design processes to guide strategies that aim to reduce stillbirths among Aboriginal populations in Western Australia. We aim to, specifically: (1) Establish community support for Aboriginal-led research on

	stillbirth among Aboriginal peoples and communities; (2) investigate knowledge, perceptions and beliefs about stillbirth risks and community priorities for stillbirth research; and (3) Establish a robust Aboriginal governance process for future research on Aboriginal stillbirth.
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Project Title	HREC1104 - The PREVENT Project
Chief Investigator	Dr Aime Powell
Organisation	University of Notre Dame Australia.
Approval Date	3/02/2022
Project Narrative	The PREVENT Project's aim is to work collaboratively with local stakeholders to deliver a new and portable cervical screening model that will be delivered by the Kimberley Obstetrics and Gynaecology team. It is hoped that this cervical screening model will be preferred and accepted by women, especially those who live in rural and remote locations.

Project Title	HREC1105 - WA Country Health Service Myringoplasty Audit
Chief Investigator	Dr Jafri Kuthubutheen
Organisation	Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital
Approval Date	17/03/2022
Project Narrative	The project aims to determine the success rate of one of the most common ear procedures performed in the Kimberley – myringoplasty. Myringoplasty is a surgical procedure that involves closing the hole in the ear drum. At present, the success rate of this common procedure, as well as factors that determine its success is not known.

Project Title	HREC1108 - Developing an evidence-based guideline for ear health and hearing checks for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under six years in primary health care settings
Chief Investigator	Ms Samantha Harkus
Organisation	Macquarie University

Approval Date	17/03/2022
Project Narrative	Over their first two years of life, a child experiences their most important period of growth in listening and communication skills, however, this is also the period in which many Aboriginal children experience ear infection and muted hearing. These ear infections often have no obvious signs: regular checks by primary health practitioners are the only effective way of picking up a problem, but until now there has been no guidance on what effective checks are, and when these should be done. In this project, we are reviewing the evidence and consulting key experts in order to provide recommendations for primary health practitioners on routine ear health and hearing checks for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 0-5-years-old.

Project Title	HREC1127 - Coronavax: Preparing Community and Government for COVID-19 vaccination (Aboriginal)
Chief Investigator	Dr Samantha Carlson
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	17/03/2022
Project Narrative	Aboriginal people in WA have a lower COVID-19 jab uptake compared to non-Aboriginal people. Our project aims to understand the attitudes and concerns that Aboriginal people in Perth might have towards the COVID-19 jab. We will pass these concerns onto the WA Department of Health and come up with better ways for the government to talk about the COVID-19 jab with the Aboriginal population.

Project Title	HREC1129 - The Staphylococcus aureus Network Adaptive Platform trial (SNAP)
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Steven Tong
Organisation	Melbourne University
Approval Date	3/02/2022
Project Narrative	The Staphylococcus aureus Network Adaptive Platform (SNAP) is a clinical trial taking place across Australia (and 5 other countries) and will be the largest RCT for patients with Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infections to date. It will also be the first of its kind to include both adults and children in a study of this nature.

	SNAP aims to improve the treatment outcomes of those diagnosed with Staphylococcus aureus (S. aureus) bloodstream infections. In Australia, it is estimated that approximately 5,000 infections occur per year. The rates of S. aureus have been found to be 6x higher for Aboriginal Australians compared to non-Aboriginal Australians. It is anticipated that this trial will improve treatment of S. aureus infections – meaning patients spend less time in hospital and have better health outcomes.
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Project Title	HREC1130 - Blow, Breathe, Cough (BBC): A telehealth-facilitated randomised-controlled trial utilising a health promotion intervention to resolve otitis media with effusion for children on specialist Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) waiting lists.
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Christopher Brennan-Jones
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	17/03/2022
Project Narrative	Middle ear infections, also known as ‘glue ear’ or otitis media, are a big problem for Australian children. A lot of children need to visit doctors at Perth Children’s Hospital to treat their glue ear. However, the number of cases is so high that the waitlist is very long to be seen. For some children, glue ear may be able to heal naturally, and this sometimes occurs while they are on the waitlist for surgical treatment. Some simple, low-cost, family-led health promotion programs have been developed to encourage this. The researchers will investigate how successful these health promotion programs are in helping to heal glue ear naturally. The outcomes from this study could help reduce the number of children requiring surgery and the waiting time for treatment.

Project Title	HREC1132 - Preliminary validation of the Child Development Service Caregiver Self-Efficacy Outcome Tool
Chief Investigator	Dr Deborah Flynn
Organisation	Child and Adolescent Health Service
Approval Date	28/04/2022
Project Narrative	The Child Development Service, part of the Child and Adolescent Health Service, has worked with consumers to develop a survey to measure parent/carer belief in their ability to support their child’s developmental needs. This research will test and validate the survey with 250 parents/carers. In the future, the survey will be used to show where the service is helping parents/carers feel more confident to support their child’s development and will also identify where the service needs to improve.

Project Title	HREC1134 - EarBuddy: A non-invasive treatment for Otitis Media with Effusion
Chief Investigator	Dr Intan Oldakowska
Organisation	University of Western Australia
Approval Date	1/09/2022
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1135 - Evaluation of the Pathway to Employment for Boronia Pre-release Centre for Women
Chief Investigator	Dr Shona Hyde
Organisation	Department of Justice
Approval Date	22/12/2021
Project Narrative	The Pathway to Employment for Boronia Pre-release Centre for Women is a pilot program that supports and provides pathways to employment for Aboriginal women prisoners. This evaluation will assess whether the pilot has improved participants' social and emotional wellbeing; educational and employment; and rehabilitation and reintegration outcomes.

Project Title	HREC1136 - Closing the Gap for Aboriginal Head and Neck Cancer Outcomes
Chief Investigator	Dr Andrew Redfern
Organisation	Fiona Stanley Hospital Cancer Centre
Approval Date	3/02/2022
Project Narrative	The widest gap in cancer survival for Aboriginal people is seen in head and neck cancer where 25% more Aboriginal people who get the disease die from it compared to non-Aboriginal people. It is known that the remoteness of residence for many Aboriginal people, larger distances to travel for treatment and reduced amount of treatment offered only explains some of this gap.

	This project looks to explain the rest of this gap, by looking at possible differences in the types of head and neck cancer diagnosed, finding out what has caused the cancers and how well treatments work in Aboriginal people compared to non-Aboriginal people. With the knowledge discovered we hope to improve the survival of Aboriginal people with head and neck cancer.
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Project Title	HREC1137 - Changing the paradigm to improve outcomes for Aboriginal children in out-of-home care
Chief Investigator	Dr Bradley Farrant
Organisation	Perth Children's Hospital
Approval Date	3/02/2022
Project Narrative	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are significantly overrepresented in the out of home care sector. This project will work with children in the care of three foster care agencies to develop individualized cultural plans for children and provide cultural awareness training to foster care agency staff and carers. The process will be evaluated using a comprehensive evaluation framework to determine what works, what doesn't work and why.

Project Title	HREC1138 - Characterising the epidemiology of RSV and other respiratory infections through record linkage: clinical burden, outcomes, risk factors and impacts of interventions
Chief Investigator	Dr Hannah Moore
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	28/04/2022
Project Narrative	This project is about understanding the health impacts of respiratory viruses, like respiratory syncytial virus, in the total population of children in Western Australia. It will provide information needed to help develop prevention programs, like immunisations.

Project Title	HREC1139 - The Australian Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) National Data (ATBIND) Project: Parts 3 and 4: Establishing the incidence, determinants and predictors of outcomes (Part 3) plus the quality indicators (Part 4) for moderate to severe TBI, including among Indigenous Australians.
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Gerard O'Reilly

Organisation	Monash University
Approval Date	29/06/2022
Project Narrative	Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a major cause of death and long-term disability, but there is a lack of nationwide data in Australia about the incidence of TBI, and factors that predict good or bad outcomes for patients. The purpose of this research is to investigate the incidence of moderate to severe TBI in Australia, identify factors that predict patient outcomes, and develop a set of quality indicators for TBI care, including among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. That is, for the acute care and outcomes of TBI, what do Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people consider as “quality”? The information gained from this study can be used to improve the quality of TBI care around Australia, and improve the experiences and outcomes of TBI patients.

Project Title	HREC1140 - New insights for reducing Aboriginal stillbirth: Community-led, integrated evidence for change (Phase 2a)
Chief Investigator	Dr Carrington Shepherd
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	17/03/2022
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1141 - Mullewa Empowering Aboriginal Voices: Building the Health and Wellbeing of Mullewa Community
Chief Investigator	Ms Charmaine Green
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	28/04/2022
Project Narrative	The Mullewa Empowering Aboriginal Voices is a qualitative research project with a core aim of building the health and well-being of the Mullewa Community through yarning and narrative inquiry approach. The project aims to identify and address Mullewa community needs with a focus on relationships, sense of belonging and leadership empowerment.

Project Title	HREC1142 - Improving aftercare for young people who present to the emergency department for self-harm and suicide crisis.
Chief Investigator	Dr Ashleigh Lin
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	28/04/2022
Project Narrative	<p>This project seeks to improve engagement in aftercare services among children and young people (aged 10-17) who present to the emergency department (ED) for deliberate self-harm (DSH). We are aiming to co-design a culturally appropriate version of brief collaborative psychological intervention called Therapeutic Assessment (TA) for Aboriginal young people. In later phases, we will implement the TA and determine it's effectiveness. We will identify the modifiable contextual factors (e.g., availability and access to community services) that influence the effectiveness of the TA intervention across different populations and clinical settings (e.g., metropolitan and regional).</p> <p>The development of a specialized and evidence-based, brief intervention that supports positive outcomes for young people across multiple clinical and cultural contexts would be a significant step forward in the management and prevention of DSH and suicide in young Australians.</p>

Project Title	HREC1143 - Expanded HTLV-1 surveillance in Australia
Chief Investigator	Professor John Kaldor
Organisation	UNSW
Approval Date	15/08/2022
Project Narrative	<p>Our research aims to improve our understanding of the epidemiology of HTLV-1, a significant health concern among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Australia. Through detailed analysis of testing data and disease notifications, we aim to identify patterns, geographical spread, and factors associated with infection. This important knowledge will, in the long run, help us develop better strategies to inform health policy, re-orient testing services, and help prevent this disease, thereby contributing to enhanced health and reduced HTLV-1 infection in communities.</p>

Project Title	HREC1144 - Development and evaluation of a culturally appropriate media training for responsible reporting of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health and suicide
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Chief Investigator	Professor Pat Dudgeon
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	28/04/2022
Project Narrative	This project aims to understand and address the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to effectively engage with media representatives in a culturally safe way, when talking about mental health and suicide issues. This research project will inform the design and development of culturally safe media reporting guidelines and a training program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples when talking about these issues.

Project Title	HREC1146 - Exploring the experiences of the consent process for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people having cardiac surgery and participating in medical research.
Chief Investigator	Dr Julieann Coombes
Organisation	The George Institute for Global Health
Approval Date	28/04/2022
Project Narrative	This study will assist in better understanding informed consent experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people undergoing heart surgery and participating in research. It will inform the development of strategies to ensure that informed consent processes are culturally safe and assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in making informed decisions about their health. This study will also provide greater context to better understanding the costs associated with undergoing heart surgery among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Project Title	HREC1147 - A roadmap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adolescent health: Defining priority health needs and actions through the empowerment & capacity development of young people
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Peter Azzopardi
Organisation	SAHMRI
Approval Date	15/08/2022
Project Narrative	There is currently no national strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adolescent health and wellbeing, and as a result, many young people can't

	access the services and support they need or want. To help address this critical gap we are developing the very first National Roadmap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Adolescent Health. The Roadmap will describe the most important health challenges for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adolescents and the best ways to address them.
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Project Title	HREC1148 - A cross-sectional observational study on the causes of otitis media in Western Australia: OMinWA
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Lea-Ann Kirkham
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	28/04/2022
Project Narrative	This project is collecting biological samples to determine which bacteria are causing ear infections (otitis media) in Western Australian (WA) Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children. Otitis media is the most common childhood illness, responsible for the greatest number of GP visits, antibiotic prescriptions, hearing loss and grommet surgeries, and for which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are disproportionately impacted. By knowing what causes otitis media in WA we will be better informed on how to treat, and even prevent, otitis media so all children are able to listen and learn.

Project Title	HREC1149 - Indigenous engagement and leadership in the evaluation of Indigenous health and wellbeing programs: Taking steps to improve government and non-government commissioning practices.
Chief Investigator	Dr Summer Finlay
Organisation	University of Wollongong
Approval Date	28/04/2022
Project Narrative	Each year government and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander not-for-profit sector spend an estimated \$5.9 billion on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander -specific health and wellbeing programs aiming to address the gap between the health outcomes of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. Despite the need and annual expenditure, there is limited evidence on what health and wellbeing programs are effective in overcoming Indigenous disadvantage. This qualitative study aims to improve the commissioning of Indigenous health and wellbeing program evaluations by government and non-government agencies. The findings of this study have the potential to increase the number and quality of evaluations, strengthen the evidence base on

	effective Indigenous programs, and inform future investments to improve health equity for Indigenous Australians.
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Project Title	HREC1150 - Substance use in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women of reproductive age
Chief Investigator	Dr Jocelyn Jones
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	28/04/2022
Project Narrative	Alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use in pregnancy are one of the leading preventable causes of adverse perinatal outcomes, as well as a range of harms across the child's lifespan ranging from neurodevelopmental impairment, poor mental health, and a greater risk of substance use and suicide. While the underlying determinants of substance use in pregnancy are complex, as a key modifiable risk factor, it presents an important opportunity to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternal and infant health outcomes. Therefore, there is a strong need to consult with Aboriginal women, as well as consumers and key stakeholders, to gain a deeper understanding of women's experiences seeking support for their substance use and how they may be better supported during pregnancy.

Project Title	HREC1151 - Co-designing an alternative to the emergency department for youth at risk of suicide in the Peel region: The Youth Safe Haven Café Project
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Ashleigh Lin
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	29/06/2022
Project Narrative	The aim of this project is to work with the Peel community to co-design a Youth Safe Haven Café that could be located at the Peel Health Hub. The Youth Safe Haven Café would provide a safe, alternative option to the emergency department for young people in the Peel region who are experiencing suicidal behaviour (including thoughts and ideation). This project will also provide information on the experiences and needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people when they are having a mental health crisis.

Project Title	HREC1153 - Co-creating new music to support language, culture and wellbeing using trauma-informed methods through the Sound FX music residencies at Baya Gaway Buga yani Jandu yani u
Chief Investigator	Dr Gillian Howell
Organisation	University of Melbourne
Approval Date	15/08/2022
Project Narrative	This participatory action research involves early childhood educators at Baya Gaway Buga yani Jandu yani u, Fitzroy Crossing, working alongside musicians from Tura New Music to co-create songs in local heritage languages for use in early childhood education and care. Language is a cultural determinant of health, and the incorporation of heritage languages into early childhood education and care supports the health and wellbeing of children, families, and local educators, creating a positive, culturally nourishing learning environment for all. The project will support community knowledge of and engagement with heritage languages; develop educators' confidence to lead music activities in heritage languages, investigate and refine the musical co-creation process, and improve our systems for community access to arts-based language resources.

Project Title	HREC1154 - Pregnant women and new mothers accessing culturally safe health care and support through #SWAMSmob, mobile phone application
Chief Investigator	Dr Loretta Musgrave
Organisation	University of Technology Sydney
Approval Date	2/05/2022
Project Narrative	This project will design and deliver a mobile phone app that will provide contemporaneous evidence-based information on pregnancy, birth and the early parenting period. Information provided within the app platform will provide details on how and when pregnant women should contact their care provider. Who they should contact and how to contact them. The development of the app seeks to enhance access to evidence-based care and engagement in health care. This project provides an opportunity to evaluate the acceptability, functionality, and engagement with mobile health apps for Aboriginal women. Through the use and evaluation of #SWAMSmob, it is possible to tailor evidence-based education to specific community groups and the findings will inform a larger study.

Project Title	HREC1155 - A study of renal transplant survival among indigenous Australians in New England local health district compared to a national cohort of indigenous renal transplant recipients
Chief Investigator	Dr Nuha Ibrahim
Organisation	Tamworth hospital
Approval Date	2/05/2022
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1156 - Climate change and the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people in Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Dr Naomi Godden
Organisation	Edith Cowan University
Approval Date	13/06/2022
Project Narrative	This project aims to understand how climate change affects the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people in Western Australia. The data will support Aboriginal community leaders, academics, practitioners and young people to co-design an inclusive, robust framework to support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people as they confront the realities of climate change. This framework will support WA mental health and youth organisations and policy makers to enhance policies, programs, and service delivery, and empower organisations to respond more appropriately to the mental health and wellbeing impacts of climate change on children and young people.

Project Title	HREC1157 - National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Measures Survey (NATSIHMS) 2022–23
Chief Investigator	Ms Linda Fardell
Organisation	Indigenous and Social Information Branch, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)
Approval Date	19/05/2022

Project Narrative	<p>The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Measures Survey (NATSIHMS) will collect blood and urine samples from approximately 4,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants aged 5 years and over across Australia to test for nutrient levels and markers of chronic conditions. A nationally representative dataset will be created, to analyse rates and whether they have changed since the last NATSIHMS in 2012-13. This new information will be used to assess health risks for population groups and provide a platform for further research into health patterns and will be achieved by combining the results of biomedical tests with self-reported survey-based results from other ABS survey data. NATSIHMS can contribute to improving health policy and can provide the community with vital information for measuring the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.</p>
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Project Title	HREC1158 - Understanding the mechanisms of change in the Cultural, Social, and Emotional Wellbeing Program and Kimberley Empowerment Healing and Leadership Program
Chief Investigator	Professor Pat Dudgeon
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	29/06/2022
Project Narrative	<p>To understand the mechanisms of change of the Cultural, Social and Emotional Wellbeing (CSEWB) Program and the Kimberley Empowerment, Healing and Leadership Program (KEHLP). This understanding will inform the development of an adapted CSEWB Program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people.</p> <p>The development of an adapted CSEWB Program for young people will contribute to improving the cultural, social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, to strengthen self-determination and resilience, and address the high suicide rates among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people. In the longer term, an improved social and emotional wellbeing will increase resilience in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young peoples and protect against suicidal thoughts and behaviours.</p>

Project Title	HREC1160 - Voice of the 'Other': A Creative Response to Nyoongar Oral Histories for Aboriginal People - A Doctoral Thesis
Chief Investigator	Mrs Elizabeth Hayden
Organisation	Curtin University

Approval Date	2/05/2022
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1161 - Linking for Life: Understanding and reducing mental health, suicide and self-harm in children and young people in Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Professor David Preen
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	29/06/2022
Project Narrative	This project will use existing data to investigate mental health, suicide and self-harm in Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children and young people in Western Australia (WA). The outcomes of this project will contribute to the understanding of mental health in children and young people, their wellbeing and how it is impacted by various modifiable risk factors. These findings will help inform agencies, service providers, and communities in creating pathways to improve and support the health and wellbeing of children and young people.

Project Title	HREC1162 - Monitoring and Evaluation of the Perth Central Business District Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Project (Boorloo Bidee Mia)
Chief Investigator	Dr Tom Alves
Organisation	Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI)
Approval Date	19/05/2022
Project Narrative	This project is an evaluation of Boorloo Bidee Mia, which provides supported accommodation in the Perth CBD to people who have experienced long term homelessness. Boorloo Bidee Mia is being delivered through a partnership between WA Department of Communities, Wungening Aboriginal Corporation and Noongar Mia Mia. Boorloo Biddee Mia has been designed specifically to provide culturally safe accommodation and support to Aboriginal people who have been homeless. This evaluation uses a mixed methods approach to evaluate the outcomes and impacts of Boorloo Bidee Mia and inform the ongoing improvement and delivery of the service.

Project Title	HREC1163 - Evaluation of Noongar Mia Mia Tenancy Support Services
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Chief Investigator	Professor Lisa Wood
Organisation	University of Notre Dame
Approval Date	29/06/2022
Project Narrative	This evaluation project is evaluating the Boola Moort Cultural Tenancy Support program that is run by Noongar Mia Mia (Perth's only Aboriginal-led Community Housing provider). Boola Moort Tenancy support is provided to tenants who may require additional support to maintain their home and tenancy, differing from mainstream tenancy support as the program provides Noongar tenants with support from Noongar workers in Noongar ways. The focus of the program is dignity, respect and choice. As the first program of its kind the research will document learnings from the program and how it differs from traditional models.

Project Title	HREC1164 - Co-designing a sanctuary model for young people experiencing suicidal behaviour in Perth: The Youth Sanctuary Model
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Ashleigh Lin
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	29/06/2022
Project Narrative	The aim of this project is to work with the community to co-design a Youth Sanctuary for young people (16-24 years) experiencing suicidal ideation. The Youth Sanctuary will provide a short-term residential stay for young people in Western Australia who are experiencing suicidal ideation. The residential stay, which we refer to as the Youth Sanctuary, is based on Maytree (https://www.maytree.org.uk), which is a short-term sanctuary house for adults in the UK. This is an opportunity to explore how this service model could work among young people in Perth, WA.

Project Title	HREC1165 - Previous hospital attendances for alcohol- related liver disease patient who die in hospital
Chief Investigator	Dr Chloe Attree
Organisation	Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital
Approval Date	19/05/2022

Project Narrative	Recent studies have demonstrated that Aboriginal and Torre Strait Islander people with liver disease have had potential missed opportunities for earlier intervention and follow up to optimise health outcomes. This study aims to identify whether patients with alcohol related liver disease engaged with tertiary health services early or late in their disease process. This will establish whether there are opportunities for earlier intervention and possible improvement in patient outcomes including Aboriginal and Torre Strait Islander people.
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Project Title	HREC1165 - Previous hospital attendances for alcohol- related liver disease patient who die in hospital
Chief Investigator	Dr Chloe Attree
Organisation	Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital
Approval Date	1/09/2022
Project Narrative	Amongst other factors, it has been presumed that due to the stigma associated with hazardous alcohol consumption, patients at risk of alcohol related liver disease do not engage with healthcare services. As such, the diagnosis is often made late in the disease course. The purpose of this study was to establish if patients with alcohol related liver disease present to hospital early or in the terminal phase of their disease, this will determine if there opportunities to intervene early in the disease course.

Project Title	HREC1166 - Western Australian Child Development Atlas
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Rebecca Glauert
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	15/08/2022
Project Narrative	The Child Development Atlas (CDA) is an online interactive tool that geographically maps data relevant to the health and wellbeing of children and young people aged 0-24 years in Western Australia. The CDA facilitates efforts to address social disadvantage by providing the information to support the development of evidence-based policies. It is a critical tool for all the services that acknowledge the different needs of WA communities.

Project Title	HREC1167 - Journey Ways Prison Project
Chief Investigator	Mr Craig Cumming
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	29/06/2022
Project Narrative	<p>Aboriginal prisoners have unique needs which are not addressed in conventional rehabilitation programs in the criminal justice system. Without addressing those needs, they will remain in no-man's land, abiding neither by Aboriginal values nor respecting non-Aboriginal values. Beginning 2017, a team of Noongar Elders, Respected Persons and prisoners and a scholar-practitioner of restorative justice designed and delivered an Aboriginal restorative rehabilitation program, known as Journey Ways. The one-day-per-week for 10 weeks program uses a range of cultural knowledges supplemented by Aboriginal health and human service work. Journey Ways seeks to (re)connect prisoners to culture and helps them to know their history, attend the damage of their offending, heal selves and initiate mending of relationships with Country, family and community.</p> <p>The Journey Ways Prison Project aims to examine the effectiveness of the Aboriginal restorative rehabilitation program to motivate Aboriginal prisoners to make culturally relevant changes to their lives. The study will investigate how the program fosters the development in awareness of the importance of recovering and upholding Aboriginal values. It will explore how Journey Ways improves awareness/understanding of the role historical racist policies have played in intergenerational trauma and prevailing imprisonment, and the effects of prisoners' own offending. It will evaluate how the program cultivates a mindset for making things right, repairing and building culturally significant relationships and improving wellbeing.</p> <p>More broadly, the Journey Ways Prison Project aims to contribute knowledge to the criminal justice system, Aboriginal stakeholders, and the WA community about what works in crime reduction and rehabilitation for Aboriginal offenders. The research will provide an understanding of how culturally relevant programming can open avenues for privileging Aboriginal voices in guiding restorative rehabilitation within the criminal justice system. The Project seeks to assist in reducing the high rates of Aboriginal incarceration and bringing about social repair and support.</p>

Project Title	HREC1168 - Exploring the experiences of Aboriginal women accessing supports upon release from prison
Chief Investigator	David Keatley

Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	15/08/2022
Project Narrative	<p>This research aims to explore the experiences of Aboriginal women released from Perth metropolitan prisons into the community. The primary focus will be on their experiences and perspectives of accessing postrelease support, and their views on current support services and how they may be improved to better facilitate reintegration. This research focuses on the social context in which Aboriginal women experienced support post-release as well as perspectives from the community and support services (e.g., caseworkers and informal support networks). This research will highlight the services supporting Aboriginal women and their experiences to better understand the critical links of high Aboriginal over-representation in our prison system, and the detrimental impact it has on their social and emotional well-being postrelease. There is a specific need for more detailed, qualitative data to determine the key factors and lived experiences of Aboriginal women, so we may better inform and understand the postrelease process. This research will make a further important contribution to current literature/system gaps, particularly in a Western Australian context.</p>

Project Title	HREC1169 - The role of family-based attitude and belief systems in COVID-19 vaccination decisions among First Nation's People in Australia
Chief Investigator	Chantelle Blanco
Organisation	Edith Cowan University
Approval Date	7/07/2022
Project Narrative	<p>This project examines the role of family-based experiences and relationships in COVID-19 vaccination decisions among First Nations families. It uses a family resilience model to explore the strengths of First Nation's family composition when responding to a pandemic.</p> <p>**Emerging findings indicate that mandatory orders were experienced as a repeat of historical cultural repression however they demonstrated resilience in coping with overwhelming changes to family function during the pandemic.**</p> <p>Findings from this study will contribute to how Indigenous Communities and families can be better supported during health-related crisis, and specifically what the experiences of First Nations families during the Covid-19 pandemic can tell us about Health and Community planning in respect to future COVID-support measures.</p>

Project Title	HREC1170 - Process and Outcome Evaluations of the Mallee AOD Unit at Casuarina Prison
Chief Investigator	Ms Shona Hyde
Organisation	Department of Justice
Approval Date	24/11/2022
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1171 - Healing Country: weaving knowledge systems to meet climate challenges
Chief Investigator	Brad Farrant
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	29/06/2022
Project Narrative	Aboriginal people have close relationships to Country, passing on knowledge about changes that have happened over thousands and thousands of years. Traditional Knowledge is about living in balance with Country - it is why Aboriginal culture is the longest surviving on Earth. This is a community research project that will bring together knowledge to meet climate change challenges.

Project Title	HREC1172 - Mingoke: "Making better"
Chief Investigator	Abby-Rose Cox
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	29/06/2022
Project Narrative	The aim of this PhD project is to inform educational social and emotional wellbeing policies and programs to enhance Aboriginal engagement in classroom environments. Utilising a mixed methods approach, qualitative and quantitative data will be analysed to understand the impacts of culturally secure equine assisted learning on Kimberley Aboriginal youth engagement in education.

Project Title	HREC1173 - Validation of the Violence Risk Scale for Australian Prison Populations
Chief Investigator	Ms Emma Ziersch
Organisation	South Australia Department for Correctional Services (DCS)
Approval Date	15/08/2022
Project Narrative	This study will investigate whether the Violence Risk Scale (VRS) is suitable for assessing risk of violent reoffending amongst First Nations peoples. The findings will help to establish whether correctional agencies are adequately measuring risk and considering appropriate rehabilitation and management strategies for Aboriginal persons. This will ensure that we are not engaging in risk assessment practices that further marginalise and discriminate against Aboriginal people in our corrective systems.

Project Title	HREC1174 - The National Australian HCV Point-of-Care Testing Program: An observational cohort study to evaluate the use of finger-stick point-of-care hepatitis C testing to enhance diagnosis and treatment of HCV infection
Chief Investigator	Professor Jason Grebely
Organisation	Kirby Institute
Approval Date	1/09/2022
Project Narrative	The National Australian Hepatitis C (HCV) Program aims to investigate if increasing access to finger-stick point-of-care HCV testing increases diagnosis and treatment uptake for HCV infection. Unlike traditional HCV testing that requires several visits, this program will allow participants to obtain results within an hour and potentially start treatment the same day.

Project Title	HREC1175 - Developmental disability in the family: Sibling outcomes in Western Australia, a data linkage study
Chief Investigator	Dr Emma Glasson
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	29/06/2022

Project Narrative	This research will find out if siblings of children with developmental disabilities have poorer health and wellbeing compared to siblings from families where there is no disability. The findings will help us understand why some siblings may have better health than others, to recommend ways to improve sibling health and suggest additional types of support where possible.
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Project Title	HREC1176 - Bridging the Divide: Investigating the Impact of a Dedicated Statewide Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Multidisciplinary Cancer Service
Chief Investigator	Dr Andrew Redfern
Organisation	Fiona Stanley Hospital
Approval Date	29/06/2022
Project Narrative	Many recent discoveries have been made in WA explaining why Aboriginal women diagnosed with breast cancer have lower survival. These include getting more aggressive breast cancer types, having less intensive and shorter treatment, suffering more drug side effects and having poorer nutrition. This project will monitor a central team of breast cancer experts, including Aboriginal health workers and medical and nursing specialists in breast cancer. This team will be creating a plan using this new knowledge to best treat every Aboriginal woman diagnosed with breast cancer to improve treatment, lessen side effects and improve survival. By collecting information at diagnosis and following up later in treatment, then comparing to past results, we are looking to see if this new state-wide team approach leads to better outcomes.

Project Title	HREC1177 - Ethical Statutory Systems Change Project [working title]
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Michael Wright
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	15/08/2022
Project Narrative	Two state government agencies; the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist of Western Australia and the Mental Health Advocacy Service, are responsible for ensuring that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's human and cultural rights are upheld when they are accessing mental health care and treatment in hospital or in the community. The Ethical Statutory Systems Change Project brings Aboriginal Elders and young people together with staff from the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist and the Mental Health Advocacy Service to co-design more culturally safe ways to respond to the needs and priorities of Aboriginal people,

	families and communities. The project aim is to improve the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people by building non-Aboriginal service leaders and staff members' understanding of Aboriginal cultural ways of doing things and their ability to work in genuine partnership with Aboriginal people.
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Project Title	HREC1178 - Linking for Life: pathways of young people born between 1990 and 2015 in contact with multiple government agencies in Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Professor David Preen
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	29/06/2022
Project Narrative	This project aims to identify and investigate high intensity service users so that decision-makers can better understand people with multiple and complex needs, and how they access the service system to respond more effectively and to reduce the 'revolving door' phenomenon. Given the over-representation of Aboriginal children in this cohort, our research is important to improve outcomes for those children who have been involved with multiple services.

Project Title	HREC1179 - Youth crime prevention strategies in 12–24-year-olds
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Rosanna Rooney
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	1/09/2022
Project Narrative	The broader project will investigate ways that 12-24 year olds can stay out of the juvenile and adult justice systems. This may include finding meaning, managing stress and difficult situations, learning strategies which make them feel happier and more resilient in everyday situations as well as increasing their enjoyment and interaction with their school and /or community. The data collected will inform the co-design and evaluation of intervention strategies. It is anticipated that these strategies will positively influence mental health and socio-emotional wellbeing, criminality or recidivism rates, and educational and employment pathways.

Project Title	HREC1180 - The OVARIAN Study.
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Chief Investigator	Professor Penelope Webb
Organisation	QIMR Berghofer Medical Research In
Approval Date	15/08/2022
Project Narrative	Many questions about ovarian cancer can only be answered with information from large and representative groups of women with ovarian cancer. We will link existing data that are routinely collected for healthcare to create a de-identified national dataset with information for all women diagnosed with ovarian cancer in Australia. We will use this to answer a wide range of questions about risk factors, diagnosis, management (e.g. patterns of health care) and outcomes (e.g. use of health services and survival) and to assess variations in diagnosis and care by patient characteristics including age, comorbidity, geography and socioeconomic group as well as between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and non-Indigenous women, and between those from English and non-English-speaking backgrounds.

Project Title	HREC1181 - Moort Vax Waangkiny: Understanding barriers to routine vaccine uptake among Aboriginal children aged <5 years in the Perth metropolitan region.
Chief Investigator	Dr Samantha Carlson
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	6/10/2022
Project Narrative	This project aims to understand the barriers to vaccination among Aboriginal children in Perth by speaking with parents/carers of Aboriginal children aged under 5 years who are overdue (defined as 30 days or more past due date) for one or more vaccines listed on the National Immunisation Program schedule for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Barriers to vaccination are focused under three themes: capability (knowledge about vaccination), opportunity (access to vaccination) and motivation (hesitancy about vaccination).

Project Title	HREC1182 - Understanding the demographic and clinical characteristics of patients presenting for eye care services at the Lions Eye Institute clinic
Chief Investigator	Dr Hessom Razavi
Organisation	UWA

Approval Date	6/10/2022
Project Narrative	This is a project which aims to describe the eye health and eye care needs of Aboriginal people attending Lions InReach Vision, a new eye care service in Midland, Western Australia. We hope to use this project to highlight the benefits of delivering optometry and ophthalmology services in an accessible, culturally safe manner.

Project Title	HREC1183 - A Western Australian cancer registry-based study investigating impacts of Indigenous Status, location, gender, and socio-economic factors on bladder cancer outcomes
Chief Investigator	Dr Mohammed Al-Zubaidi
Organisation	Fiona Stanley Hospital
Approval Date	15/08/2022
Project Narrative	This study will identify the impacts of Indigenous Status, location, gender, and socio-economic factors on bladder cancer outcomes. Therefore, it will improve the bladder cancer survival.

Project Title	HREC1184 - National It's Your Right Health Promotion Campaign Evaluation
Chief Investigator	Professor Margaret Hellard
Organisation	Monash University
Approval Date	15/08/2022
Project Narrative	<p>This project will evaluate the development, outcomes and experience of the It's Your Right campaign, a national health promotion campaign designed to address barriers to accessing hepatitis C testing and treatment for people who inject drugs (PWID).</p> <p>In Australia, an estimated 120,000 people live with hepatitis C. Treatment has advanced in recent years, and hepatitis C is now able to be cured with tablets and few side effects in 8-12 weeks. Despite the availability of new treatments, many barriers to testing and treatment still exist for people from at-risk populations, including PWID and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It's Your Right combines a national social marketing campaign with health promotion activities run by peer-based organisations in local areas, to promote the availability of new treatments, and increase access to testing and treatment. This evaluation will determine the outcomes of this approach, and</p>

	will inform future campaigns aimed at increasing hepatitis C testing and treatment uptake among PWID and other communities at risk of hepatitis C.
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Project Title	HREC1185 - Linking for Life: Improving the evidence base for child protection and juvenile justice policy, service design and expenditure, to ensure the best possible outcomes for children and families in contact with the child protection or justice system.
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Melissa O'Donnell
Organisation	University of South Australia
Approval Date	29/06/2023
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1187 - Evaluation of Syphilis Campaign activities conducted by South West Aboriginal Medical Service
Chief Investigator	Dr Daniel Vujcich
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	4/08/2022
Project Narrative	The aim of this project is to evaluate a targeted syphilis response led by South West Aboriginal Medical Service (SWAMS). This campaign has been undertaken due to the increased notification rates of syphilis amongst Aboriginal people in the South West region of WA. The research findings will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the campaign, and guide future campaigns and sexual health promotion and engagement activities within the region.

Project Title	HREC1189 - Birthing on Country – Connected to Country, Birthing on Country, On Country we Grow
Chief Investigator	Dr Dianne Bloxsome
Organisation	Edith Cowan University
Approval Date	24/11/2022

Project Narrative	This survey is part of a larger Birthing on Country project being implemented by the Department of Health, WA. It will contribute to the identification and provision of culturally safe maternity services for Aboriginal women, infants and families in WA. This in turn will contribute to positive health outcomes for Aboriginal women and babies and inform the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.
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Project Title	HREC1190 - Improving identification of children at risk of developmental delay in the first 1000 days
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Yvonne Anderson
Organisation	Child and Adolescent Health Service
Approval Date	24/11/2022
Project Narrative	The project aims to improve the way Perth metropolitan community health nurses prioritise children to optimise their developmental potential in the early years. We will analyse 'trajectory' data from late pregnancy up to two years old (from the Purple Book checks - free universal child health assessments) to precisely target children most likely to benefit from engagement and retention with Community Health Services. This project has the potential to enhance families' access to early intervention before school entry.

Project Title	HREC1191 - Learning from the best: sharing what works to improve chronic disease care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
Chief Investigator	Dr Rosemary Wyber
Organisation	ANU
Approval Date	6/10/2022
Project Narrative	Health services which are providing good care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with chronic disease have been identified through this study. We will be using focus groups or individual interviews with staff, patients and carers of those services to understand some of the contributors to good care. This will make it possible to identify policy and practice options for supporting good care delivery.

Project Title	HREC1193 - Evaluation of the Kimberley Empowerment, Healing and Leadership Program with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the justice system
Chief Investigator	Professor Pat Dudgeon
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	24/11/2022
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1194 - Improving mammogram screening for breast cancer participation rate among Aboriginal women in Western Australia.
Chief Investigator	Ms Helen Lund
Organisation	Department of Health
Approval Date	24/11/2022
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1195 - FlashGM Study - Can Flash Glucose Monitoring (FlashGM) improve glucose management in Indigenous Australians with type 2 diabetes? A randomised controlled trial.
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Elif Ekinci
Organisation	University of Melbourne
Approval Date	13/12/2022
Project Narrative	The Flash Study is Australia's first diabetes device clinical trial for Indigenous Australians with type 2 diabetes using flash glucose monitoring. The research aims to assess how flash glucose monitoring can impact blood sugar levels (HbA1c) over 6 months and whether this technology is cost-effective in an Indigenous Australian health setting.

Project Title	HREC1196 - Understanding the side effects associated with treating cancer in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
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Chief Investigator	Dr Jessica Buck
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	24/11/2022
Project Narrative	This project aims to understand the side effects experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who have been treated for cancer. This information is a first step towards developing better cancer treatments specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kids with cancer. In the long-term, we aim to increase survival for kids with cancer, and also reduce side effects to help increase their quality of life.

Project Title	HREC1197 - Incidence and costs of injury in Western Australia: 2020
Chief Investigator	Dr Delia Hendrie
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	24/11/2022
Project Narrative	The study is examining the incidence and costs of injury in Western Australia. Injury incidence and corresponding costs are being analysed to identify factors associated with injury risk across demographic and socio-economic groups and geographical areas. This information can be used to suggest evidence-based interventions to reduce the injury burden in WA.

Project Title	HREC1198 - New imaging techniques to detect diabetic retinopathy earlier than standard methods
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Angus Turner
Organisation	Lions Eye Institute
Approval Date	6/10/2022
Project Narrative	The aim of our study is to use advanced imaging and image-analysis software to identify new ways of detecting the earliest stages of diabetic eye disease. Screening and early treatment has been shown to reduce blindness and vision-loss for people with diabetes. By discovering new ways of detecting early disease, we hope that we can further reduce blindness and vision-loss.

Project Title	HREC1199 - Understanding and responding to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) in the Fitzroy Valley: Perceptions of community members and local service providers
Chief Investigator	Dr Lauren Rice
Organisation	University of Sydney
Approval Date	24/11/2022
Project Narrative	The aim of this project is to better understand the barriers experienced by the Fitzroy Valley community and health and disability professionals in supporting people with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) and other cognitive disabilities. The knowledge captured in the interviews will be used to develop a shared language that will be disseminated both to the Fitzroy Valley community members and health and disability professionals working in the region. It is hope that this shared language and knowledge will increase access to health and disability services for people living in the Fitzroy Valley.

Project Title	HREC1201 - Wellbeing Informed Care- Kimberley
Chief Investigator	Emma Carlin
Organisation	Rural Clinical School Western Australia, University of Western Australia
Approval Date	6/10/2022
Project Narrative	<p>The Wellbeing Informed Care project aims to design and implement Aboriginal specific approaches to ensuring Kimberley ACCHS are trauma (wellbeing) informed.</p> <p>The project aims to build on the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service's (ACCHS') Model of Care by strengthening Aboriginal led, culturally safe, and patient-centered approaches to holistic care.</p> <p>This project will use participatory methods to develop an understanding of how ACCHS can optimise SEWB and mental health enquiry and response within routine primary health care visits.</p> <p>This project is an initiative of Kimberly Aboriginal Medical Service (KAMS), Broome Aboriginal Medical Service (BRAMS), Derby Aboriginal Medical Service (DAHS), Yura Yungi Medical Service (YYMS), Ord Valley Aboriginal Medical Service (OVAHS) and the University of Western Australia (UWA).</p>

Project Title	HREC1203 - Community-driven empowerment through mabu liyan: closing the data and knowledge gap
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Chief Investigator	Ms Eunice Yu
Organisation	Nagula Jarndu
Approval Date	6/10/2022
Project Narrative	This project aims to inform evaluation and monitoring of Indigenous outcomes by centring Indigenous knowledge systems in the framing of the project and development of participatory methodologies. The project also involves Indigenous communities at all stages of the research activities and grounds the measurement tools and processes. Together, this project demonstrates how community control and priorities can serve to sustain wellbeing across arts, sports and nation-building.

Project Title	HREC1204 - Evaluation of the Social and Emotional Wellbeing Service Model Pilot
Chief Investigator	Professor Pat Dudgeon
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	24/11/2022
Project Narrative	This project is a comprehensive evaluation of the Social and Emotional Wellbeing Service Model pilot that is operating in five Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services in Western Australia. The evaluation is occurring across the lifespan of the pilot (2022-2025) and will use decolonising and participatory approaches to deliver a formative, process, impact, and outcome evaluation. The project aims to contribute to an understanding of what works and why in Aboriginal led Social and Emotional Wellbeing service delivery.

Project Title	HREC1205 - Improving coverage, confidence, and knowledge about COVID-19 vaccination among Aboriginal women of child-bearing age in Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Dr Anne-Marie Eades
Organisation	University of Technology Sydney
Approval Date	6/01/2023
Project Narrative	Using an Aboriginal Participatory Action Research approach, we will explore experiences and understandings of COVID-19 diagnosis, illness and vaccinations for Aboriginal women of child-bearing age. We will also explore the way

	community members have received and understood information and resources from health services and government education and vaccination campaigns. From this, we will co-design and deliver a suite of culturally relevant resources and information about COVID-19 and vaccinations.
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Project Title	HREC1206 - Reducing alcohol and other drug harms in Aboriginal primary care
Chief Investigator	Dr Jocelyn Jones
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	13/12/2022
Project Narrative	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mothers and their children experience disproportionately poorer perinatal health outcomes than non-Indigenous Australians, including a significantly higher perinatal death rate. While the underlying determinants of substance use in pregnancy are complex, as a key modifiable risk factor, it presents an important opportunity to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternal and infant health outcomes. There is a strong need to consult with Aboriginal women, as well as consumers and key stakeholders, to gain a deeper understanding of women's experiences seeking support for their substance use and how they may be better supported during pregnancy. This project will identify features of best practice interventions that address substance use during pregnancy and the post-natal period.

Project Title	HREC1207 - Western Australian component of South Australian and Northern Territory Stroke Study (SAiNTSS): Indigenous vs. non-Indigenous stroke incidence, mortality and disease burden
Chief Investigator	Professor Judith Katzenellenbogen
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	16/02/2023
Project Narrative	The South Australia and Northern Territory Stroke Study (initial phase) (SAiNTSS1) aims to understand disparities in stroke risk factors, treatment and care, and outcomes between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and non-Indigenous Australians across South Australia, Northern Territory and Western Australia. The identification of contributors to excess stroke risk and poor outcomes will assist in the development of a range of culturally appropriate primary prevention, secondary prevention and rehabilitation

	strategies to lessen the stroke burden for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
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Project Title	HREC1208 - National Palliative Care in Prisons Project: understanding how palliative and end-of-life care is provided to people in Australian prisons.
Chief Investigator	Professor Jane Phillips
Organisation	Queensland University of Technology
Approval Date	18/05/2023
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1209 - Understanding Lung Cancer in Western Australia – Improving our knowledge of remote and Aboriginal populations.
Chief Investigator	Professor Andrew Redfern
Organisation	Fiona Stanley Hospital Cancer Centre
Approval Date	16/02/2023
Project Narrative	The over-arching aim of this project is to explore the patient, disease, and treatment-related factors that contribute to reduced service access and poorer outcomes from lung cancer in patients who live in rural and remote Western Australia. This also includes identifying any systematic differences between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients, and the interplay between remoteness and Aboriginal status.

Project Title	HREC1210 - Estimating the number of Aboriginal people in need of alcohol and other drug treatment in WA
Chief Investigator	Professor Alison Ritter
Organisation	UNSW
Approval Date	26/07/2023
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1211 - Dashboard development for passive surveillance of Strep A in Primary Care and Laboratories: Western Australian component.
Chief Investigator	Professor Judith Katzenellenbogen
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	16/02/2023
Project Narrative	Strep-A causes substantial disease burden among Aboriginal people, including superficial and auto-immune diseases like ARF/RHD. This project addresses the need to gather burden of disease information to allow health services to monitor the Strep A burden and service demand over time using their own data, in a way that is consistent and comparable with other regions. Through co-design with services, this project aims to develop standardised data extraction from routine systems and development of dashboards for the passive surveillance of Strep A in participating primary health care services and laboratories in WA, QLD and the NT.

Project Title	HREC1213 - Training Health Providers to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQA+ youth: Phase 2
Chief Investigator	Dr Bep Uink
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	24/02/2023
Project Narrative	This project aims to co-design, implement, and evaluate a culturally-sensitive inclusive practice training for Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCHOS) working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQA+ youth and their families. This project will result in inclusive practice training that can be accessed by staff working in Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) across Australia. The training will build upon staff capacity to support the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQA+ youth and their families.

Project Title	HREC1214 - Preparing for prevention Part 2: Assessing the community awareness of childhood respiratory infections among Aboriginal families in the Perth metropolitan region
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Hannah Moore

Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	24/03/2023
Project Narrative	This project is about conducting yarning groups with Aboriginal families in metropolitan Perth to understand the level of community awareness for a respiratory infection, called Respiratory Syncytial Virus or RSV. It will provide information relevant to Aboriginal families to inform the development of culturally appropriate communication tools to promote awareness of RSV and future prevention measures, like immunisation.

Project Title	HREC1215 - Combining Physical Activity and Psychological Motivation to Increase Physical Activity and Reduce Substance Use among clients in Alcohol and Other Drugs Residential Treatment Facilities
Chief Investigator	Dr Eleanor Quested
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	13/12/2022
Project Narrative	Consumer involvement in the design of a cost-effective interventions for AOD treatments that are easy to deliver and are generally culturally sensitive and inclusive may have positive effects on the knowledge and health of the community at large. The results from this study will be used to conduct a subsequent feasibility trial and if the results are promising, data from this project might be used to lobby for increased funding to enhance the capacity for future research in this area.

Project Title	HREC1216 - Enabling the interpretation and dissemination of data relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTIQ people in Australia
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Adam Bourne
Organisation	La Trobe University
Approval Date	1/06/2023
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1217 - Clinical Yarning Implementation Project (Working title) (Part 1, Ethics for Project Initiation & Planning Phases)
Chief Investigator	Dr Ivan Lin
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	16/02/2023
Project Narrative	Yarn with me: Clinical Yarning Implementation Research Project aims to implement clinical yarning training across six health sites in the Midwest while also developing and implementing sustainable mixed-methods ways of measuring implementation success, as well as understanding the barriers and enablers. Clinical Yarning is a patient-centred communication approach which operationalizes care into the practice behaviours of clinicians when working with Aboriginal patients in order to make clinical care more effective. Clinical Yarning consist of three parts: the social, diagnostic and management yarns.

Project Title	HREC1218 - Healthy Environments and Lives (HEAL) Network WA
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Brad Farrant
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	24/03/2023
Project Narrative	The major focus of HEAL is to create and support a network of stakeholders including communities, community organisations, federal, state and local governments, public health and healthcare sectors, researchers, business and charities to address the health challenges associated with climate change. The HEAL Network is grounded in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander science, culture, knowledge, and wisdom and, therefore, requires robust cultural governance. We work closely with Aboriginal leaders with the aim to protect and improve public health, strengthen health system resilience, and reduce inequities within and across communities and generations.

Project Title	HREC1220 - Residential Aged Care Facility in Newman: A Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study
Chief Investigator	Shannon Monday
Organisation	East Pilbara Independence Support (EPIS Incorporated)

Approval Date	13/04/2023
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1221 - Kicking Goals for Men's Heart Health: A Multi-state Trial of the Aussie-FIT Program
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Eleanor Quested
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	13/04/2023
Project Narrative	Research shows that a 12-week sport-themed program called Aussie-FIT shows promise in attracting men with or at risk of heart health problems and supporting them to become more active and improve their diet. This project will substantiate the program's longer-term impact on cardiovascular health by undertaking research with a larger sample and longer follow up. We will also determine how Aussie-FIT deliveries can be sustained in WA and implemented across other States and Territories (Queensland, Northern Territory). In WA, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation would be probable coincidental recruitment only. Ethical approval will be sought locally in Northern Territory and Queensland.

Project Title	HREC1222 - Deal with Otitis Media Effectively in Primary Care Study (DOME-PC)
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor André Schultz
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	24/03/2023
Project Narrative	In partnership with Aboriginal health services, Government agencies and communities, we will develop and implement evidence-based strategies to improve the detection and management of Otitis Media in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children at the Community level. By bridging the gap between evidence and practice, we will reduce the middle ear disease burden in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and prevent the progression of disease into adulthood.

Project Title	HREC1223 - Maawit Maladjin: A primary care provider intervention to improve early child neurodevelopment in Urban Aboriginal children
Chief Investigator	Professor Daniel McAullay
Organisation	Edith Cowan University
Approval Date	16/02/2023
Project Narrative	Currently some children are not ready to start school in WA and have trouble with learning, moving, talking or playing. This project may provide a solution, using a program called 'Care for Child Development' with families at the start of a baby's life. Through this program parents can support their babies to develop and grow. This will help to make sure that in the future more WA children can be ready to start school.

Project Title	HREC1225 - Incidence and trends of Congenital Heart Disease and acquired heart disease in Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Dr Madhuri Dama
Organisation	Department of Health
Approval Date	12/07/2023
Project Narrative	The main narrative of this project is to look at the rate, and type, of heart disease [congenital and acquired] occurring in children of Western Australia between 2002 – 2022 and compare these findings between different population groups that live in WA. This information will be used to identify potential modifiable factors for the betterment of population health and prevention. It will also pave the way for future research into culturally sensitive programs and service delivery.

Project Title	HREC1226 - A silver fluoride intervention to improve the life trajectories of Indigenous young people and reduce dental disease across the life course
Chief Investigator	Ms Joanne Hedges
Organisation	University of Adelaide
Approval Date	9/03/2023

Project Narrative	Indigenous children and young people experience profound levels of preventable dental diseases. Severe cases frequently require care under a hospital-based general anaesthetic. We plan to arrest active dental disease in Indigenous children/adolescents through an intervention involving silver fluoride (AgF). AgF application is a much less invasive alternative to needles, and drilling and filling, with many cost-benefits. There is particular utility among Indigenous children in remote locations.
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Project Title	HREC1227 - Improving HPV vaccine rates in Aboriginal young people through social media
Chief Investigator	Dr Natalie Strobel
Organisation	Edith Cowan University
Approval Date	18/05/2023
Project Narrative	Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common sexually transmitted infection that can lead to HPV-related cancers. HPV rarely produces symptoms and cannot be cured or treated; therefore, vaccination is essential to protect against HPV and HPV-related diseases. This project aims to improve HPV vaccination rates amongst young Aboriginal people. Our project will combine health messages co-created by young people and implemented by micro-Influencers to improve HPV vaccination.

Project Title	HREC1228 - Child Protection Unit Referrals before and during COVID-19
Chief Investigator	Dr Wei Hao Lee
Organisation	Perth Children's Hospital
Approval Date	12/07/2023
Project Narrative	This project will review all the referrals made to the Perth Children's Hospital Child (PCH) Protection Unit (CPU) before and during the COVID-19 pandemic and will provide invaluable data on the impact of COVID-19 on the referrals and management of these children. This will allow us to better understand the management of these children in Western Australia by comparing ourselves with national and international data, and to improve our services and the outcomes of this vulnerable population.

Project Title	HREC1231 - REACH-B: REal World Assessment of people living with Chronic Hepatitis B in Australia
Chief Investigator	Professor Gail Matthews
Organisation	University of New South Wales
Approval Date	21/08/2023
Project Narrative	<p>Given the limited Australian empirical data of hepatitis B virus (HBV) natural history and care cascade, the third Australian National Hepatitis B Strategy has defined a priority area for action for generating a strong evidence base for local and national responses to hepatitis B in Australia, informed by high-quality, timely data and surveillance systems.</p> <p>The National Strategy has also identified several gaps in the current HBV surveillance data, including data relating to HBV-associated advanced liver diseases and liver cancer, more accurate estimation of the number of people with chronic hepatitis B (CHB) eligible for treatment, and monitoring of HBV testing and treatment.</p> <p>In response to the National Strategy, this study has been designed to establish an observational cohort study of people living with chronic hepatitis B from a national network, including a diverse range of services, to characterise and monitor CHB linkage to care and treatment requirements amongst people living with CHB in Australia.</p>

Project Title	HREC1232 - Bettering Aboriginal Heart Health in Western Australia (BAHHWA): harnessing linked data to inform action
Chief Investigator	Professor Judith Katzenellenbogen
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	18/05/2023
Project Narrative	<p>The Bettering Aboriginal Heart Health in WA (BAHHWA) project centres on cardiovascular diseases using state-wide linked administrative data. Through this study, we work at determining the trends in occurrence, comorbidities and outcomes for Aboriginal people with heart disease and stroke, looking at their age, sex and geographic locations, with a focus on the extent cardiovascular indicators have changed. Such knowledge is used to provide evidence for health policy development and health service responses to the needs of Aboriginal Western Australians with heart disease and stroke.</p>

Project Title	HREC1233 - Medical Neglect at a Tertiary Paediatric Hospital in Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Dr Yu Min Ong
Organisation	Perth Children's Hospital
Approval Date	29/06/2023
Project Narrative	This project will review the medical neglect referrals made to Perth Children's Hospital (PCH) Child Protection Unit (CPU). This will allow us to better understand the management of these children in Western Australia by comparing PCH CPU cases with Australian and international data, and with the goal to improve our services and outcomes of this vulnerable population.

Project Title	HREC1235 - A developmental evaluation of Ngalla Wirrin Wungening (our spirit healing) alcohol and other drug (AOD) program
Chief Investigator	Daniel Morrison
Organisation	Wungening
Approval Date	6/04/2023
Project Narrative	This research project is a values based, developmental evaluation of the developing Ngalla Wirrin Wungening (our spirit healing) alcohol and other drug (AOD) program. The research will support the testing of new ways of working at Wungening and contribute to the evidence base for culturally embedded approaches to AOD treatment in the current landscape.

Project Title	HREC1237 - The Non-Expert Acquisition and Remote Expert Review of Screening echocardiography images from Child health and AnteNatal clinics (NEARER SCAN) study
Chief Investigator	Dr Joshua Francis
Organisation	Royal Darwin Hospital, Menzies School of Health Research
Approval Date	29/06/2023
Project Narrative	Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) disproportionately affects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia, contributing to the pronounced gap in life expectancy and cardiovascular health. Early detection through heart ultrasound (echo) enables timely treatment and can prevent disease progression. The

	NEARER SCAN study aims to evaluate how routine echo screening for RHD can be implemented in a sustainable and culturally safe way for children and pregnant women.
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Project Title	HREC1238 - Moorditj Bibi (good milk): investigating topical breastmilk to prevent and treat ear infections.
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Lea-Ann Kirkham
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	29/06/2023
Project Narrative	Breastmilk has been shown to protect from respiratory and gastrointestinal infections. There is also evidence that topical application of breastmilk is effective in treating skin and eye infections. We are now seeking to pursue scientific evidence for the use of topical breastmilk to treat ear infections after being informed through connections with community that this has been a traditional practice for Noongar mothers.

Project Title	HREC1239 - Kids Easy Breathing Study (Why 19% Indigenous children have bronchiectasis 18 months after hospitalisation for bronchiolitis project)
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor André Schultz
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	21/09/2023
Project Narrative	Doctors and other health care workers have noticed that more Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander infants are hospitalised with acute lung sickness (bronchiolitis) than non-Aboriginal infants. For 4 out of every 5 Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander infants who get this acute lung sickness they will make a full recovery. But for the other 1 in 5, this sickness can hang around and become chronic lung sickness (bronchiectasis). This project is about trying to find out why these 1 in 5 infants get this chronic lung sickness.

Project Title	HREC1246 - The Marurra-U Partnership Project: Evaluation of wrap-around services for children with FASD in the Fitzroy Valley, WA
Chief Investigator	Professor Alexandra Martiniuk

Organisation	The University of Sydney
Approval Date	13/04/2023
Project Narrative	The Marurra-U Project is an effort to enhance and evaluate a community-led, responsive, holistic, wrap-around model of care that can help children, families and organisations with supports for living better with FASD, exposure to early-life trauma, mental health and/or neuro-developmental challenges. This project aims to improve early diagnosis and treatment services for children and families affected by FASD. Long-term benefits anticipated from this research are improved developmental outcomes for children, leading to stronger education, family and community connections.

Project Title	HREC1247 - Improving health outcomes in people with a dual diagnosis released from prison: A multi-jurisdictional, prospective cohort study
Chief Investigator	Professor Stuart Kinner
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	25/08/2023
Project Narrative	People who experience incarceration have remarkably poor health profiles including high rates mental illness, substance dependence, and their co-occurrence ('dual diagnosis'). Health outcomes after incarceration are typically poor, with high rates of fatal and nonfatal drug overdose, self-harm, and suicide concentrated among those with a dual diagnosis. We will establish the world's largest and richest prospective cohort of adults released from prison by combining existing cohort data from four Australian states to generate evidence that can improve justice, health, and social service delivery and mitigate adverse outcomes and preventable mortality among people with dual diagnosis after release from prison.

Project Title	HREC1248 - Mothering in the context of violence: The family and domestic violence and child protection nexus
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Stephan Lund
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	29/06/2023

Project Narrative	<p>Family and domestic violence (FDV) is the primary cause of physical injury in Australian women and the leading reason for children being removed to State-care - particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children - in the Western Australian context. While mothers have historically been held accountable for exposure to and the effects of FDV on their children by child protection authorities, current Department of Communities FDV policy purports to support women as primary victims and advance perpetrator accountability. This research tests this claim by drawing on the lived experience of FDV victim-survivors as they navigate 'the system'. Bringing such experiences to ordinary and academic knowledge provides a scope for self and community -advocacy to improve safety and family life and the potential to influence and inform responsive legislative, policy and practice development.</p>
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Project Title	HREC1251 - Towards a better understanding of trachoma in remote Western Australian communities: combining serology and findings from trachoma screening
Chief Investigator	Dr Stephen Lambert
Organisation	Communicable Diseases Branch, Queensland Department of Health
Approval Date	21/08/2023
Project Narrative	<p>In the Ngaanyatjarra Lands of Western Australia, there are communities where trachoma estimates remain high despite treatment of cases and their contacts. In Queensland between 2016 – 2021, Queensland Health gathered information through taking eye swabs and blood from finger prick tests from people in communities where there remained concerns about ongoing high rates of trachoma. The results showed that trachoma was not a public health problem meaning Queensland could stop further screening and antibiotic treatments. Western Australia Community Health Services and Ngaanyatjarra Health Service staff (working with Queensland Health staff) believe that carrying out similar work in WA communities reporting high levels of trachoma could also help these communities better understand trachoma in their area and improve local decision making about how best to prevent and treat trachoma.</p> <p>There are two activities planned. During the September 2023 routine trachoma screening program of 5–9 year old children, Queensland Health staff will assist to collect eye swabs to test for the germ that causes trachoma in children when there are any signs of infection, this is considered to part of standard public health activity and not research.</p> <p>The Queensland Health team would return to undertake a research activity. Staff will collect dry blood spots (similar to having a diabetes finger prick test for sugar), to look for signs of trachoma infection in the past in children <15 years of age as well as up to 25-50 adult volunteers through informed consent. With the results, we will look for patterns of past infection which will help us understand whether there has been a lot of trachoma germ in the community. The findings of this work would be combined with the results of the swabs to</p>

	provide Western Australia Health and Ngaanyatjarra Health Service staff a better understanding of trachoma in these communities as Australia aims to provide new information to inform and support future treatment and screening programs in these communities.
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Project Title	HREC1252 - How do we keep Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders safe during a crisis? Designing an ethical decision-making matrix through lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic
Chief Investigator	Professor Pat Dudgeon
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	29/06/2023
Project Narrative	The COVID-19 crisis raises issues relating to equity, equality and ethical decision making. Emergency public health responses need to ensure that Indigenous peoples are informed, protected, prioritised, and exercise their right to self-determination. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders are instrumental leaders during emergencies, and we need to ensure that appropriate cultural principles are considered during decision-making processes around safety which impacts on Elders' wellbeing. This process should ensure that the human rights as well as Indigenous rights of Elders are being upheld. This research will explore the social and emotional wellbeing needs and priorities of Elders during crises, taking lessons learnt from the COVID-19 public health response.

Project Title	HREC1253 - PhotoVoice at Ardyaloon Solar Community Hub
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Christina Pollard
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	12/07/2023
Project Narrative	The increasing digitisation of essential health and education services means children and adolescents need to have the skills to thrive in a digital world, and children in remote, isolated communities are often excluded. Through this PhotoVoice Project, the Bardi Jawi community of OAP and the children at the school will have a genuine say in the design and delivery of culturally strong learning resources to improve their health and wellbeing. Participants will be taught how to take photographs to record their lives and the creative images will be shared with classmates and the wider community to identify areas for growth and reinforce safe and strong behaviours.

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Project Title	HREC1254 - Next Generation: Youth Wellbeing Study Phase 2
Chief Investigator	Professor Sandra Eades
Organisation	University of Melbourne
Approval Date	23/03/2017
Project Narrative	<p>The aim of proposed study is to explore the views and opinions of i) young people aged 10-24 years, ii) health care providers about health conditions affecting the wellbeing of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (hereafter Aboriginal) people, factors that influences Aboriginal young people's opportunities for and barriers to maintaining good health and wellbeing, and scope for improvement to enhance the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal young people. Factors that positively or negatively impact the health and wellbeing of adolescents and youth. Interviews with each of the above groups will aim to explore their perception and views on the followings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The predominant health conditions impacting health and wellbeing of Aboriginal young people; 2. Factors The barriers to and enablers of maintaining good health and wellbeing among Aboriginal young people within their immediate association and in the community and wider society; 3. Health care providers' role in enhancing Aboriginal health and wellbeing; 4. Who among Aboriginal young people needs help with their health the most; 5. Future action in enhancing the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal young people.

Project Title	HREC1257 - Characteristics of mothers who do and do not get the appropriate treatment for syphilis in pregnancy in Australia, 2016 to 2021
Chief Investigator	Dr Tony Stewart
Organisation	Australian National University
Approval Date	21/09/2023
Project Narrative	In Australia, the sexually transmitted infection syphilis is increasing among women who are pregnant, and some are passing it on to their babies. This project will result in knowledge that enables us to make sure mums with

	syphilis get the right treatment in time to prevent sickness and death in their babies.
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Project Title	HREC1259 - Undertake an Outcome Evaluation of the Home Stretch WA Program
Chief Investigator	Mr Simon Hood
Organisation	Quantum Consulting Australia Pty Ltd
Approval Date	28/07/2023
Project Narrative	<p>Young people who have experienced out-of-home care (or state care) face significant and complex issues and are considered among the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in society. Furthermore, more than 57 percent of WA children in state care are Aboriginal.</p> <p>At the age of 18, children in state care in WA are deemed legally independent and many are required to exit from their care arrangements.</p> <p>In response, commencing in 2022, Home Stretch provides flexible one-to-one individualised support focused on coaching a young person towards interdependence when exiting the out-of-home-care system at 18 years and up until 21 years. The support is guided by a young person's self-identifying goals and priorities, and can be flexible, responsive and adapted over time. Actions can include obtaining stable accommodation, accessing health services, enrolling in further education, progressing to work opportunities, building support networks and improving financial competence.</p> <p>The following expected public health benefits directly impact life outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people are better prepared and supported to successfully transition to adulthood; • Young people's needs, expectations and circumstances are responded to and met; • Young people have better access to stable accommodation, health care and employment and education opportunities; • Young people maintain and further build a robust sense of identity and are connected to community and culture (and country and kin). <p>Communities has appointed Quantum Consulting Australia to evaluate the program.</p>

Project Title	HREC1260 - What Matters to Kids: Co-designing a wellbeing measure for First Nations children aged 5-11 years
Chief Investigator	Dr Kate Mallory Anderson
Organisation	The University of Queensland.

Approval Date	12/07/2023
Project Narrative	This study will give Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged between 5-11 years, the chance to have a say about what is important to their wellbeing. This is important because it will help us develop a new wellbeing measure that asks questions about what makes a good life for them. The measure will be widely available for use by decision makers to better understand the real impacts of policies and programs to improve the lives of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Project Title	HREC1261 - Wellbeing Factors that Support Cultural Safety and Retention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students at Curtin University
Chief Investigator	Dr Roanna Lobo
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	28/07/2023
Project Narrative	Australia urgently needs more Indigenous people within the health and education workforce, including Indigenous psychologists and teachers. This project aims to understand the factors that support wellbeing, cultural safety and retention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students attending Curtin University, focusing on the School of Population Health (encompassing the Discipline of Psychology) and the School of Education. Specific actions that have the potential to improve wellbeing, cultural safety and retention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students will be identified.

Project Title	HREC1262 - Talking together, walking together
Chief Investigator	Professor Andrew Maiorana
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	21/09/2023
Project Narrative	The Talking Together, Walking Together project will involve researchers working closely with Aboriginal communities to help their people be more active in a way that is right for them. The researchers will work side-by-side with the communities to develop new knowledge for each community to help their people become fitter, stronger and healthier in their bodies and minds.

Project Title	HREC1263 - Check it out, Check it Off: Community led models to optimize the uptake of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health checks and embed STI and BBV testing
Chief Investigator	Mr Robert Monaghan
Organisation	UNSW
Approval Date	21/09/2023
Project Narrative	<p>STIs are curable but often asymptomatic and therefore most people do not seek treatment. STIs disproportionately effect women as delays in treatment and untreated infections are associated with pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), chronic pain and infertility. In men delays in treatment and untreated infections can cause epididymitis. There are significant gaps in the uptake of testing for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and blood-borne viruses (BBVs), which disproportionately affect young Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people. Normalising STI and BBV testing as part of broader health checks is a key strategy to increase testing. The Aboriginal health check, reimbursed by the Medicare Benefits Scheme, (MBS Item 715), is a comprehensive annual general health assessment for Aboriginal people, which includes discussions with patients about their sexual and reproductive health and if warranted STI and BBV testing. Data suggests that 28% of the Aboriginal population had received at least one 715 Health Check in the 12-month period to June 2020. Innovative community-led models are being used by ACCHS and AMSs to optimise both the uptake of 715 health checks, and embedding STI/BBV testing, but have not been formally evaluated. The proposed research will utilise a strengths-based approach, drawing on lessons learnt and successful experiences to co-design and implement novel community-led models in 6-8 ACCHS/AMSs across four jurisdictions (SA, WA, NT, and QLD). The evaluation will assess the impact, acceptability, cost-effectiveness, and affordability of the models, and inform a national scale up plan.</p> <p>Stage 1 of this research (the subject of this application), is consultation with the AHCSA and relevant health services, to determine the participation of two services in South Australia. A baseline site assessment will assist health researchers to determine health service characteristics and that health services fulfill the inclusion criteria – please see attached Site Assessment questions. All consultation and recruitment processes will have an integrated co-design process, and implementation (separate ethics application).</p>

Project Title	HREC1264 - An evaluation of the Dandjoo Bidi-Ak Therapeutic Pilot Court
Chief Investigator	Dr Jocelyn Jones

Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	12/07/2023
Project Narrative	The Dandjoo Bidi-Ak Therapeutic Court aims to provide support by working with parents to identify the issues that led to separation, such as child abuse, neglect, or other circumstances that put children's safety at risk, and to develop a plan to address those issues. The program also aims to provide support to parents during the reunification process to ensure that they can provide a safe and stable home for their children. An evaluation of the operation and effectiveness of Dandjoo Bidi-Ak will assess the achievement of its stated aims and objectives, to inform resourcing decisions and refinement of the Protection and Care therapeutic court model.

Project Title	HREC1265 - Target 120 Evaluation.
Chief Investigator	Mr Simon Hood
Organisation	Quantum Consulting Australia Pty Ltd
Approval Date	7/08/2023
Project Narrative	<p>Young people who have a history of offending, of whom a majority in Western Australia are Aboriginal (despite comprising only three percent of the state's total population), usually experience issues such as family and domestic violence, alcohol and other drug use, mental health issues, trauma, and/or poverty within the family.</p> <p>Carrying a particular emphasis on supporting the complex needs of families, the Target 120 program is a state-wide project that provides targeted early intervention support to participants aged between 10 to 14 who have had repeated contact with the justice system, and their families, who opt into the project.</p> <p>The aim of the proposed evaluation is to independently assess the extent to which the T120 project has achieved its intended outcomes, which include reducing the frequency and/or severity of offending behaviour and strengthening system capacity to better support at-risk young people and their families.</p>

Project Title	HREC1266 - Traditional Complementary, Alternative Medicine Research in First Nation Australians
Chief Investigator	Professor Louise Harms

Organisation	University of Melbourne
Approval Date	21/09/2023
Project Narrative	

Project Title	HREC1267 - Building a Culturally Safe Mental Health System for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Young People
Chief Investigator	Professor Helen Milroy
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	21/09/2023
Project Narrative	This research aims to develop guidelines for making mainstream mental health services more culturally safe for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and their families. We will do this by listening to the experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and their carers/families, as well as engaging with other community members, and our Indigenous research leadership.

Project Title	HREC1268 - Murru Minya: Exploring the conduct of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Michelle Kennedy
Organisation	The University of Newcastle
Approval Date	24/07/2023
Project Narrative	Murru Minya is a large-scale national study to examine the implementation of ethical processes in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research. It is timely to reflect on how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research has been, and continues to be, conducted. This research privileges the voices and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and will lead to the development of key practical recommendations to strengthen research processes, and ultimately improve how health research is conducted with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Project Title	HREC1270 - The Australian Strep A Vaccine Initiative (ASAVI) Aboriginal Urban Pharyngitis Surveillance Study (Perth Aboriginal Sore Throat Study)
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Glenn Pearson
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	27/11/2023
Project Narrative	This study aims to find out what the rates of sore throats and Strep A are in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children living in Perth as well as how the body naturally fights Strep A illness. It is part of the Australia-led Australian Strep A Vaccine Initiative (ASAVI). The results of this study will provide information that will help us design a vaccine to prevent Strep A which will prevent serious diseases such as Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) in the future.

Project Title	HREC1272 - Amplification Outcomes: exploring the outcomes and benefits of providing hearing aids to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children with hearing loss caused from persistent ear disease (otitis media or pOM).
Chief Investigator	Ms Meagan Ward
Organisation	National Acoustic Laboratories
Approval Date	21/09/2023
Project Narrative	This research will lead to an understanding of how to improve hearing services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who have pOM and a related hearing loss. It will provide insights into the resources and supports that are needed to improve hearing aid acceptance and use, and to enable children and their families to get the best outcomes from using hearing aids leading to improved Hearing Australia service provision. The learnings will be used to provide information for primary health, early education services and schools, and other stakeholders on the benefits of hearing aids, and to raise the awareness of hearing aids as an accessible treatment to reduce the impact of hearing loss caused by pOM.

Project Title	HREC1274 - 5,000 PLUMs: learning more about use and accuracy of the PLUM listening skills checklist through over 5,000 sessions of care with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged under 6 years.
Chief Investigator	Ms Samantha Harkus
Organisation	National Acoustic Laboratories

Approval Date	21/09/2023
Project Narrative	<p>Using the PLUM listening skills checklist as part of ear health and hearing checks with under 6-year-old Aboriginal children builds their caregivers' knowledge about listening behaviours to watch for and nurture, helps health practitioners identify children with persistent hearing problems requiring further care earlier in life, and provides reassurance to the parents and caregivers of children who are on track.</p> <p>In this 12-month project, a group of Aboriginal and non-Indigenous researchers will, for the first time, study the relationships between children's PLUM results and their long-term ear health and hearing status, with the aim of providing more detailed information to health practitioners on accuracy, use, and interpretation of the PLUM.</p> <p>Our hoped-for outcome is that, through increased knowledge and use of the PLUM, more parents, caregivers, and health practitioners will understand the link between ear health and listening skills (the first stepping-stone to literacy), and that children with long term ear health problems will be identified and connected with support so early in their lives that they continue to grow and thrive.</p>

Project Title	HREC1275 - Kimberley Connected Program Evaluation
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Eleanor Quested
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	21/09/2023
Project Narrative	<p>Purple Hands Foundation is committed to building its capacity in evaluation to ensure informed decision-making is conducted on program management, an environment of learning by doing is fostered and there is accountability on the programs delivered. The information from this project will be used to improve the program to increase the physical, social and emotional health outcomes for those involved in the program. We will undertake interviews with participants and stakeholders involved in the 'Kimberley Connected Project' conducted by the Purple Hands Foundation.</p>

Project Title	HREC1278 - Making sure kids in hospital stay safe: Improving and maintaining the system that helps them when they are getting sicker
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Fenella Gill
Organisation	Child and Adolescent Health Service

Approval Date	27/11/2023
Project Narrative	If we don't recognize, speak up and seek help for hospitalized Aboriginal children who are getting sicker, very serious consequences can result. It's important to involve families in recognizing if a child is getting sicker, to help prevent serious illness and to ensure that everyone is working together to keep the child safe. By providing culturally relevant resources that empower families with knowledge about recognizing the signs of clinical deterioration, we can enhance their confidence and courage to express concerns and speak up if their child is getting sicker in the hospital.

Project Title	HREC1285 - Investigating the potential role of Aboriginal Doulas/Birth Navigators to improve birth outcomes for Aboriginal women in Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Ms Janinne Gliddon
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	27/11/2023
Project Narrative	This study aims to demonstrate 'how we can implement a culturally responsive curriculum for Aboriginal Doulas to work alongside Aboriginal women and their families across the metropolitan area of Perth, Western Australia during pregnancy, birthing and in the postnatal period. The vision driving this research is creating safer environments for Aboriginal women birthing on, or away from home/country/traditional lands with cultural and emotional support. To achieve this our mission will be to create and develop a sustainable and culturally safe educational program for Aboriginal women to support other Aboriginal women culturally, socially, and emotionally during their pregnancy journeys, birthing and up to 12 months post nataly.

Project Title	HREC1288 - Evaluation of Kimberley Aboriginal Health Research Alliance (KAHRA), 2023
Chief Investigator	Ms Abby-Rose Cox
Organisation	Kimberley Aboriginal Health Research Alliance (KAHRA)
Approval Date	21/09/2023
Project Narrative	Concerns about inappropriate research practices and inadequate benefit for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have long been noted in the Kimberley region of WA and elsewhere in Australia, and are consistent with the experiences of Indigenous peoples internationally. In response to this issue, the

	<p>Kimberley Aboriginal Health Research Alliance (KAHRA) was established to fundamentally change how research is designed, conducted and used in the Kimberley. The KAHRA Board, with a majority of Aboriginal Directors and majority of Kimberley-based Directors, endorsed an evaluation framework for KAHRA in 2021. In 2023 it is now an opportune time to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of KAHRA as its establishment is complete and future planning is in progress. The evaluation is expected to provide useful recommendations for KAHRA moving forward, based on input from a range of stakeholders including Aboriginal people.</p>
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Project Title	HREC1258 - The eGFR3 Study: A prospective longitudinal, cohort study on Chronic Kidney Disease progression in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Adults
Chief Investigator	Professor Jaqui Hughes
Organisation	Flinders University
Approval Date	16/11/2023
Project Narrative	The eGFR3 study will follow up previous participants to find out how their kidney function tracked over the last 10 years. Communities can use this information to provide insight into strategies that may keep kidneys healthy in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Project Title	HREC1270 - The Australian Strep A Vaccine Initiative (ASAVI) Aboriginal Urban Pharyngitis Surveillance Study (Perth Aboriginal Sore Throat Study)
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Glenn Pearson
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	27/11/2023
Project Narrative	This study aims to find out what the rates of sore throats and Strep A are in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children living in Perth as well as how the body naturally fights Strep A illness. It is part of the Australia-led Australian Strep A Vaccine Initiative (ASAVI). The results of this study will provide information that will help us design a vaccine to prevent Strep A which will prevent serious diseases such as Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) in the future.

Project Title	HREC1271 - Optimising mental health promotion in service delivery to justice-involved young people: Service provider perspectives in Western Australia
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Chief Investigator	Ms Lindsay Pearce
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	27/11/2023
Project Narrative	<p>Young people in contact with the criminal justice system experience disproportionately high rates of mental illness, self-harm, and suicide; yet they rarely access primary and preventive care for their mental health problems. Non-acute health and social support services that are more likely to engage with this population (e.g., housing services, community-based alcohol and other drug programs, community-based mental health programs, youth support programs, prison in-reach or transitional support programs) play an important role in embedding mental health promotion and facilitating access to mental healthcare in their services. Through interviews with health and social support service providers that interact with justice-involved young people in the Perth metro area, this project aims to determine novel ways to integrate mental health promotion into services that are not traditionally focussed on mental health.</p>

Project Title	HREC1278 - Making sure kids in hospital stay safe: Improving and maintaining the system that helps them when they are getting sicker
Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Fenella Gill
Organisation	Child and Adolescent Health Service
Approval Date	27/11/2023
Project Narrative	<p>If we don't recognize, speak up and seek help for hospitalized Aboriginal children who are getting sicker, very serious consequences can result. It's important to involve families in recognizing if a child is getting sicker, to help prevent serious illness and to ensure that everyone is working together to keep the child safe. By providing culturally relevant resources that empower families with knowledge about recognizing the signs of clinical deterioration, we can enhance their confidence and courage to express concerns and speak up if their child is getting sicker in the hospital.</p>

Project Title	HREC1282 - Aboriginal women's perspectives on menstrual health and modes of engagement with primary care providers
Chief Investigator	Dr Talila Milroy

Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	16/11/2023
Project Narrative	Improved menstrual health and hygiene is a priority for women globally as it can impact social participation, health and wellbeing. This project aims to explore the perspectives and experiences of Aboriginal women in relation to their menstrual health. In addition it explores how Aboriginal women engage with primary care for their menstrual health needs and how primary care professionals provide care. In the short term the community may benefit from increased knowledge sharing and information about menstrual health and in the long term these findings may inform practice guidelines and resources that could improve menstrual health management for Aboriginal women in Australia generally.

Project Title	HREC1289 - Yarning about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health data in Perth
Chief Investigator	Mr Daniel Morrison-Bird
Organisation	Wungening Aboriginal Corporation
Approval Date	16/11/2023
Project Narrative	This Aboriginal community-led conversation will provide an opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members to share their thoughts and ideas on control over how health data is collected about them, how it is stored, how it is used, and who has access to their data. This information will be used to help inform researcher guidelines for meeting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander data sovereignty in Boorloo.

Project Title	HREC1294 - Chronic disease care on country: Outreach screening incorporating artificial intelligence with multidisciplinary specialist management
Chief Investigator	Dr Angus Turner
Organisation	Lions Outback Vision
Approval Date	16/11/2023
Project Narrative	We plan to deploy a four-wheel-drive van able to travel on unsealed roads to reach remote communities for a comprehensive diabetes and cardiovascular disease focussed health service integrated with existing primary care and connecting to specialist management. For the first time we are bringing

	together all the key community, primary care and specialist stakeholders, as well as a team of internationally-recognised experts in innovative remote health service delivery, to implement and evaluate a novel integrated care model for the people of the remote Pilbara region. It will inform chronic disease management everywhere where specialist care is lacking.
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Project Title	HREC1296 - Exploring care pathways for Aboriginal People in the Kimberley with diabetes-related foot complications
Chief Investigator	Dr Sophie Moustaka
Organisation	Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services
Approval Date	16/11/2023
Project Narrative	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People experience considerably higher rates of diabetes and diabetes-related foot disease (DFD), such as amputation, than non-Indigenous Australians.(1,2) The research team aims to deliver results to Kimberley communities and organisations that will inform and guide local management of DFD. In better understanding patient pathways, the team hopes to empower primary care providers, improve patient outcomes, and reduce need for hospital admissions and patient transfer out of the Kimberley.

Project Title	HREC1299 - Improving access to primary care for Aboriginal babies in Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Professor Daniel McAullay
Organisation	Edith Cowan University
Approval Date	16/11/2023
Project Narrative	In this project we want to find out whether working with healthcare workers can help the deliver better services to Aboriginal babies. We think that by carefully discussing issues with healthcare workers, can improve the number of children who are hospitalised, as well as birth registrations, immunisation rates, and Medicare enrolments.

Project Title	HREC1300 - Trends in CAMHS contact and progress by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children and young people in Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Professor Helen Milroy

Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	16/11/2023
Project Narrative	This research aims to clarify any discrepancies in service provision and mental health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal CAMHS consumers. This is an important first step in improving cultural safety of CAMHS and closing the gap in mental health outcomes for Aboriginal peoples. We will do this by analysing de-identified data that is routinely collected at CAMHS for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal consumers and testing whether the presence of an Aboriginal Mental Health Worker affects the results.

Project Title	HREC1304 - "Our Story Our Way": Progressing Aboriginal community control of regional health priority-setting, investment and research in the Pilbara
Chief Investigator	June Councillor
Organisation	Wirraka Maya Health Service Aboriginal Corporation
Approval Date	
Project Narrative	Without transformed data ecosystems in Aboriginal hands, Aboriginal people in the Pilbara and their community-controlled health organisations will remain disempowered by data collected about them and decisions made without genuine codesign. "Our Story Our Way" will put health and social data back into community control. The Data Repatriation Workstream will access Pilbara data at regional and ILOC levels while the Community Prioritisation Workstream will develop innovative health storyboards for communities to use to prioritize health needs, service developments and future research questions.

Project Title	HREC1306 - The KICA Project
Chief Investigator	Dr Kate Smith
Organisation	UWA
Approval Date	16/11/2023
Project Narrative	The Kimberley Indigenous Cognitive Assessment (KICA) is the only valid memory and thinking assessment for older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It has been 20 years since we first developed the KICA with local Aboriginal communities and organisations in the Kimberley region and it has since been adapted nationally and internationally. Evolving cultural, language, service, and

	digital needs mean it is time to revisit the KICA to make sure it stays a strong and culturally responsive memory and thinking assessment, now and into the future for all older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
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WAAHEC

Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee

Summaries of Approved Projects
January – December 2021

Aboriginal Health Council of WA, 450 Beaufort Street, HIGHGATE WA 6003
Phone: 9227 1631 Fax: 9228 4759 Email: ethics@ahcwa.org



Project Title	HREC1037 - Transforming Indigenous Mental Health and Wellbeing: Stream 3 – Empowering Service Systems
Chief Investigator	Helen Milroy
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	3/8/2021
Project Narrative	We will work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members, consumers, mental health workers, as well as Traditional Healers and Elders to understand what the key components of a culturally safe mental health service are (please see a map of our project below). Improving service systems to be culturally safe for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers of mainstream mental health services is vital for empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities.

Project Title	HREC1038 - Is it lawful to evict children to homelessness from public housing in Western Australia?
Chief Investigator	Mary Anne Kenny
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	1/20/2021
Project Narrative	Each year the Housing Authority evicts hundreds of households, but does not release the data about how many children are evicted to homelessness. This legal research seeks to ascertain the extent of this problem, and to examine whether this practice is lawful. The research will involve a case study of policy reform advocacy to prevent the eviction of children to homelessness from public housing.

Project Title	HREC1039 - Prevention of childhood iron deficiency anaemia in Aboriginal communities
Chief Investigator	Garth Kendall
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	12/11/2020
Project Narrative	In Aboriginal communities in the northern parts of Western Australia, it is common for children to have iron deficiency anaemia. Childhood iron deficiency anaemia affects health and development, and it can have lifelong consequences. The prevalence of childhood iron deficiency anaemia remains high despite the best efforts of families and health service staff over many years. This study, conducted in partnership with the Western Australian Country Health Service, the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services, and the Curtin University Centre for Aboriginal Studies aims to identify barriers and enablers to the successful prevention and management of childhood iron deficiency anaemia in Aboriginal rural and remote communities in Western Australia and to assess the acceptability of a range of interventions.

Project Title	HREC1040 - Do major spinal and hip surgeries improve the lives of children with severe disability and their families?
Chief Investigator	Jenny Downs
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	2/1/2021
Project Narrative	Children with severe intellectual disability can develop problems with their hips and spine which may need orthopaedic surgery. We analysed hospital data for children with intellectual disability and found that children who underwent complex hip and spine surgery needed less frequent hospital admissions after having the surgery. This suggests that surgery to reduce deformity was beneficial to the child's health more generally.

Project Title	HREC1041 - Kimberly Aboriginal Suicide Prevention Trial (KASPT) Evaluation Project
Chief Investigator	Shol Blustein
Organisation	Impact Co.
Approval Date	2/19/2021
Project Narrative	The Kimberley Aboriginal Suicide Prevention Trial (the Trial) trialled a region-wide approach to reduce the prevalence of self-harm and suicide in the Kimberley Region of Western Australia. The Trial had an initial investment of \$5 million dollars into 45 activities and represented the first time that a systems-based approach to reduce self-harm and suicide in Aboriginal Communities adopted the framework articulated in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Evaluation Project (ATSISPEP) report. The key insight emerging from the Trial was that any future approach must prioritise community leadership and governance by investing in creating engaged, robust, effective, and capable community leadership and governance structures that can understand and respond to the breadth of cultural and social determinants that influence the rates of suicide and self-harm.

Project Title	HREC1043 - Enhancing the acceptability of tele and digital health services for Kimberley Aboriginal people
Chief Investigator	Emma Carlin
Organisation	Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services
Approval Date	2/19/2021
Project Narrative	The Kimberley region has an emerging relationship with tele and digital health initiatives. This project will describe the types of telehealth initiatives occurring within the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services and examine barriers, enablers and future opportunities for telehealth across the region. The project will also support the implementation and evaluation of the Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services (KAMS) new telehealth platform, using Visionflex infrastructure, across the KAMS remote clinic sites.

Project Title	HREC1044 - 15 years of research in the Kimberley, 2006-2020
Chief Investigator	Kelly Blackburn
Organisation	Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services
Approval Date	2/19/2021
Project Narrative	The purpose of this research is to investigate the characteristics and outcomes of the last 15 years of health research in the Kimberley region, to inform future research priorities and guidelines in the area. The Kimberley is a heavily researched region and it is important to ensure that the burden of research does not outweigh the benefit it intends to impart on the community

Project Title	HREC1046 - Transitioning from out-of-home care: A longitudinal population-based study
Chief Investigator	Donna Chung
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	5/7/2021
Project Narrative	The study will report on the health, education and justice outcomes of WA First Nations young people who have been placed in out of home care (kincare, foster care and residential care). Importantly it will compare these outcomes with WA First Nations young people not involved in the care system and the populations of young people in WA generally. The findings will identify factors leading to positive outcomes and factors which most disadvantage young people. It is hoped that the most influential factors can be used to drive better culturally responsive practice so that young people's health and wellbeing can be improved. Implementing such approaches could contribute to closing the gap.

Project Title	HREC1047 - Australian Strep A Vaccine Initiative Urban Pharyngitis Surveillance Study
Chief Investigator	Jonathan Carapetis
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	2/19/2021
Project Narrative	Not Provided

Project Title	HREC1048 - Evaluation of the Early Years Intervention: Family Impact Study
Chief Investigator	Rosemary Cahill
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	4/28/2021
Project Narrative	Launched in 2018, the Early Years Initiative (EYI) aims to fast-track improvements in health, development and learning outcomes of children from conception to four years of age through community led changes to services and supports for families and their very young children. This project aims to evaluate the EYI using a variety of methods including surveys, focus groups and interviews. The longer-term project goal is to determine which (and how) local changes can be applied at scale in the future, to benefit young children across Western Australia and beyond.

Project Title	HREC1049 - Training Health Providers to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQA+ youth
Chief Investigator	Bep Uink
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	6/21/2021
Project Narrative	This project will result in inclusive practice training that can be accessed by staff working in Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) across Australia. The training will build upon staff capacity to support the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQA+ youth and their families.

Project Title	HREC1050 - Mothers, their infants and service providers involved in child protection processes
Chief Investigator	Melissa O'Donnell
Organisation	University of South Australia
Approval Date	2/19/2021
Project Narrative	There are rising numbers of pregnant mothers and infants involved in the child protection system. The aim of this research is to understand from mothers and service providers the reasons why families are being notified to child protection, the support being offered to families, their effectiveness and what recommendations they have for improving processes and support.

Project Title	HREC1051 - The Western Australian Heart Valve Study (WAVES)
Chief Investigator	Graham Hillis
Organisation	Royal Perth Hospital
Approval Date	2/19/2021
Project Narrative	The WAVES research project will contribute to knowledge about the long-term outcomes of patients who have had heart valve surgery. Data from this project may lead to improvements in decision-making regarding the management of heart valve disorders. It may also help scientists with the design of future research projects related to heart valve disorders.

Project Title	HREC1052 - Adaptation of 'Coping with self-harm: A Guide for Parents and Families' for Aboriginal parents/carers and communities
Chief Investigator	Pat Dudgeon
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	3/26/2021
Project Narrative	Aboriginal families, young people and mental health and wellbeing stakeholders' understandings, knowledge and lived experience will inform the development of a resource to support Aboriginal families and communities caring for young people who engage in self-harm. The resource booklet for families of young people who self-harm will have broad applicability for other Aboriginal communities across Australia. The on-line version should be able to be adapted to local settings.

Project Title	HREC1053 - Aboriginal Navigator to Support Aboriginal Patients with Cancer in WA
Chief Investigator	Sandra Thompson
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	6/11/2021
Project Narrative	Aboriginal people have poorer outcomes of cancer compared to the broader WA population, even when diagnosed at a similar stage of disease, reflecting poorer access to services, lack of culturally appropriate services and socioeconomic disadvantage. Experience elsewhere has shown the value of "navigators" to assist underserved populations to negotiate their way through the health system. To help improve Aboriginal cancer outcomes, this research explores the views of Aboriginal people with cancer (or their family members) regarding what additional assistance is needed for Aboriginal people accessing cancer treatment in Perth, based upon insights from their own experience. This research uses qualitative approaches information will inform development of an Aboriginal cancer navigator position.

Project Title	HREC1054 - The delivery of aged care services and telehealth during COVID-19 in the Kimberley region of Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Karen Clark-Burg
Organisation	University of Notre Dame
Approval Date	5/3/2021
Project Narrative	Not Provided

Project Title	HREC1055 - Tackling Indigenous Smoking – Regional Grants Impact and Outcome Assessment
Chief Investigator	Raglan Maddox
Organisation	Australian National University
Approval Date	4/9/2021
Project Narrative	The Evaluation explores a range of impacts resulting from the TIS program. This Evaluation is generating evidence to support and inform service providers and communities to accelerated declines in smoking prevalence and related behaviours, ultimately supporting improvements in health outcomes.

Project Title	HREC1056 - Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People's responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic
Chief Investigator	Margaret Raven
Organisation	UNSW
Approval Date	11/24/2021
Project Narrative	This study aims to understand how Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) and the communities they service have responded to the COVID-19 pandemic. The researchers will conduct surveys and interviews/yarning circles in five case study locations, on in NSW and four sites in WA. Baabayan Aboriginal Corporation will support research in Mt Druitt (Sydney, NSW) and Southern Aboriginal Corporation (WA) will support the research across their four sites: Albany, Katanning, Narrogin, and Bunbury. The study will help to identify what protective factors helped to strengthen the well-being of Aboriginal communities during the pandemic and how to respond to future crisis, including the ongoing crisis of COVID-19.

Project Title	HREC1057 - TIMHWB: Cultural Exchange Program for Researchers
Chief Investigator	Pat Dudgeon
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	4/22/2021
Project Narrative	To develop cultural awareness, competency, and capability in research staff undertaking mental health and wellbeing research involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This understanding will have the potential to inform the design and development of programs designed to build the cultural responsiveness of mental health professionals and decolonising educational curriculums, in addition to empowering the SEWB workforce.

Project Title	HREC1058 - Coverage of Diabetic Eye Care in the Kimberley Region According to Population-Based Needs
Chief Investigator	Angus Turner
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	4/21/2021
Project Narrative	This project aims to provide an updated picture of the delivery of diabetic eye care in the Kimberley region, addressing whether the services are meeting the needs of the region. Through this project we can contextualise diabetic eye care in the region and shed a light on which services are being more readily access by the Indigenous people. This project will also be able to identify gaps in service, that through collaboration, can be addressed to improve service delivery and help to work towards lessening the burden of diabetic eye disease.

Project Title	HREC1059 - Koolungar Urban Moorditj Health Skin: Determining the burden of skin disease in urban Aboriginal children and adolescents
Chief Investigator	Asha Bowen
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	4/9/2021
Project Narrative	The Koolungar Moorditj Healthy Skin project aims to discover how common skin infections are for urban-living Aboriginal children. Untreated skin infections can result in hospitalisation, life-threatening bloodstream infections and rheumatic heart disease. In partnership with Noongar Elders and community, our team will determine how common infectious and non-infectious skin diseases are, and identify sustainable, community-wide strategies for prevention.

Project Title	HREC1062 - Delphi Study: Identifying Mental Health Research Priorities for Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Peter McEvoy
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	6/11/2021
Project Narrative	There is limited funding for research in mental health, so it is important that we find out what areas of research would be most beneficial to the community. We did a Delphi study to bring together the views of many people with professional or personal experience in mental health across Western Australia about what research needs to be done (i.e., research priorities) and how (i.e., research principles). We hope that the results will help to guide better funding in mental health research, and helps researchers or clinicians focus on research that is relevant, meaningful and supports the mental health and wellbeing of the WA community.

Project Title	HREC1063 - ENT outreach clinics in the COVID era: lessons learnt and future planning
Chief Investigator	Jafri Kuthubutheen
Organisation	Fiona Stanley Hospital
Approval Date	6/11/2021
Project Narrative	COVID-19 has forced the Ear Nose and Throat (ENT) outreach to the Kimberley region to adapt to a Telehealth model to ensure we can continue to provide a safe and effective service for the communities. Our research is assessing the experiences of both patients and healthcare workers who have been involved in the clinics, to ascertain challenges and benefits of the program, as well as looking at the outcomes from the Telehealth reviews. The research will help us to shape the service that ENT surgeons will continue to provide in the Kimberley region, ensuring that the communities we visit have a say on the model of care they receive.

Project Title	HREC1066 - Be Healthy: Implementing culturally secure programs for obesity and chronic disease prevention with remote Aboriginal communities and families
Chief Investigator	Julia Marley
Organisation	Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services
Approval Date	6/11/2021
Project Narrative	This project combines the power of research to drive evidence-based positive behaviour change with the wisdom, knowledge and cultural strength of Aboriginal communities, integrated with the major Kimberley healthcare providers. The co-designed Be Healthy Program involves practical education, discussion of diabetes and other chronic diseases, healthy cooking on a camp stove, stress management and group physical activity. This project aims to show how the Be Healthy Program can be scaled up and transferred to other Aboriginal communities, leading to reduced rates of diabetes and obesity, and improved health and quality of life.

Project Title	HREC1067 - Investigating progression to type 2 diabetes among Kimberley Aboriginal people to improve screening and prevention
Chief Investigator	Julia Marley
Organisation	Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services
Approval Date	6/11/2021
Project Narrative	Regular screening for diabetes is standard in the Kimberley and this process can also detect people at high risk for diabetes ("pre-diabetes"). This quality improvement project will identify ways to strengthen diabetes screening practices across the Kimberley region through better understanding patterns of progression to diabetes, and generate evidence about beneficial practices and gaps in supporting healthy lifestyle practices for patients with pre-diabetes within primary health care. Longer-term, this may contribute to constraining the enormous burden of diabetes that impacts on individuals, communities and health services.

Project Title	HREC1068 - Pilot Study: Finding Country, Finding Home: Sociocultural spatial analysis of the design and lived experiences of Aboriginal residential aged care
Chief Investigator	Holly Farley
Organisation	University of Notre Dame
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	The demands and challenges facing the ageing Aboriginal population in the North West are being realised and increasingly understood. The small, dispersed populations are experiencing significant barriers in accessing appropriate aged care including, leaving their traditional lands and familiar surrounds. Maintaining connection to Country, family and community, presents significant challenges within residential aged care and the built environment. Using architectural and ethnographic methods, this study analyses the relationship between sociocultural-spatial factors, the resident's ability to find home, maintain connection to Country and Quality of Life. The findings will add to the knowledge about the nature and behaviour of living systems with in Residential Aged Care.

Project Title	HREC1070 - Feed the Little Children Evaluative Research
Chief Investigator	Sandra Wooltorton
Organisation	University of Notre Dame
Approval Date	8/30/2021
Project Narrative	The narrative of this research focuses on how we – as a community – understand wellbeing so that social, cultural and health dimensions are included as a foundation to public policy and practice. We use the Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service's definition of Aboriginal health, which is: "Not just the physical wellbeing of an individual, but the social, emotional and cultural wellbeing of the whole community in which each individual is able to achieve their full potential as a human being, thereby bringing about the total wellbeing of their community. It is a whole of life view and includes the cyclical concept of life-death-life."(KAMS, 2017, P. 2). This research targets the social and cultural dimensions of wellbeing.

Project Title	HREC1071 - Aboriginal Perspectives of Infant Resuscitation
Chief Investigator	Caroline Nilson
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	8/30/2021
Project Narrative	This study will work with the Aboriginal community to create infant resuscitation education that is culturally responsive and safe. This will be the basis for a framework for how health services can provide such education in a culturally safe environment and encourage involvement from the community to share this information.

Project Title	HREC1072 - Kimberley Health Adults Project (Visit 3)
Chief Investigator	Leon Flicker
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	The Kimberley Healthy Adults Project is a longitudinal study which has been working with Derby and 6 Kimberley communities since 2003. The project's aim is to determine what is needed for Aboriginal people in the Kimberley to age well. By looking at older peoples' health and wellbeing outcomes over a long period of time, the project will identify what health and wellbeing characteristics, supports and services are required for older Aboriginal people to age well, informing service provision in the Kimberley region and contributing to a nationwide Aboriginal ageing well strategy.

Project Title	HREC1074 - Is a cultural lens used to deliver smoking cessation health promotion and education to Aboriginal people in a setting in the Wheatbelt, WA? A narrative inquiry
Chief Investigator	Caroline Nilson
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	6/11/2021
Project Narrative	A key aspect which health service providers must consider in order to improve the engagement of Aboriginal Australians in health promotion and preventative services is to ensure services remain respectful and culturally safe to facilitate empowerment of consumers to take control of their health. This is achieved through connecting with and receiving feedback from the individuals and communities in which the service is designed to engage, ensuring a service continues to acknowledge that the health paradigm for Aboriginal Australians adopts a holistic view that incorporates social, emotional and cultural wellbeing, as well as prompting an evaluation of how the service recognises the health of an individual is impacted by connection to land, culture, ancestry and language. The purpose of this study was to hear the unique perspectives and experiences of attendees and facilitators of Ngamari Free smoking cessation health promotion events conducted by the Wheatbelt Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS) program to explore the cultural safety and competence of the quit smoking health promotion and education delivered to Aboriginal people of the Wheatbelt region engaging with the Wheatbelt TIS program.

Project Title	HREC1075 - Longitudinal study of wellbeing and quality of life in remote Indigenous youth: The Bigiswun Kid project
Chief Investigator	Elizabeth Elliott
Organisation	Westmead Clinical School
Approval Date	6/11/2021
Project Narrative	The Bigiswun Kid Project will provide novel information on longitudinal outcomes for adolescents in remote Aboriginal Australia and document first-hand experiences of the facilitators and barriers young people face accessing services. Such information is essential to inform future service planning and provision of specialised support.

Project Title	HREC1077 - Evaluation of the TeleChemotherapy service in country Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Wei-Sen Lam
Organisation	Fiona Stanley Hospital
Approval Date	6/11/2021
Project Narrative	The WA Country Health Service (WACHS) introduced TeleChemotherapy in 2019. Currently available in Broome, Karratha, and Narrogin, cancer specialists use telehealth to support country people with cancer to receive treatments like chemotherapy close to home. In this way, TeleChemotherapy aims to improve outcomes of country people affected by cancer, including the many Aboriginal people with cancer living in these communities. This research project explores patient and healthcare professional experiences with TeleChemotherapy, as well as information about treatment types, safety, and estimated costs. These results allow us to better understand this cancer service, so that TeleChemotherapy can be improved to better serve country and Aboriginal people with cancer.

Project Title	HREC1078 - Evaluation of the Indigenous DRUMBEAT Program Pilot
Chief Investigator	Karen Martin
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	6/11/2021
Project Narrative	The significant health issues within the Indigenous populations in the Kimberley region requires innovative strategies which are culturally appropriate and safe. This projects involves the evaluation of the pilot testing of the Indigenous DRUMBEAT Program in Broome and Halls Creek. The Indigenous DRUMBEAT Program involves ten sessions of drumming using Djembes and therapeutic discussion led by a local Aboriginal person trained in delivering the program. By interviewing people who participate in the Indigenous DRUMBEAT program, and the facilitators who lead and support the sessions, this project will determine the impact of the program. Evaluation results will assist with program refinement and the potential wider implementation of the program to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders nation-wide.

Project Title	HREC1080 - Deadly Koolinga Chef Program: Kwob mereny, moorditj kaadadjan (good food, wonderful learning)
Chief Investigator	Caroline Nilson
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	6/11/2021
Project Narrative	The Deadly Koolinga Chef Program (DKCP) is an Aboriginal community-based translational research project providing cooking and nutrition instruction to children and adolescents aimed at improving health outcomes by developing knowledge and skills in good nutrition, healthy eating, and cooking. The translational research project is being conducted in partnership with Aboriginal organisations, an Aboriginal health service, local government and schools in the Peel region (Bindjareb Nyungar boodjar) of WA and is delivering cooking and nutrition classes for children and adolescents on a weekly basis through the school terms.

Project Title	HREC1082 - Using Co-design to develop an Aboriginal Graduate Nurse Program
Chief Investigator	Rhonda Marriott
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	Not Provided

Project Title	HREC1083 - A Profile of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker/Practitioner Workforce and its involvement in Hearing Health Care
Chief Investigator	Helen Goulios
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	8/30/2021
Project Narrative	Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners complete wide-ranging studies in primary health care enabling workers to provide culturally safe health care including in managing hearing problems and ear disease. There is a lack of information about the professions' profile and further research is needed to determine the adequacy of professional resource numbers. When asked about the challenges in working in rural and remote areas, the professions strongly indicated that lack of resources including inadequate funding, a lack of urgency by government, the need for additional health workers who were (up-)skilled in ear and hearing health and more professionals living and working in rural and remote areas.

Project Title	HREC1084 - Cohort of Australian HIV Women (CLIO)
Chief Investigator	Kathy Petoumenos
Organisation	Kirby Institute, UNSW
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	The CLIO study aims to describe the current clinical health, experiences and potential gaps in clinical care of women living with HIV in Australia. The findings from this study will help to inform prevention and education initiatives and improve health outcomes and equity among women living with HIV.

Project Title	HREC1085 - The effect of maternal age and ethnicity on pregnancy complications, length of labour, and mode of birth in Western Australia.
Chief Investigator	Gizachew Tessema
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	This project aims to investigate the role of maternal age and ethnicity for pregnancy and labour complications among first time mothers in WA. The findings of the research will inform maternal health services in Australia.

Project Title	HREC1086 - Aboriginal Noongar Men's Lived Experiences on Childbirth
Chief Investigator	Diana Arabiat
Organisation	Edith Cowan University
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	The findings from this project will provide an understanding of the importance of Noongar men's role during childbirth within Aboriginal communities and the wider health care community. The findings from this study may influence health guidelines and policy and enhance cultural competency practices within health care providers' practice.

Project Title	HREC1087 - Evaluating the introduction of Humidified High-Flow nasal cannula therapy into an Australian Aeromedical Service within a paediatric population
Chief Investigator	Cameron Yap
Organisation	Perth Children's Hospital
Approval Date	8/30/2021
Project Narrative	Not Provided

Project Title	HREC1088 - Aboriginal preschool children's oral health
Chief Investigator	Linda Slack-Smith
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	This project will raise the profile for Aboriginal families of the impact of high sugar consumption on their young children's health and what the alternatives are. The research will give a voice to Aboriginal people about their knowledge and experiences related to this issue, the challenges they face and behaviours that can either promote or compromise good health.

Project Title	HREC1089 - Increasing Aboriginal women's engagement with antenatal and postnatal services to prevent congenital syphilis in Western Australia: Stories of success and lessons learned
Chief Investigator	Roanna Lobo
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	The syphilis epidemic has been ongoing for more than seven years in some WA regions. Identifying ways to engage Aboriginal pregnant women in antenatal and postnatal care is critical to diagnose syphilis early and prevent congenital syphilis. Sharing stories of success and lessons learned across the WA regions is important to improve pregnancy outcomes for Aboriginal women and their babies.

Project Title	HREC1090 - Tjilku Walykumunu: Ngaanyatjarra Lands Child Health Study
Chief Investigator	Rosalie Schultz
Organisation	Ngaanyatjarra Health Service
Approval Date	8/30/2021
Project Narrative	This study aims to explore ways to improve health outcomes for children living in the geographically isolated Aboriginal communities of the Ngaanyatjarra lands. We will investigate the social, cultural, environmental, economic factors, and health influences affecting child health in the Ngaanyatjarra lands and describe the implications of these factors for improving child health outcomes in the Ngaanyatjarra region.

Project Title	HREC1092 - Health service utilisation and preventable mortality among justice-involved young people: A national, retrospective data linkage study
Chief Investigator	Stuart Kinner
Organisation	University of Melbourne
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	Young people exposed to the youth justice system experience profound health disparities. A critical barrier to protecting the health of these vulnerable young people is a persistent lack of information on their health needs, and the use of this information to guide evidence-informed responses to reduce inequity. This project uses a globally unprecedented, national data linkage of de-identified youth justice, mortality, and health records to fill this knowledge gap and drive forward effective, evidence-based policy and practice responses that support the health of some of Australia's most marginalised young people.

Project Title	HREC1093 - Co-design of youth-friendly, culturally appropriate models of care with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Youth with type 2 diabetes
Chief Investigator	Renae Kirkham
Organisation	Menzies School of Health Research
Approval Date	8/30/2021
Project Narrative	Only a few decades ago, type 2 diabetes was generally considered to be a condition of adulthood and was rarely seen in children and young people. Our project has recently highlighted a marked increase in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and youth being diagnosed with type 2 diabetes across Northern Australia ¹ . Subsequently, there is a critical need for diabetes health services that are responsive to the physical and psychosocial needs of young people. Our study aims to collaboratively develop and evaluate culturally safe and age-appropriate approaches to diabetes care for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across Northern Australia. 1 Titmuss A, Davis E, O'Donnell V, Wenitong M... Maple-Brown L, Haynes A., on behalf of the Hot North Diabetes in Youth Collaboration group, Youth type 2 diabetes among First Nations young people in northern Australia: a retrospective, cross-sectional study, Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol 2021

Project Title	HREC1094 - Transforming Indigenous Mental Health and Wellbeing Project – Mapping Patient Journeys
Chief Investigator	Helen Milroy
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	We will combine various sources of information (consumer interviews & observational studies) to model and map the journey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers of mental health services, through the mental health system in the Great Southern region. This will help us identify points in the system which need improvement to promote cultural and clinical safety in both the short and long term. Improving service systems to be culturally safe for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers of mainstream mental health services is vital for empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities.

Project Title	HREC1095 - Youth Consultations on Cultural, Social and Emotional Wellbeing Service and Information Needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youths
Chief Investigator	Pat Dudgeon
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	<p>To understand the cultural, social, and emotional wellbeing service and resource needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people when they, their families or communities are experiencing crisis. This understanding will highlight any gaps between the services and resources currently available, and the needs required to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people.</p> <p>This understanding will have the potential to inform the design and development of additional services and resources that will contribute to improving the cultural, social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, to strengthen self-determination and resilience, and address the high suicide rates among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people. In the longer term, an improved social and emotional wellbeing will increase resilience in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young peoples and protect against suicidal thoughts and behaviours.</p>

Project Title	HREC1096 - Health Outcomes of Children Living in Out-of-Home Care(OOHC) in Metropolitan Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Hope Kachila
Organisation	University of Notre Dame
Approval Date	11/24/2021
Project Narrative	The aim of this research is to examine and establish the health outcomes of children living in out-of-home care (OOHC) in Perth from the perspective of the care recipients and service providers. A Study Advisory Panel will be established comprised of Aboriginal Elders, family members and other relevant stakeholders which will help co-design all phases of the study. The research will produce an overview of the current health needs and a baseline evaluation of the current processes along with the perspectives of service consumers, providers and stakeholders which will provide valuable evidence for quality improvement of health service delivery to better meet the needs of children and young people in OOHC.

Project Title	HREC1097 - Family and Domestic Violence Hubs Monitoring and Evaluation: Phase 2
Chief Investigator	David Hodgson
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	Curtin University is researching the benefits and effectiveness of the FDV hubs in Mirrabooka and Kalgoorlie. The study will help better understand how hubs can reduce family and domestic violence in the community and improve services for women experiencing family and domestic violence.

Project Title	HREC1098 - Wangkiny Yirra "Speaking Up" Project - First Nations women and children with disability and their experiences of family and domestic violence
Chief Investigator	Jocelyn Jones
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	8/30/2021
Project Narrative	First Nations women and children with disability are at greater risk of family and domestic violence and its consequences than their non-Indigenous peers. Despite this, the voices of Aboriginal people are largely missing from disability research in Australia. The aim of this project is to consult with First Nations communities and key stakeholders in Western Australia (WA) to gain an understanding of their experiences of family and domestic violence, the factors they believe open them to the risk of harm, their observations of barriers or enablers to seeking assistance and support, and views on best practice in currently available or recommendations for future culturally safe prevention and protection programs.

Project Title	HREC1099 - Aboriginal families' perceptions of the role of added sugar in health
Chief Investigator	Linda Slack-Smith
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	8/30/2021
Project Narrative	This project will raise the profile for Aboriginal families of the impact of high sugar consumption on their young children's health and what the alternatives are. The research will give a voice to Aboriginal people about their knowledge and experiences related to this issue, the challenges they face and behaviours that can either promote or compromise good health.

Project Title	HREC1101 - Poche Proposal – Child and Adolescent Health Service Aboriginal Family and Youth Engagement Project
Chief Investigator	Melanie Robinson
Organisation	Child and Adolescent Health Service
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	The project aims to measure the experiences of Aboriginal families and young people and how they interact with the Child and Adolescent Health Service. The interactions with Aboriginal families are often difficult to measure and an unpleasant experience with a health service can often have an impact on future attendance at appointments and across time this can impact on the health and wellbeing of the Aboriginal children and young people. By utilising an existing tool to measure the patient experience we can begin to capture some of the voices of the Aboriginal families and utilise this to design and implement services that meet the needs of Aboriginal families.

Project Title	HREC1102 - Indigenous worldviews incorporated into m-health approaches for Indigenous women and children. Mums & Bubs Deadly Diets.
Chief Investigator	Kym Rae
Organisation	University of Queensland
Approval Date	11/24/2021
Project Narrative	The Mums & Bubs Deadly Diets project aims to co-design a prototype of a smartphone application or web-based tool with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, women, and communities to support healthy eating and healthy behaviours during pregnancy. The project will showcase Indigenous perspectives on nutrition needs in pregnancy, the potential of mobile health to address needs and will contribute to knowledge on how emerging technologies are built with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Project Title	HREC1103 - Co-designed system strengthening in community-controlled primary health care to increase clinical referrals to remote Aboriginal environmental health services based on need
Chief Investigator	Ray Christophers
Organisation	Nirrumbuk Environmental Health & Services
Approval Date	11/24/2021
Project Narrative	Not Provided

Project Title	HREC1106 - Co-designing the Curtin University Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Strategy
Chief Investigator	Michael Wright
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	Aboriginal Elders, young people, academics and senior non-Aboriginal research staff at Curtin University will work together to develop an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Strategy that promotes Aboriginal ways of working and supports non-Aboriginal researchers to conduct culturally safe research with Aboriginal people. This co-design process will support the building of relationships and help non-Aboriginal academics to understand an Aboriginal worldview to change how Curtin undertakes Aboriginal research. In the long term, this way of working, together with the new Research Strategy, will promote greater self-determination and support Aboriginal peoples' social and emotional health and wellbeing.

Project Title	HREC1107 - Exploring the role of the Endorsed Midwife in an Aboriginal Medical Service setting
Chief Investigator	Nina Sivertsen
Organisation	Flinders University
Approval Date	11/24/2021
Project Narrative	This project aims to provide information to, and build capacity of, Aboriginal Medical Services maternal health models by identifying barriers and enablers of the role of the Endorsed Midwife in the AMS setting. Perspectives of Aboriginal women who have connected and utilised the Endorsed midwife service provides wholistic feedback of their experiences, yielding data useful to improve service implementation and quality.

Project Title	HREC1110 - RANZCOG Maternal Health Mapping Project (WA)
Chief Investigator	Tracy Reibel
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	11/24/2021
Project Narrative	The RANZCOG Maternal Health Mapping Project (WA) is an important opportunity for women to provide their views, ideas and opinions of women's health services including what needs to change and be improved. Both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women's voices will be included. We will speak to women in diverse locations to ensure a diversity of views are collected.

Project Title	HREC1112 - Both-Way Learning: Aboriginal community-led health promotion action research
Chief Investigator	Judith Katzenellenbogen
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	11/24/2021
Project Narrative	This project aims to put into practice and evaluate a Both-Way-Learning (BWL) model for health promotion to increase research skills among Aboriginal people in WA and address community health priorities, initially in the South West region. Collaborating with and nested in the South West Aboriginal Medical Service (SWAMS), we will conduct BWL workshops with volunteer community researchers designed to develop research skills including numeracy, critical thinking, conceptual clarity and analytical skills using community health data. Using co-design processes, local community researchers will examine and select the most appropriate, useful and acceptable methods and objectives for their action research projects focussing on community-prioritised health promotion topics that have potential to improve the health of the local Aboriginal community.

Project Title	HREC1114 - Characteristics of Aboriginal Australians with obstructive sleep apnoea and CPAP treatment outcomes at a large Western Australian sleep service
Chief Investigator	Nigel McArdle
Organisation	Western Australian Sleep Disorders Research Institute
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	Sleep Apnoea is a condition that makes breathing during sleep difficult, causing sleepiness and poorer long term health. Understanding differences in the condition and its treatment between Aboriginal and Caucasian patients will help provide better individual care and inform patient choices.

Project Title	HREC1115 - Yarning About COVID (YAC) survey
Chief Investigator	Shea Spierings
Organisation	University of Queensland
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	The aim of the Yarning About COVID (YAC) survey is to gain an understanding of how information about COVID-19 has been shared and understood among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia. This project uses a survey to gather quantitative data that will be used to inform future pandemic health messaging strategies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Project Title	HREC1116 - Using the Growth and Empowerment Measure as a vehicle for service improvement.
Chief Investigator	Daniel Morrison
Organisation	Wungening Aboriginal Corporation
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	There is a pressing need to improve child protection systems for Aboriginal families in Western Australia, and in particular to support Aboriginal-led and delivered programs such as Wungening Moort. Wungening Moort will use the Growth and Empowerment Measure (GEM tool), which was developed by Aboriginal people, to measure the healing and empowerment families experience in the program and use this knowledge to improve the Wungening Moort program. This will build the evidence-base for Aboriginal-led programs which keep children and young people safely at home, connected with country, culture and community.

Project Title	HREC1117 - Aboriginal Consumer-Led Strategies to Reduce Harms From Illicit Drugs
Chief Investigator	Roanna Lobo
Organisation	Curtin University
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	Health and social costs of injecting drug use are high. The proposed interventions are consistent with a holistic approach to promoting health and wellbeing in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations and address structural drivers of health inequities

Project Title	HREC1121 - Characterising Hepatitis B in Australia through Molecular epidemiology longitudinal cohort study (CHARM 2) - longitudinal cohort study
Chief Investigator	Joshua Davis
Organisation	Menzies School of Health Research
Approval Date	10/26/2021
Project Narrative	The CHARM2 study is learning more about the types of Hepatitis B virus in Australia. This virus is very common in Aboriginal people across Australia and can cause liver failure and cancer. Research in the Northern Territory shows that the types of Hepatitis B virus in Australia are probably different to those in other countries. Learning more about the types of the virus in Western Australia will help find the best way to look after people with Hepatitis B.

Project Title	HREC1123 - A retrospective review of orbital floor reconstructions done in a tertiary hospital by the maxillofacial department
Chief Investigator	Lewis Hong
Organisation	Royal Perth Hospital
Approval Date	11/24/2021
Project Narrative	The main aim of this project is to look at the population of patients who undergo surgery for their eye socket after sustaining certain types of fractures, as well as the post-surgical outcomes. This data would assist in identifying Australian trends; data that may be useful for resource allocation and guiding future prospective studies.

Project Title	HREC1124 - Evaluation of a Service Delivery Model for the Yiriman Traditional Healing Practices Pilot
Chief Investigator	Gillian Kennedy
Organisation	University of Notre Dame
Approval Date	11/24/2021
Project Narrative	The Yiriman Traditional Healing Practices Pilot (THPP) seeks to harness the ancient wisdom and knowledge of Aboriginal traditional healing methods to address trauma and improve the well-being of Aboriginal people in the Kimberley, through its integration into the western medical system. This research, at the Nulungu Research Institute at The University of Notre Dame, Broome campus, will evaluate the process taken to develop a service delivery model for Traditional Healing in the Kimberley region. The project is being driven by cultural bosses of the Yiriman Project, under the auspices of the Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre.

Project Title	HREC1125 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQA+ Social Emotional Wellbeing Care: Consumer Focus Groups
Chief Investigator	Andrea Steele
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	11/24/2021
Project Narrative	This study will explore the needs and desires of Aboriginal LGBTQA+ adults when accessing Social Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) care services the Perth and Peel regions of Western Australia. In doing so, this study will be able to better equip service providers to support Aboriginal LGBTQA+ adults, with the goal of increasing patient wellbeing outcomes and service engagement.

Project Title	HREC1126 - Desktop research to inform the Kimberley Aboriginal Suicide, Mental Health and Self Harm Data Scoping Project
Chief Investigator	Kimberley Seear
Organisation	Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services
Approval Date	11/24/2021
Project Narrative	The collection and analysis of relevant, high-quality data is necessary to support suicide prevention efforts. This desktop research project (primarily a literature review) will consolidate key existing knowledge and elucidate areas of uncertainty, to inform the decision-making of the Kimberley Aboriginal Suicide, Mental Health and Self-Harm Data Scoping Project Reference Group.

Project Title	HREC1128 - Do You See What I See? Research Project The perceptions of White Western Australians working in the human services sector and Aboriginal clients in the Perth Metropolitan area
Chief Investigator	John Carapetis
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	11/24/2021
Project Narrative	In better understanding these perceptions and how they mediate the interactions of the two groups it is proposed that these learnings and findings could form the evidence for more effective models of service delivery.

Project Title	HREC1131 - Regional collaboration to create a Kimberley Health Evidence Data Platform
Chief Investigator	Mick Gooda
Organisation	Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services
Approval Date	12/15/2021
Project Narrative	Our vision is to create a linked Kimberley primary health care data platform, collaboratively, safely and securely, with appropriate access and use defined for health services and researchers.

Project Title	HREC1133 - Co-designing mindful compassion programs for wellbeing in the Fitzroy Valley
Chief Investigator	Amy Finlay-Jones
Organisation	Telethon Kids Institute
Approval Date	12/15/2021
Project Narrative	In this project, Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre are working with Telethon Kids Institute to develop a resource for promoting community wellbeing and supporting community workers to manage the effects of trauma. Our resource will focus on compassion - understanding how people can take care of themselves and other people without getting overwhelmed or burnt out.

Project Title	HREC1113 - A novel pilot project to improve sexual health engagement among young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in remote communities - Enhanced Walkabout Barber
Chief Investigator	Robert Monaghan
Organisation	Kirby Institute, UNSW
Approval Date	12/15/2021
Project Narrative	<p>Through co-design, collaboration and implementation with the Warburton community and health service we will increase local Aboriginal workforce capacity in Ngaanyatjarra Health Service (Peer Connectors), improve STI knowledge (community engagement with Walkabout), increase STI testing and treatment (community level coverage to reduce prevalence) and build partnerships and optimise referral pathways for sexual and mental health for the community.</p> <p>This project builds on an existing service, Walkabout Barber/Beauty, to raise awareness and knowledge of sexual health in the context of haircuts and beauty services in Warburton WA in partnership with Ngaanyatjarra Health Service. Members of the community are offered the opportunity to access either a free hair-cut or beauty service provided by Walkabout Barber enterprise, as well as attend a yarning circle workshop around sexual health, suicide prevention and access to Ngaanyatjarra Health services, conducted by Mr Dowd, (a trained trauma and recovery specialist) as well as Aboriginal Peer connectors (one male and one female) from within the community employed by NHS to engage and support community in a culturally safe way.</p>

Project Title	HREC1120 - Quantifying health service utilisation, mortality and temporal trends in people with mental illness or suicidal behaviour in Western Australia
Chief Investigator	Colleen O'Leary
Organisation	Office of the Chief Psychiatrist
Approval Date	12/15/2021
Project Narrative	This data linkage project will enable an in-depth examination of the patient journey over a ten-year period including their use of mental and physical health services, the standards of psychiatric care provided, and patient outcomes. The findings will have implications for planning, policy, practice and health service delivery relating to all Western Australians with mental illness or suicidal behaviour who are in contact with secondary health services.

Project Title	HREC1111 - Impact of Rapid Access to cardiology Determined multi-modality testing among Individuals presenting with new onset Chest pain: improving quality, efficiency and cost effectiveness at Royal Perth Hospital: The RADICAL project
Chief Investigator	Jonathan Spiro
Organisation	Royal Perth Hospital
Approval Date	12/15/2021
Project Narrative	Heart attacks remain the biggest killer in Australia and it is important to pick up symptoms early. Our study involves setting up a rapid access chest pain clinic at Royal Perth Hospital where we can learn more about which is the best test for people with chest pain. Through our research we hope to pick up important heart disease early so that we can continue to improve the health of people with heart disease.

Project Title	HREC1125 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQA+ Social Emotional Wellbeing Care: Consumer Focus Groups
Chief Investigator	Andrea Steele
Organisation	Murdoch University
Approval Date	12/15/2021
Project Narrative	This study will explore the needs and desires of Aboriginal LGBTQA+ adults when accessing Social Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) care services the Perth and Peel regions of Western Australia. In doing so, this study will be able to better equip service providers to support Aboriginal LGBTQA+ adults, with the goal of increasing patient wellbeing outcomes and service engagement.

Project Title	HREC1099 - Aboriginal families' perceptions of the role of added sugar in health
Chief Investigator	Linda Slack-Smith
Organisation	The University of Western Australia
Approval Date	12/15/2021
Project Narrative	This project will raise the profile for Aboriginal families of the impact of high sugar consumption on their young children's health and what the alternatives are. The research will give a voice to Aboriginal people about their knowledge and experiences related to this issue, the challenges they face and behaviours that can either promote or compromise good health.



WAAHEC

Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee

Summaries of Approved Projects

January – June 2016

This lay summary is for projects approved between January to June 2016. This document is made available to assist researchers, institutions and the general public search for projects have ethics approval from the Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee.

Project Title	<i>2016 / 690 - Western Australian component of South Australian and Northern Territory Stroke Study (initial phase) (SAiNTSS1): Indigenous vs. non – Indigenous stroke incidence, mortality and disease burden</i>		
Chief Investigator	Judith Katzenellenbogen		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	25/10/2015	Finish Date	31/01/2020
Project Summary	The aim of the SAiNTS Study is to assess the impact of stroke on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in SA, NT and WA, to outline barriers to care, and to identify critical targets to influence health system enhancement and change that will ultimately result in best practice health care and improved outcomes. This will involve a comparison with the non-Aboriginal population to determine disparities between the two population groups.		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 691 - A collaborative mumps outbreak investigation</i>		
Chief Investigator	Ashley Eastwood		
Institution	WACHS		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	12/01/2016	Finish Date	30/04/2016
Project Summary	<p>What can we learn about factors contributing to the 2015 mumps outbreak in the Kimberley?</p> <p>Describe the characteristics of Aboriginal people diagnoses with mumps as a notifiable condition during the 2015 outbreak including their vaccination history, age, social circumstances, comorbidities, genotype, access to healthcare and map geographic mobility and epilinks</p> <p>To convene an Aboriginal reference group to discuss these findings, consider their implications and develop guidance for KPHU for future disease control responses including community wide initiatives</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 700 - Aboriginal women yarning about experiences as a student nurse in a WA university</i>		
Chief Investigator	Melanie Robinson		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	Perth Metro, South West		
Start Date	July 2016	Finish Date	December 2018
Project Summary	<p>This study proposes to examine the experiences of third year Aboriginal nursing students and newly graduated Aboriginal nurses, to identify commonalities within their experiences related to what helped or hindered them in their studies.</p> <p>Aboriginal students experience high rates of attrition and lower completion rates in the nursing programs at the undergraduate level. A number of previous studies have explored the barriers to completion and strategies necessary for Aboriginal nursing student success but they have not been conducted in Western Australia.</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 701 – Progression of chronic kidney disease to end – stage in the Kimberley region</i>		
Chief Investigator	Emma Griffiths		
Institution	Kimberley Renal Services & Rural Clinical School of Western Australia		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	March 2016	Finish Date	March 2017
Project Summary	<p>The aim of the project is to therefore determine the effect of AKI in contributing to the progression of existing CKD in an Aboriginal cohort. This will be achieved by fulfilling a number of specific aims including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying the number of episodes of AKI • Describing the cause and severity of AKI episodes • Comparing the progression of CKD towards ESKD between people with CKD with AKI and people without AKI • Identifying and controlling for chronic disease indicators (cardiovascular disease, diabetes mellitus, hypertension, ACE inhibitor use) that are related to progression to ESKD • Identifying the service indicators (health system access via primary care providers/ nephrology services) related to progression to ESKD. 		

Project Title	2016 / 705 – An evaluation of health services (Perth and Kimberley) for the treatment of congenital hip problems, talipes (club foot) and other significant congenital or early childhood musculoskeletal abnormality, in children from the Kimberley Region of Western Australia.		
Chief Investigator	David Atkinson		
Institution	Rural Clinical School of Western Australia and Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	April 2016	Finish Date	December 2017
Project Summary	<p>The aim of the project is to therefore determine the effect of AKI in contributing to the progression of existing CKD in an Aboriginal cohort. This will be achieved by fulfilling a number of specific aims including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying the number of episodes of AKI • Describing the cause and severity of AKI episodes • Comparing the progression of CKD towards ESKD between people with CKD with AKI and people without AKI • Identifying and controlling for chronic disease indicators (cardiovascular disease, diabetes mellitus, hypertension, ACE inhibitor use) that are related to progression to ESKD • Identifying the service indicators (health system access via primary care providers/ nephrology services) related to progression to ESKD. 		

Project Title	2016 / 707 – <i>Developing lung function reference ranges in Aboriginal Australians</i>		
Chief Investigator	Graham Hall		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	01/06/2016	Finish Date	31/06/2019
Project Summary	<p>The specific aims of this project are to:</p> <p>AIM 1: Characterise lung function using spirometry, gas transfer and static lung volumes lung function tests in Aboriginal Australian children and adults without known lung disease.</p> <p>AIM 2: Develop robust lung function reference equations in healthy Aboriginal Australians using the approach utilised by the Global Lung Function Initiative.</p>		

Project Title	2016 / 670 – <i>Getting it right: The validation study</i>		
Chief Investigator	Maree Hackett		
Institution	George Institute for Global Health		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	January 2016	Finish Date	September 2016
Project Summary	The primary aim of the study is to assess the validity of the adapted PHQ – 9 (a PHQ – 9) and the contribution of the additional seven questions. This will provide the evidence for whether we can recommend use of the PHQ-9 as a screening tool for depression and for the assessment of social and emotional wellbeing in health services research, clinical care delivery and policy evaluation in Federal and State chronic diseases programs.		

Project Title	2016 / 706 – <i>Can an ECG device be used by Aboriginal Health Workers and other community workers to undertake opportunistic screening to detect abnormal heart rhythm including Atrial Fibrillation and determine and prevalence of Atrial Fibrillation in Aboriginal people in Australia?</i>		
Chief Investigator	Sandra Hamilton		
Institution	UWA		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	01/05/2016	Finish Date	01/05/2018
Project Summary	<p>This study aims to determine if a portable ECG device can be used for opportunistic screening in rural and remote communities to detect abnormal heart rhythm and determine the prevalence Atrial Fibrillation (AF) and facilitate referral and treatment pathways to prevent the effects of Atrial Fibrillation, including stroke and premature death.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Determine the feasibility of a portable ECG device to diagnose abnormal heart rhythm in Aboriginal people through opportunistic screening through local health services and health workers. 2) Provide estimate rates on the prevalence of AF in Aboriginal people in Western Australia (WA). 3) To provide a framework for larger scale studies using the same diagnostic model to determine the prevalence of AF in Aboriginal people across Australia. 4) Facilitate and enable the treatment and management of Aboriginal people living with AF. 5) Improve AF health literacy in Aboriginal people and health workers. 6) Help prevent the effects of untreated AF in Aboriginal people; including ischemic stroke and premature death. 7) Provide a pathway to introducing more health awareness into cardiovascular disease and its causes in Aboriginal people. 		

Project Title	2016 / 686 – <i>The bacteria associated with term and preterm birth</i>		
Chief Investigator	Julie Quinlivan		
Institution	University of Notre Dame		
Region	Pilbara		
Start Date	01/02/2016	Finish Date	30/06/2017
Project Summary	<p>The specific aims of this project are to: To identify and compare the normal vaginal and placental bacterial species in pregnant women.</p> <p>To investigate bacterial species associated with intra-uterine infection and preterm birth in pregnant women.</p>		

Project Title	2016 / 693 – <i>Airway Management in non – elective oral and maxillofacial surgery</i>		
Chief Investigator	Ramon Baba		
Institution	Royal Perth Hospital		
Region	Pilbara		
Start Date	10/02/2016	Finish Date	10/08/2016
Project Summary	<p>The objective is to study the type of airway management in patients undergoing emergency surgery for acute problems of the oral and maxillofacial region: the jaws, face, head and neck. The typical problems will broadly speaking be either traumatic injuries (e.g. broken facial bones, lacerations) or infections of the maxillofacial region (e.g. dental or skin abscesses.)</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 694 – Diabetic retinopathy screening in Western Australia: A study of experiences and satisfactions of patients and practitioners</i>		
Chief Investigator	Angus Turner		
Institution	Lions Eye Institute		
Region	Great Southern and Kalgoorlie – Boulder		
Start Date	10/02/2016	Finish Date	01/02/2017
Project Summary	<p>The study aims to determine the acceptability of the diabetic retinopathy screening model when it is newly implemented in the Great Southern and Kalgoorlie-Boulder regions of Western Australia. Ascertaining the acceptability of the program and the satisfaction and security of patients is paramount in further developing the retinal screening program in the regions included in the study, as well as elsewhere. The proposed study will also assess satisfaction and perceptions of the program from the point of view of Aboriginal Health Workers, nursing staff, other allied health staff and general practitioners who are essential to the daily administration and running of a successful retinal screening model. Findings from this study will be used to increase the accessibility of the retinal screening program and to cater more strongly to the needs to patients and health care workers.</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 678 – Sexual Health and Blood Borne Viruses Social Marketing Campaign for Aboriginal Western Australians</i>		
Chief Investigator	Daniel Vujcich		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	February 2016	Finish Date	February 2016
Project Summary	<p>WA Health is developing a new social marketing campaign to educate young Aboriginal people about sexually transmissible infections (STI) and blood-borne viruses (BBV). The aim of the campaign is to normalise opportunistic STI and BBV screening amongst health staff and clients, and educate young Aboriginal people about how to protect themselves.</p> <p>As part of this research project, the draft concepts will be presented to focus groups of young Aboriginal people to determine cultural acceptability, clarity of message and likely effectiveness.</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 715 – Food pricing policy study</i>		
Chief Investigator	Megan Ferguson		
Institution	Menzies School of Health Research		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	13/06/2016	Finish Date	13/06/2017
Project Summary	<p>The aim of the qualitative study is to identify and characterise the types of food pricing policies which are or have been in place in remote Indigenous community stores that aim to improve health outcomes.</p> <p>2. To describe the process of development, including the evidence considered and the criteria used to assess options.</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 722 – Development and validation of the first culturally based quality of life tool for Aboriginal Australians living with dementia or cognitive impairment</i>		
Chief Investigator	Kate Smith		
Institution	NHMRC – ARC, UWA		
Region	Perth Metro		
Start Date	13/06/2016	Finish Date	13/06/2017
Project Summary	<p>The aim of the qualitative study is to identify and characterise the types of food pricing policies which are or have been in place in remote Indigenous community stores that aim to improve health outcomes.</p> <p>Aims</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To develop and validate a culturally based quality of life tool for older Aboriginal Australians with cognitive impairment. 2. Determine the key factors that are associated with quality of life for this population. 3. To employ and train Aboriginal researchers to build research capacity in the field of ageing. 4. To disseminate research results to policy makers, Aboriginal organisations, service providers and carers groups to lead to positive change. 		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 734 – Research Master Class Evaluation</i>		
Chief Investigator	Alex Brown		
Institution	SAHMRI		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	10/08/2016	Finish Date	10/02/2018
Project Summary	<p>The Wardliparingga Aboriginal Research Unit, SAHMRI has developed two research master classes, Understanding Research and Undertaking Research. Over 130 staff from 14 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOSs) and their peak bodies have already undertaken at least one of these two day face to face Master classes. The Master class evaluation will focus on three primary objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To identify any changes to awareness, understanding or behavior that participants feel have resulted from attending a master class 2) To identify and describe any outcomes that participants believe have been influenced by or are a direct result of attending a master class 3) To explore ways in which participants believe future master classes and / or associated resources and support could be improved 		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 736 – Retrospective audit of the clinical presentation, management and outcomes of adults with skin and soft tissue infections requiring hospitalisation in the Kimberley region</i>		
Chief Investigator	Kaspar Wilson		
Institution	WACHS		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	09/08/2016	Finish Date	09/02/2017
Project Summary	<p>The Wardliparingga Aboriginal Research Unit, SAHMRI has developed two research master classes, Understanding Research and Undertaking Research. Over 130 staff from 14 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOSs) and their peak bodies have already undertaken at least one of these two day face to face Master classes. The Master class evaluation will focus on three primary objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To identify any changes to awareness, understanding or behavior that participants feel have resulted from attending a master class 2) To identify and describe any outcomes that participants believe have been influenced by or are a direct result of attending a master class 3) To explore ways in which participants believe future master classes and / or associated resources and support could be improved 		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 729 – Acute Appendicitis is less common in Australian Indigenous people?</i>		
Chief Investigator	Marwan Al - Hayo		
Institution			
Region	Goldfields		
Start Date	10/08/2016	Finish Date	10/10/2016
Project Summary	Retrospective study, systematic review attempt to compare the incidence of appendicitis in Indigenous and non – indigenous populations over 8 years in Kalgoorlie regional hospital through review of medical charts and histopathology results.		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 601 – The Alert Program: A tailored evidence based treatment program for Aboriginal children living with FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders)</i>		
Chief Investigator	James Fitzpatrick		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	01/01/2015	Finish Date	31/12/2019
Project Summary	<p>The overall goal of this project is to develop, implement, and evaluate a tailored school-based therapeutic program to improve impairments in executive functioning and self-regulation for Aboriginal children in the Fitzroy Valley.</p> <p>Aims</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To determine the effectiveness of a school-based program to improve executive functioning and self-regulation in school aged Aboriginal children living in the Fitzroy Valley. 2. To document a sustainable and culturally appropriate method of implementing the Alert Program through schools in the Fitzroy Valley. 3. To introduce the Alert Program into child health practice and school programs in the Fitzroy Valley. 4. To translate an approach to screening and therapy for impairments in executive functioning 		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 688 – State –wide Specialist Aboriginal Mental Health Service (SSAMHS) Evaluation 2016 – Qualitative</i>		
Chief Investigator	Wynne James		
Institution	The Mental Health Commission		
Region	State - wide		
Start Date	14/01/2016	Finish Date	31/08/2016
Project Summary	<p>The Mental Health Commission has engaged Shelby consulting to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the SSAMHS program that will assess the outcomes for Aboriginal people with mental health disorders / issues against its objectives and key performance indicators. The aim of the evaluation is to provide an independent examination of the SSAMHS program in regard to the extent it has met its objectives which are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve mental health outcomes for Aboriginal people 2. Improve access to culturally appropriate mental health services for Aboriginal people and their families 3. Develop and maintain interagency partnerships aimed at the development of a more holistic approach to Aboriginal mental health care; 4. Improve the cultural understanding and functioning of mental health service provider; and 5. Build capacity of the Aboriginal mental health workforce 		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 696 – Epidemiology of gout in WA</i>		
Chief Investigator	Helen Keen		
Institution	UWA		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	01/03/2016	Finish Date	01/03/2019
Project Summary	<p>Data Link Project: We want to define the epidemiology and disease burden of gout in Western Australia. This includes defining the comorbidities (cancer, cardiovascular disease, renal disease etc.), mortality and health care resource utilisation of gout patients in WA.</p>		



WAAHEC

Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee

Summaries of Approved Projects

July – December 2016

This lay summary is for projects approved between January to June 2016. This document is made available to assist researchers, institutions and the general public search for projects have ethics approval from the Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee.

Project Title	2016 / 729 Is acute appendicitis less common in Australian Indigenous people?		
Chief Investigator	Marwan Al - Hayo		
Institution	WACHS		
Region	Kalgoorlie		
Start Date	01/06/2016	Finish Date	01/08/2016
Project Summary	Retrospective study to compare incidence of appendicitis in Indigenous and non – Indigenous populations over 8 years in Kalgoorlie regional hospital.		

Project Title	2016 / 730 <i>Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS) Programme Evaluation</i>		
Chief Investigator	Ashley Faure Brac		
Institution	Cultural and Indigenous Research Centre Australia (CIRCA)		
Region	National		
Start Date	01/08/2016	Finish Date	30/06/2018
Project Summary	<p>National Evaluation, CIRCA has been contracted by the Department of Health to conduct the evaluation of the entire TIS programme. This evaluation will be approached in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fit between the TIS programme and the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities (appropriateness) - How well is the TIS programme progressing towards achieving the long term outcomes - Level of change that has occurred through the TIS programme (effectiveness) 		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 731 - The prevalence of autism among Aboriginal children: findings from 17 years of surveillance in Western Australia</i>		
Chief Investigator	Emma Glasson		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	December 2016	Finish Date	December 2017
Project Summary	Data Linkage project – collect data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describe diagnosis rates among Aboriginal children compared to non – Aboriginal children collected over the period 1999 -2015 - Describe whether the diagnostic profile of the Aboriginal children differs significantly from non – Aboriginal children, including age at diagnosis, type of autism diagnosis, gender, intellectual functioning and autism severity 		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 732 – Cleft lip and palate – a comparative psychosocial perspective</i>		
Chief Investigator	Wendy Nicholls		
Institution	Princess Margaret Hospital		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	30/05/2017	Finish Date	30/05/2019
Project Summary	The study aims to assess the health outcomes, mental health status and health services utilisation of people with cleft conditions and compare these to the general population. This will include the number and type of hospital admissions, reason for admission (primary and secondary), procedures undertaken, length of stay, mental health admissions, deaths, community mental health occasions of service, ambulatory and emergency visits will be assessed.		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 734 – Research Master Class Evaluation</i>		
Chief Investigator	Alex Brown		
Institution	South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI)		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	June 2016	Finish Date	December 2016
Project Summary	<p>Wardliparringa Aboriginal Research Unit, SAHMRI has developed two Research Master classes – Understanding Research and Undertaking Research. Over 130 staff from 140 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services and their peak bodies have already undertaken at least one of these two day face – to – face master classes.</p> <p>A short feedback survey sent at each session are well received and anecdotal evidence suggests that there are some positive long term outcomes.</p> <p>The Master Class Evaluation will focus on three primary objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify any changes to awareness, understanding or behavior that participants feel have resulted from attending a Master Class - Identify and describe any outcomes that participants believe have been influenced by or are a direct result of attending a Master Class - To explore ways in which participants believe future master classes and / or associated resources and support could be improved. 		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 736 – Retrospective audit of the clinical presentation, management and outcomes of adults with skin and soft tissue infections requiring hospitalisation in the Kimberley region</i>		
Chief Investigator	Kaspar Wilson		
Institution	WACHS		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	01/08/2016	Finish Date	01/02/2017
Project Summary	<p>Data Linkage project: All patients admitted to Broome Hospital with skin and soft tissue infections between July and December 2016. Study designed to inform clinicians about the types of patients who suffer from the most severe disease and how the antibiotics used affects outcomes.</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 737 – Kadadjiny Dwank Project Otitis Media (OM) from an urban Aboriginal perspective</i>		
Chief Investigator	Rosemary Walley		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Perth Metro (Kwinana/Rockingham and Armadale)		
Start Date	October 2016	Finish Date	December 2019
Project Summary	<p>Providing an urban perspective to the body of knowledge of OM, assisting with preventing middle ear infections in young children we hope to help maintain the delicate function of the middle ear that enables a child to hear sounds of his / her mother of an environment and culture.</p> <p>Conducted with focus groups, semi structured questionnaires and yarning, the aim of the research aims to address three broad questions:</p> <p>What people know and do about ear infections?</p> <p>What are the barriers to accessing care?</p> <p>How does OM impact on the child and family?</p> <p>Intended to consider possible interventions and strategies that could reduce the impact on poor ear health for children, and their families in an urban environment.</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 738 – The Epidemiology of Amphetamine Type Stimulant Related Hospital Presentations and Admissions in Hedland, Western Australia</i>		
Chief Investigator	Mathew Condon		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	Pilbara		
Start Date	September 2016	Finish Date	December 2016
Project Summary	<p>Retrospective Study – to determine the epidemiology of amphetamine type stimulant (ATS) hospital related presentations and admissions to Hedland Health Campus between 2011 – 2015, document trends over time, document demographic features including gender, ethnic background and age.</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 739 – Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) History in the Pilbara: An evidence – based prevention intervention</i>		
Chief Investigator	James Fitzpatrick		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Pilbara		
Start Date	December 2016	Finish Date	December 2020
Project Summary	Evaluating the effectiveness of an evidence based FASD prevention intervention to reduce the rates of alcohol use in pregnancy among Aboriginal women in three communities in the remote Pilbara region in Western Australia.		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 717 – Baseline for monitoring the burden of rheumatic heart disease in Australian jurisdictions: Western Australia component</i>		
Chief Investigator	Judith Katzenellenbogen		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	State - Wide		
Start Date	October 2016	Finish Date	December 2020
Project Summary	<p>This baseline study seeks to establish the current burden and distribution of ARF and RHD in Western Australia, using de-identified linked data from existing routinely collected administrative data sources. De-identified linked data will be used:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To determine the burden (incidence, prevalence, mortality) of ARF/RHD by Aboriginal status, remoteness/ location, and jurisdiction. 2. To estimate ARF recurrence and its determinants in first-ever cases. 3. To characterise progression of the disease and determinants of progression within 1, 2 and 5 years. 4. To estimate hospital utilisation and costs associated with ARF/RHD. 5. To develop methods to increase the robustness of estimates of ARF/RHD burden. <p>This baseline project will document current disease burden and establish the processes and data infrastructures which may be used for subsequent analyses and measurement of trends, and will contribute to the development of a sustainable data analysis and indicator measurement system.</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 744 – Working with Aboriginal women to tackle smoking in the Pilbara (for community purposes ‘Tackling Aboriginal Women’s Smoking’</i>		
Chief Investigator	Roz Walker		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Pilbara		
Start Date	December 2016	Finish Date	June 2018
Project Summary	<p>The research will be using a woman – centered approach, the team seeks to understand the reasons for the high rates of smoking among Aboriginal women living in Hedland and Newman and surrounding communities in Pilbara, Western Australia. There are gaps of understanding the factors linked with Aboriginal women’s decision – making, experience and ability to quit smoking before, during and after pregnancy. This project can be used to create strategies able to be used by primary health care providers to support and assist women in their efforts to change behaviours which are harmful to their health.</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 746 – The Squeaky Clean Kids program</i>		
Chief Investigator	Claire Huppertz		
Institution	WACHS		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	September 2016	Finish Date	December 2018
Project Summary	<p>The Squeaky Clean Kids Program goal is to reduce the incidence of infectious diseases (trachoma, skin infections and diarrheal disease) in Aboriginal children living in trachoma endemic communities and those communities ‘at risk’ of resurgence in WA by June 2018.</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 747 – Gastrostomy for children with severe disability</i>		
Chief Investigator	Jenny Downs		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	State- wide		
Start Date	December 2016	Finish Date	December 2020
Project Summary	Data Linkage Project from across Western Australia, in this study we will find out how often complications occur. We will also find out whether having a gastrostomy reduces the number of hospital admissions for chest infections or poorly controlled epilepsy.		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 749 – A review of coroner's recommendations following Indigenous deaths in custody and Indigenous deaths up to one after release from prison</i>		
Chief Investigator	Luke Martin		
Institution	Monash University		
Region	National		
Start Date	December 2016	Finish Date	December 2019
Project Summary	This research aims to identify risk factors and health issues relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners in different regions of Australia. Examining these issues will assist health and correctional services to better work with communities to reduce preventable Indigenous deaths in custody and deaths following release from prison.		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 750 – Understanding burn injuries in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children: treatment, access to services and outcomes</i>		
Chief Investigator	Rebecca Ivers		
Institution	The George Institute		
Region	National		
Start Date	December 2016	Finish Date	April 2018
Project Summary	<p>The three aims of this sub – study investigating ‘Models of Care’ are:</p> <p>Map burn care: Health services mapping will be used to examine models of care and use of operational guidelines for burn management by healthcare professionals. The mapping will include both structure - the organisation, communication, referral processes, rehabilitation and community outpatient care in place; and processes - the use and implementation of structured care plans, clinical pathways, assessment protocols, rehabilitation prescriptions, and post-discharge management pathways in each site.</p> <p>Analyse enactment of burn care: To identify enactment of and attitudes to care at the institutional level, knowledge, attitudes, practices and perceived needs of patients by healthcare professionals involved in the management of burn injury will be evaluated. The consultation will focus on management of burns, and perceived barriers to treatment, with a particular focus on system level approaches to establish a clear representation of how operational guidelines are enacted.</p> <p>Inform the development of a national burn injury model of care informed that is culturally safe.</p>		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 751 – How did we survive? Aboriginal women sharing their lived experiences and knowledge of lessons learned in life through story-telling</i>		
Chief Investigator	Jasmine Gregory		
Institution	Student – Adelaide University		
Region	Mid - West		
Start Date	January 2017	Finish Date	July 2018
Project Summary	<p>The aim of this study is to understand what contributes to the resilience of Aboriginal women. The outcome will include sharing this knowledge and the insights to guide future policy and program development for Aboriginal women.</p> <p>A reference group made up of at least 5 Aboriginal women, who are well known and can be easily identified by members of communities involved will be established. This reference group will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Help to identify and invite participants for the study - Guide the Research and; - Help to interpret the results 		

Project Title	<i>2016 / 752 – Skin health situational analysis to inform skin disease control programs for the Kimberley</i>		
Chief Investigator	Asha Bowen		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	December 2016	Finish Date	June 2017
Project Summary	<p>The aim of the project is to conduct situational analysis of the skin health services and activities currently available for managing skin infection. This project provides opportunity to deliver a report to Kimberley stakeholders that documents the current skin health management resources available, and the gaps that need to be filled for designing a comprehensive skin disease control program</p>		



WAAHEC

Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee

Summaries of Approved Projects

January – June 2017

This lay summary is for projects approved between January to June 2016. This document is made available to assist researchers, institutions and the general public search for projects have ethics approval from the Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee.

Project Title	<i>2017 / 760 - Qualitative and quantitative effects of exenatide use in Kimberley Aboriginal patients with type 2 Diabetes</i>		
Chief Investigator	Lydia Scott		
Institution	WACHS		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	01/03/2017	Finish Date	20/07/2017
Project Summary	<p>Improving the management of type 2 Diabetes in the Kimberley region (Derby) specific, specific aims are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To evaluate the acceptability of exenatide among Kimberley Aboriginal patients with type 2 diabetes and compare this to insulin use. • To describe the efficacy of exenatide among the study population to improve glycemic control and other components of the metabolic syndrome. • To use this project and the findings to build capacity amongst the local Aboriginal community regarding diabetes management and skills for future research. • To provide feedback to local clinicians regarding the use of exenatide in local Aboriginal communities. 		

Project Title	<i>2017 / 762 - Building Bridges Project: Co – designing engagement with Aboriginal youth</i>		
Chief Investigator	Michael Wright		
Institution	National Drug Research Drug Institute, Curtin University		
Region	Perth Metro		
Start Date	30/01/2017	Finish Date	31/12/2019
Project Summary	To improve accessibility and responsiveness of youth mental health services to the needs of Aboriginal young people		

Project Title	<i>2017 / 763 – An alternative pathway to bowel screening for Indigenous Australians</i>		
Chief Investigator	Gail Garvey		
Institution	Menzies		
Region	National		
Start Date	February 2017	Finish Date	June 2018
Project Summary	The aim of this National Pilot is to assess whether an Alternative Pathway via IPHCCs can improve Indigenous participation rates in the NBCSP. Secondary objectives include assessing whether providing different levels of support to IPHCCs preparing to offer the Alternative Pathway makes a difference to the feasibility, acceptability, appropriateness and sustainability of the Pathway.		

Project Title	<i>2017/ 765 - The identification of national heritage, ethnicity and/or religion in clinical handover or medical records at a large teaching hospital</i>		
Chief Investigator	David Morgan		
Institution	Fiona Stanley Hospital		
Region	Perth Metro (Patients state – wide)		
Start Date	24/02/2017	Finish Date	30/06/2018
Project Summary	The aim of this research project is to record the frequency at which a patient's national heritage / country-of-birth, ethnicity or religion is mentioned or recorded, either during clinical handover in the intensive care unit (ICU), or in the medical records in the intensive care unit of a large metropolitan hospital in Perth. Where a person's national heritage, ethnicity or religion is mentioned or recorded then this research project also aims to record if any, and what, rationale is provided for any such inclusion.		

Project Title	<i>2017/766 - Enroll – HD: A worldwide observational study for Huntington’s disease families</i>		
Chief Investigator	Peter Panegyres		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	Worldwide & Kimberley (Kununurra)		
Start Date	February 2017	Finish Date	July 2017
Project Summary	Enroll – HD is a worldwide observational study for Huntington’s disease (HD) families. It will monitor how the disease appears and changes over time in different people, and it is open to people who either have HD or are at risk. The primary objective is to build a large and rich database of clinical information and bio specimens from people with their family history of HD.		

Project Title	<i>2017/768 - Establishment of a data repository for epidemiological analysis</i>		
Chief Investigator	Jag Atrie		
Institution	Department of Health – Epidemiological branch		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	24/02/2017	Finish Date	24/02/2020
Project Summary	Data Linkage project: the epidemiology branch provides evidence on the distribution and determinants of disease at the population level, the fundamental to the provision of evidence based programs and services that aim to improve the health status of Western Australians		

Project Title	<i>2017/735 - Comparison of the body’s processing of anti – injection medicines in Indigenous versus non Indigenous Australia kidney transplant recipients</i>		
Chief Investigator	Ramyasuda Swaminathan		
Institution	Fiona Stanley Hospital		
Region	Perth Metro (Kwinana/Rockingham and Armadale)		
Start Date	July 2017	Finish Date	July 2022
Project Summary	The main aim of this study is to investigate for differences in processing anti – rejection medicines between Indigenous and non		

	<p>– indigenous Australians. Specifically the study will examine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood levels of the anti – rejection medications differ • Different processing of the anti – rejection drug tacrolimus in Indigenous kidney transplant recipients can be explained by differences in genetic make up • The immune system healthy vs. suppressed • Drug levels in the blood of Indigenous kidney transplant recipients are similar to drug levels in saliva <p>If differences do exist, this will have the potential to reduce both medication side effects and rejection and thereby improve outcomes after kidney transplantation for Indigenous individuals</p>
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Project Title	<i>2017 / 774 - Improving recognition and management of chronic moist cough in young Aboriginal children by caregivers and health care workers in Western Australia</i>		
Chief Investigator	Andre Schultz		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	June 2017	Finish Date	November 2018
Project Summary	This study aims to identify ways to diagnose chronic lung disease earlier in children and to facilitate effective medical management and to stop the disease from progressing to a debilitating and ultimately terminal outcome.		

Project Title	<i>2017 / 789 - Remote STI/BBV Project: Sexually Transmissible Infections (STI), Blood Borne Viruses (BBV), prevention, education program and independent evaluation (2016 -2019)</i>		
Chief Investigator	James Ward		
Institution	South Australia Health Medical Research Institute		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	June 2017	Finish Date	July 2019
Project Summary	The Remote STI/BBV project aims to increase the uptake of testing and management for sexually transmitted infections (STI) and blood-borne viruses (BBV) in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (hereafter Aboriginal) communities in remote and very remote areas of Australia. The project comprises elements of health promotion, education and prevention and we are seeking ethical review for all project components. The project will (i) develop health promotion resources for three groups		

	(young people, people of influence in remote communities and clinicians working in remote communities); (ii) develop, implement and evaluate a youth (16-25 year olds) peer education STI and BBV program in selected remote communities and (iii) determine the programs impact on STI & BBV testing and management among 15-29 year old Aboriginal people in participating communities and (iv) conduct an overall evaluation of the project.
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Project Title	<i>2017 / 781 - Improving mental health screening for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander pregnant women and mothers of young children</i>		
Chief Investigator	Julia Marley		
Institution	Rural Clinical School		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	June 2017	Finish Date	December 2020
Project Summary	<p>This study aims to improve screening for, and contribute to addressing, mental health issues during pregnancy and the first 12 months after the birth of the baby.</p> <p>The locally developed, culturally appropriate and user friendly Kimberley Mum's Mood Scale (KMMS) was validated against clinical assessment in a sample of 91 Kimberley Aboriginal women. Kimberley regional guidelines now recommend using the KMMS to screen for anxiety and depression during the perinatal period for Aboriginal women. The next step for Kimberley health services are to increase and improve KMMS screening in pregnancy and postnatally and address identified mental health issues. Project staff will work closely with Kimberley services to find out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the KMMS can best be implemented into routine practice in each service • The KMMS cut point of moderate still detects everyone with GP assessed clinically moderate or high severity depression and anxiety, and: • That the management plans developed during the KMMS for those at lower risk are appropriate. 		

Project Title	<i>2017 / 782 - The missing piece study: Do skin sores, sore throats or both lead to acute rheumatic fever? (A pilot study)</i>		
Chief Investigator	Asha Bowen		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	May 2017	Finish Date	June 2018
Project Summary	<p>To develop methodologies/tools for effectively evaluating symptoms and photographing pharyngitis (throat infection) amongst Aboriginal children in the Kimberley region.</p> <p>a. A symptom checklist for sore throats in Aboriginal children will be developed.</p> <p>b. A protocol for photographing the tonsils will be developed.</p> <p>To pilot using methodologies/tools designed to comprehensively evaluate the concurrent burden of both GAS impetigo (skin infection) and pharyngitis (throat infection) in Aboriginal children in the Kimberley region.</p>		

Project Title	<i>2017 / 785 - Preventing rejection and allograft loss after kidney transplantation in Indigenous Australians with end stage kidney disease through better immunological matching – THE PARADIGM STUDY</i>		
Chief Investigator	Wai Lim		
Institution	Sir Charles Gardiner Hospital		
Region	Perth Metro		
Start Date	May 2017	Finish Date	November 2017
Project Summary	<p>This will be a retrospective study including all indigenous ESKD patients who have received a kidney transplant in Western Australia between 2000 and 2016. As part of the transplant wait-listing and routine management following kidney transplantation, deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA, extracted from peripheral blood cells) and sera are routinely stored in the Department of Clinical Immunology, Fiona Stanley Hospital at regular intervals pre- and post-transplant to enable the completion of HLA-typing and to identify the presence of anti-HLA antibodies, respectively.</p> <p>There will be 2 overarching aims:</p> <p>1) Identification and calculation of the number of eplet mismatches of every indigenous kidney transplant recipient in Western Australia between 2000 and 2016 and their matched donors.</p>		

	2) Determining the association between the number of eplet mismatches and clinical outcomes, including rejection, graft function and graft loss.
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Project Title	<i>2017 / 789 - Effects of HPV vaccination on the development of cervical abnormalities for Aboriginal women: A Western Australian study</i>		
Chief Investigator	Aime Munro		
Institution	Notre Dame		
Region	State- wide		
Start Date	June 2017	Finish Date	December 2019
Project Summary	<p>The introduction of the National Human Papillomavirus Vaccination Program (NHPVVP) and the revised cervical screening program to become effective from May 2017, the overarching research question of this study is to: investigate the impact of NHPVVP on the effectiveness of preventing the development of high-grade cervical abnormalities or cervical cancer for Aboriginal women compared to other Australian women. The following questions will be addressed for Western Australia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women completed the recommended 3 dose HPV vaccination schedule (with the same vaccine type)? Does completed HPV vaccination coverage vary by age, Aboriginal status, socio economic status (SEIFA) or access or remoteness indexes of Australia (ARIA)? Do Aboriginal women take longer to complete the course and are they more likely to never complete it? • Are Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women experiencing the same significant declines in the development of high-grade cervical abnormalities (by histological sub-type) and cervical cancer? • Are Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women continuing to participate in routine cervical screening? Does this vary by vaccination status, age, SEIFA or ARIA? • What is the uptake of HPV vaccine in non-program eligible women (ie women aged > 26 years in 2007)? Is there any evidence of vaccine effectiveness in this group of women against cervical disease? 		

Project Title	<i>2017 / 793 - Enhanced Indigenous Mortality Data Collection</i>		
Chief Investigator	Fadwa Al - Yaman		
Institution	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare		
Region	National		
Start Date	June 2017	Finish Date	December 2022
Project Summary	Data Linkage Project: This research aims to investigate the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) deaths in registered death datasets that are used in preparing official ATSI mortality and life expectancy estimates.		

Project Title	<i>2017 / 794 - Enhancing rehabilitation services for Aboriginal Australians after brain injury</i>		
Chief Investigator	Elizabeth Armstrong		
Institution	Edith Cowan University		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	July 2017	Finish Date	December 2021
Project Summary	<p>The project aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve delivery of rehabilitation services to Aboriginal people post-brain injury (stroke and traumatic brain injury) 2. Improve overall health outcomes for Aboriginal people with brain injury 3. Conduct an economic evaluation to support the business case for funding new rehabilitation services, which will contribute to the planning and sustainability of future services 4. Explore the acceptability of the intervention from the perspectives of the health professionals and the Aboriginal participants involved, and to utilise this information to assist in interpretation and translation of findings. 		

Project Title	<i>2017 / 799 - Exploring experiences and knowledge of Durdakabbin (in Nyungar language) "Getting well, recovering from sickness"</i>		
Chief Investigator	Mike Sowerby		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Perth Metro		
Start Date	June 2017	Finish Date	December 2017
Project Summary	<p>The aims of this research are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • generate more interest in Traditional Nyungar Healing as a solution to health and wellness of the community • respectfully document the voice of the people who have knowledge and experience so these traditional knowledge systems are supported to be sustainable for the Nyungar and wider community. • build onto the knowledge base of traditional healing knowledges locally, nationally and globally. • be respectful and acknowledge the Spiritual realm, cultural secrecy and sensitivity of all health stories by inclusion of individuals and community for review this important work. 		

Project Title	<i>2017 / 772 – The Looking Forward, Moving Forward Project</i>		
Chief Investigator	Michael Wright		
Institution	National Drug Research Institute / Curtin University		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	July 2017	Finish Date	December 2021
Project Summary	<p>This project aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build measures to show how the <i>Minditj Kaart–Moorditj Kaart Framework</i> helps services to improve their relationships with Aboriginal Elders, clients and their families; 2. Collate evidence to show how using the <i>Minditj Kaart–Moorditj Kaart Framework</i> makes a difference to the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal clients and their families; 3. Demonstrate the <i>Minditj Kaart–Moorditj Kaart Framework's</i> cultural importance and illustrate its suitability for use in other Aboriginal communities and locations in Western Australia; and 4. Ensure the <i>Minditj Kaart–Moorditj Kaart Framework</i> is culturally safe and respectful in other Aboriginal communities and locations, by using Indigenous research methodologies. 		



Summaries of Approved Projects

July – December 2017

This lay summary is for projects approved between July – December 2017. This document is made available to assist researchers, institutions and the general public search for projects have ethics approval from the Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee.

Project Title	2017 / 809 Pathways between racial discrimination and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing		
Chief Investigator	Leah Cave		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	National		
Start Date	08/2017	Finish Date	08/2020
Project Summary	Data Linkage Project analyzing two existing data sets, Footprints in Time study, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health survey (AATSIHS)		

Project Title	2017 / 735 Comparison of the body's processing of anti – rejection medicines in Indigenous vs. non – Indigenous Australian kidney transplant recipients (PK Transplant study)		
Chief Investigator	Ramyasuda Swaminathan		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	State- wide		
Start Date	07/2017	Finish Date	11/2018
Project Summary	<p>The main aim of this study is to investigate for differences in processing of anti – rejection medicines between Indigenous and non – Indigenous Australians.</p> <p>Specifically examine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blood levels of the anti-rejections medications differ between Indigenous and non – indigenous kidney transplant recipients - Different processing of the anti – rejection drug tacrolimus in Indigenous kidney transplant recipients - The immune system of Indigenous vs. non – indigenous recipients suppressed more for a given dose of immune suppressing medication - Drug levels in the blood of Indigenous kidney transplant recipients are similar to drug levels in saliva <p>If differences do exist this will have implications for the way doctors dose the immunosuppressant medications, with the potential to reduce both medication side effects.</p>		

Project Title	2017 / 698 The distribution of Strongyloides steracolis in Australia		
Chief Investigator	Jennifer Shield		
Institution	LaTrobe University		
Region	Kimberley, Pilbara and Goldfields		
Start Date	07/2017	Finish Date	07/2018
Project Summary	Data Linkage project identifying the place where people with Strongyloidiasis live, and plotting the locations on a map using software. We plan to produce two maps, the Strongyloides map for Aboriginal people from places that have a significant Aboriginal population and the Strongyloides Serology map which does not identify the ethnicity of the patients		

Project Title	2017/ 790 Management of dental decay in young Aboriginal children		
Chief Investigator	Peter Arrow		
Institution	Independent		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	07/2017	Finish Date	30/12/2017
Project Summary	The principal aim of the proposed study is to develop, implement and evaluate a remote primary care model to deliver effective primary dental services, including treatment and preventive services, to Aboriginal pre-school children (based on minimally invasive approaches including Atraumatic Restorative Treatment — ART and the Hall crown technique). This will be compared with standard care for cost and benefits in terms of improved dental health, childhood oral health-related quality of life, and reduced Childhood dental anxiety.		

Project Title	2017/800 Comprehensive primary health care for Indigenous offenders from Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs)		
Chief Investigator	Tony Butler		
Institution	Kirby Institute		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	July 2017	Finish Date	December 2017
Project Summary	<p>Study Aims</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand the programs and services ACCHOs currently offer Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) people in prison and post release; - Explore ACCHOs staff members understanding and experiences of processes involved in providing primary health care services to ATSI people in prison and post release; - Explore challenges and enablers experienced by ACCHOs to primary health care service delivery for ATSI people in prison and post release and - Describe areas in ACCHOs would like future research to pursue in regards to primary health care delivery for ATSI people in prison and those in the community 		

Project Title	2017 / 468 3D facial analysis for the health of Aboriginal Western Australians		
Chief Investigator	Gareth Baynam		
Institution	Department of Health / Telethon Kids		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	10/2017	Finish Date	12/2019
Project Summary	<p>The fundamental basis of these applications is the understanding of the range of normal facial variation. Importantly, there is a lack of understanding of the facial variation of Aboriginal Western Australians. If this persists then these emerging technologies will not be as applicable for this important part of our community that is proportionally over represented in outpatient clinics, including the PCH Cranio-Maxillo-Facial clinic. In collaboration with a research team with a track record of local Aboriginal Community engagement, this project plans to begin to assess facial variation in Aboriginal Western Australians to provide the foundation for further studies to ultimately facilitate improved and equitable medical care.</p>		

Project Title	2017/ 814 Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infections in Australian children: A two–year prospective multi-centered study looking at pediatric clinical (Invasive S. aureus infections and hospitalisations [ISIAH]) and microbiological (Australian Group on Antimicrobial Resistance [AGAR]) epidemiology		
Chief Investigator	Anita Campbell		
Institution	PMH / Department of Health		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	10/2017	Finish Date	08/2020
Project Summary	<p>By undertaking a prospective multi-center descriptive study, we will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extend the known clinical epidemiology of <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> bloodstream (SAB) in children including comorbidities, risk factors, disease spectrum, treatment and outcome. 2. Describe the microbiological (laboratory) epidemiology of SAB in Australian children including genotype, resistance genes and pathogen markers. 3. Determine the burden of SAB in Australian children including morbidity, mortality and the economic impact. 4. Identify key variables affecting outcome for SAB in children. <p>These aims will ultimately provide guidance for future clinical trials on risk-stratified treatment approaches.</p>		

Project Title	2017 / 815 2017 Hedland MADE audit		
Chief Investigator	John Bockxmeer		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	Pilbara		
Start Date	10/2017	Finish Date	01/2018
Project Summary	<p>Retrospective Audit of a new Paediatric Risk Assessment form whereby all children under 16 years with an injury, a burn or a poisoning who presents to Hedland Health campus Emergency Department are screen for safeguarding issues. This proforma aims to correctly identify children maybe at risk from safe guarding issues and direct the team looking after them to the most appropriate follow up,</p>		

Project Title	2017 / 818 An analysis of routinely collected data in three states to identify schools which have the lowest vaccination coverage for human papilloma virus (or HPV)		
Chief Investigator	Rebecca Guy		
Institution	Kirby Institute		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	10/2017	Finish Date	10/2019
Project Summary	<p>The proposed research is Part 1 of a research project funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council under the Partnership Project scheme. The research is a partnership between three health departments in Western Australia (WA), Tasmania, and New South Wales (NSW), the National HPV Vaccination Program Register and researchers. Its overall aim is to identify and address gaps in Australia's Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination program, delivered through high schools in Australia.</p> <p>The overall aims of this research are to determine across three states:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Which schools have the lowest HPV vaccination coverage 2) If characteristics of the adolescents, parents or school are the reasons for schools having lower vaccination coverage. 		

Project Title	2017 / 819 The SToP Trial: See, Treat, Prevent skin sores and scabies. A healthy skin programme in communities in the Kimberley		
Chief Investigator	Asha Bowen		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	02/2018	Finish Date	December 2022
Project Summary	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To achieve a 50% reduction in the prevalence of impetigo (skin sores) in school aged children 5-10 years of age. 2) To document the impact of reduced skin infection burden on other child health indicators. 3) To monitor antimicrobial resistance of bacterial skin pathogens with increasing cotrimoxazole use. 4) To determine the economic burden of skin infection in school aged children of remote communities and evaluate the cost-effectiveness of the SToP activities. 		

Project Title	2017 / 820 ICE resources for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities		
Chief Investigator	Dennis Guy		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Metro & Kimberley		
Start Date	11/2017	Finish Date	06/2018
Project Summary	<p>The aim of this project is to improve access for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander family and community members to culturally appropriate evidence-based information about methamphetamine. The project is designed to specifically respond to the need for information and support among Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Australians and to build upon the work on the development of the on-line 'Ice Toolkit' being developed for the broader population(www.cracksintheice.org.au).</p>		

Project Title	2017 / 823 Clinical Yarning: Improving communication in Aboriginal Health Care		
Chief Investigator	Ivan Lin		
Institution	UWA		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	09/2017	Finish Date	07/2018
Project Summary	<p>This application is to translate the Clinical Yarning model into practice by developing and piloting an accessible and evidence-based education program to improve communication in Aboriginal health care. Ultimately if this program is proved successful, our target is to offer Clinical Yarning education to all health practitioners and all health science students who work with Aboriginal patients, with an aim to improve the quality of health care provided to Aboriginal people.</p>		

Project Title	2017/ 825 Economic empowerment of women experiencing family and domestic violence in WA		
Chief Investigator	Trudi Marchant		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	n/a		
Start Date	December 2016	Finish Date	December 2020
Project Summary	Due to privacy and confidentiality of the project unable to disclose further information		

Project Title	2017 / 803 Collaborative Approach to Indigenous Healing through Music in Wangkatjunka		
Chief Investigator	Petra Skeffington		
Institution	Murdoch University		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	10/2017	Finish Date	11/2018
Project Summary	The aims of this research are to observe and document healing through music, in order to build an evidence base around the efficacy of music interventions in remote communities. In order to be culturally sensitive and avoid assumptions about how change may occur, a participant – observer design will be used in collaboration with the community, to explore most significant change and potential impact of the music intervention on biomarkers of stress		

Project Title	2017 / 811 The health and wellbeing of our Wiluna Martu community from our perspective: Immediate responses		
Chief Investigator	Heidi Minter		
Institution	Ngangganawili Aboriginal Health Service		
Region	Wiluna		
Start Date	10/2017	Finish Date	06/2018
Project Summary	This QI project, <i>Immediate Responses</i> , aims to evaluate the effectiveness of the training and ongoing support provided to Wiluna Martu community members and NAHS staff who will be researchers in <i>From Our Perspective</i> and the training provided to other NAHS staff in support of the research project.		

Project Title	2017/834 Prevalence of chronic moist cough in Aboriginal children in the Kimberley		
Chief Investigator	Andre Schultz		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	03/2018	Finish Date	02/2019
Project Summary	Up-skill local medical staff pre-recruitment: Chronic moist cough recognition and management in order to facilitate appropriate identification of children with chronic moist cough and also for care for children diagnosed with chronic moist cough.		

Project Title	2017/816 An Audit of dermatological referred to and managed by the visiting dermatologist to the Kimberley over the last 5 years		
Chief Investigator	Clare Tait		
Institution	Independant		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	12/2017	Finish Date	August 2018
Project Summary	The aim of the project is to conduct situational analysis of the skin health services and activities currently available for managing skin infection. This project provides opportunity to deliver a report to Kimberley stakeholders that documents the current skin health management resources available, and the gaps that need to be filled for designing a comprehensive skin disease control program.		



Summaries of Approved Projects

January – June 2018

This lay summary is for projects approved between January – June 2018. This document is made available to assist researchers, institutions and the general public search for projects have ethics approval from the Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee.

Project Title	2018 / 837 Personalising the process: The children's court drug court in Perth		
Chief Investigator	Suzanne Ellis		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	State - wide		
Start Date	16/05/18	Finish Date	16/05/2019
Project Summary	To identify the experiences of stakeholders of the Children's Court Drug Court.		

Project Title	2018 / 838 - Defining and Defeating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander disadvantage in breast cancer survival		
Chief Investigator	Andrew Redfern		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	State- wide		
Start Date	16/05/2018	Finish Date	31/12/2020
Project Summary	Retrospective cohort, Data obtained from the WA Cancer Registry Invasive unilateral epithelial breast cancer and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status in State Cancer Registry.		

Project Title	2018 / 839 Understanding current antimicrobial prescribing practice in remote primary health care clinics across northern Australia		
Chief Investigator	Jodie McVernon		
Institution	UniMelb		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	02/2018	Finish Date	07/2018
Project Summary	<p>(i) Compare and contrast prescribing recommendations for five key indications: impetigo, acute otitis media, abscess, lower respiratory tract infection/pneumonia and sexually transmitted infection; guidelines from WA, QLD and NT.</p> <p>(ii) Collect pharmacy data on antimicrobial drug distribution to remote primary care services in each jurisdiction.</p> <p>(iii) Conduct a retrospective 'snapshot' audit of all antimicrobial prescribing and listed indication by a) Doctors b) Nurses c) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioners, from clinical records in remote services identified in consultation with partners. The NCAS team will directly advise on the design of data extraction templates, and provide telephone support during the audit phase to ensure optimal data capture.</p> <p>(iv) Report on all antimicrobial prescribing behavior, focusing further on indications listed in (i) by jurisdiction and health worker type, contextualized against distribution and local guidelines.</p>		

Project Title	2018 / 840 GOANNA Survey 2: The second Australian study of sexual health, relationships and behaviour in young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people		
Chief Investigator	James Ward		
Institution	SAHMRI		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	06/2018	Finish Date	07/2020
Project Summary	<p>Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations in six jurisdictions across Australia will be invited to partner in the project. Each organisation will be asked to nominate a survey coordinator who will recruit survey collectors from the local community and oversee survey implementation (with full funding provided by the project). The project uses a periodic cross-sectional design with convenience sampling. This method was used in the original GOANNA survey, and will be repeated to maintain consistency and allow assessment of trends over time.</p>		

Project Title	2018 / 841 - Yarning together: Developing a culturally secure rehabilitation approach for Aboriginal Australians after brain injury		
Chief Investigator	Natalie Ciccone		
Institution	ECU		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	05/2018	Finish Date	06/2019
Project Summary	<p>The pre-therapy stage will consist of the collection of demographic information along with a diagnostic assessment of ACD completed using the Aboriginal Communication Assessment After Brain Injury (ACAABI) assessment tool. This culturally tailored tool examines the type of communication impairment and the functional impact of the impairment. The participant (and family members if appropriate) will be interviewed about their experience of stroke and services provided, their ACD, and expectations and priorities for therapy. Within this phase three sessions will be completed in which everyday speech (discourse) samples are collected following a prescribed protocol.</p>		

Project Title	2018/842 The Ironbark Program: Older Aboriginal People Standing Tall and Strong		
Chief Investigator	Ann Marie Hill		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Metro & South West		
Start Date	06/2018	Finish Date	06/2021
Project Summary	<p>This program was originally designed to improve strength and balance to prevent falls; providing Aboriginal communities with a healthy ageing program that can be delivered by trained local Aboriginal health workers. Older Aboriginal people completed the physical activities at their community centres, followed by health education delivered through yarning circles. While this program was successful in the local communities in NSW, this was due in part to NSW Aboriginal community strengths. Findings from one community cannot be routinely generalised to a diverse range of other Aboriginal communities – for example Aboriginal communities in WA.</p>		

Project Title	2018 / 844 - Evaluation of the Strong Mind-Strong Game (SM-SG) football project		
Chief Investigator	Sharynne Hamilton		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	05/2018	Finish Date	11/2018
Project Summary	The SM-SG program targets disengaged and at-risk young women aged 15-18 years old in Derby. The SM-SG program will recruit young women identified by the Youth at Risk multi-agency group in Derby, and others identified by service providers and the Derby high school as potentially at-risk. The evaluation will involve collecting data from two target groups: the girls participating in the SM-SG program, and the program coaches and community partners.		

Project Title	2018 / 846 - Development of an automated screening system for eye diseases – A real world study		
Chief Investigator	Ming He		
Institution	UniMelb		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	05/2018	Finish Date	05/2019
Project Summary	<p>Primary Aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To understand the acceptability and satisfaction of end users (clinicians and patients) 2) To assess technical feasibility of the automated screening system <p>Secondary Aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To assess disease detection rates and diagnostic accuracy 2) To evaluate patient adherence to referral to an eye health professional 3) To perform a cost analysis 		

Project Title	2018/848 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Lived Experience Project		
Chief Investigator	Pat Dudgeon		
Institution	UWA		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	05/2018	Finish Date	12/2018
Project Summary	The project will engage with ATSI peoples who have lived experience in suicide to investigate what is needed within the area of ATSI suicide prevention.		

Project Title	2018 / 851 - The Epidemiology of Influenza in the Northern Territory		
Chief Investigator	Steven Tong		
Institution	Melbourne Health		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	05/2018	Finish Date	05/2020
Project Summary	<p>This project aims to understand geographic, time-based, ethnic and evolutionary patterns in the spread of influenza in northern Australia. Specifically, we are interested in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whether there are consistent patterns of influenza spread from large to urban centres, to larger remote communities and subsequently to smaller remote communities. 2. Where influenza infections outside of usual Australian flu season are arising from given the year round circulation of influenza in the Northern Territory. 		

Project Title	2018 / 853 Real world Efficacy of Antiviral therapies in Chronic Hepatitis C (REACH-C)		
Chief Investigator	Gail Matthews		
Institution	Kirby Institute		
Region	Great Southern, Metro, South – west and Kimberley		
Start Date	08/2018	Finish Date	12/2020
Project Summary	<p>The REACH-C study aims to evaluate the real world response rates of direct acting antiviral (DAA) therapies for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C. The study includes diverse clinical settings including specialist viral hepatitis clinics, sexual health clinics, drug and alcohol services and general practices in Australia. The study will provide valuable information on factors that determine DAA efficacy as well as the success of the DAA roll out and scale up. Specifically, the study aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To monitor levels and types of treatment uptake over time as therapies for HCV infection evolve 2. To assess patterns of treatment prescription over time and by genotype, fibrosis stage and other key variables 3. To assess treatment response rates to DAA based therapies including the reasons for treatment failure 4. To monitor rates of retreatment including for treatment failure and for reinfection development of the on-line 'Ice Toolkit' being developed for the broader population(www.cracksintheice.org.au). 		

Project Title	2018 / 836 - Traditional Aboriginal Healing in Mental Health Care, Western Australia		
Chief Investigator	Jocelyn Jones		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Midwest		
Start Date	04/2018	Finish Date	12/2018
Project Summary	<p>This is a study of SSAMHS clients and staff, traditional healers and mental health practitioners. The study design is qualitative and will use a culturally safe framework. A culturally safe environment is an environment which is safe; where there is no assault, challenge or denial of their identity, of who they are and what, they need. It is about shared respect, shared meaning, shared knowledge and experience, of learning together with dignity, and truly listening. There is a strong tradition of oral history among Aboriginal peoples.</p>		

Project Title	2018 / 835 - Risk and outcomes of dialysis and renal transplant patients undergoing surgery		
Chief Investigator	Dharmenaan Palamuthusingam		
Institution	Department of WA Health		
Region	n/a		
Start Date	04/2018	Finish Date	06/2019
Project Summary	<p>This data-linkage project is a retrospective analysis of deidentified data of routinely collected data from a patient's admission to hospital. The data linkage units perform the data-linkage and thus the researchers do not have access to personal identifiers. During this project no contact is made with patients or their communities. There is no intervention or change in the standard of care delivered to these patients.</p>		

This lay summary is for projects approved between July – December 2018. This document is made available to assist researchers, institutions and the general public search for projects have ethics approval from the Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee.

Project Title	2018 / 855 ACCESS: Australian Collaboration for Coordinated Enhanced Sentinel Surveillance		
Chief Investigator	Basil Donovan		
Institution	Kirby Institute		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	04/18	Finish Date	12/19
Project Summary	The overall aim of ACCESS is to underpin Australia's strategic response to STIs and blood borne viruses by maintaining a surveillance system to monitor the testing, diagnosis and management of these infections and evaluate the impact of health interventions to prevent their spread.		

Project Title	2018 / 856 Ngatha Wangga (I Talk): Translation of knowledge to improve the lives of Yamaji people		
Chief Investigator	Charmaine Green		
Institution	ECU		
Region	Mid-West		
Start Date	06/18	Finish Date	03/20
Project Summary	A primary research objective will be use ethnography to critically examine and utilize my historical, political and professional life events to understand the impact of the colonial concept of nullius on the health and wellbeing of my Yamaji.		

Project Title	2018 / 858 Let's CHAT (Community Health Approaches To) Dementia in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities		
Chief Investigator	Dina LoGuidice		
Institution	University of Melbourne		
Region	National		
Start Date	07/18	Finish Date	12/20
Project Summary	<p>The aims of the project are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Improve detection and management of dementia and cognitive impairment among older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people attending Aboriginal Primary Care services (ii) Improve the quality of life of older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with dementia and cognitive impairment, and their carers/family. 		

Project Title	2018 / 859 Stay Strong e-Mental Health Training and Evaluation		
Chief Investigator	Kylie Dingwall		
Institution	Menzies		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	07/18	Finish Date	06/19
Project Summary	<p>To deliver and evaluate the Menzies e-mental health training program and e-mental health implementation support program. Free training and support are provided to participating health services. The training program focuses on developing counselling skills and using electronic tools in cross-cultural contexts which enables participants to train others and a follow up support program post training is delivered to support use of e-mental health tools in practice through booster and troubleshooting.</p>		

Project Title	2018 / 860 Evaluation of health service student programs in a primary health and culturally responsive framework: Service learning in Mt Magnet, Western Australia		
Chief Investigator	Kathryn Fitzgerald		
Institution	Rural Health		
Region	Mt Magnet		
Start Date	08/19	Finish Date	06/19
Project Summary	To evaluate the students' work in terms of the services they provide in the context of a culturally responsive practice. The framework used in the Indigenous Allied health Australia's Cultural Responsiveness in Action: An IAHA Framework (2015) within a framework of knowing, being and doing.		

Project Title	2018 / 861 Evaluating the early intervention speech therapy program at East Kalgoorlie Primary School		
Chief Investigator	Naomi Bath		
Institution	UWA		
Region	East Kalgoorlie		
Start Date	08/18	Finish Date	06/19
Project Summary	To review the outcomes of the early intervention speech therapy program at the East Kalgoorlie Primary School in 4,5 and 6 year old children who were referred to speech therapy, by comparing their TAC-K score at 4 years with their scores in each subsequent year.		

Project Title	2018 / 862 Identifying factors affecting health outcomes for Aboriginal people in Onslow, Western Australia		
Chief Investigator	Tammy Abbott		
Institution	Ninti One		
Region	Pilbara		
Start Date	06/18	Finish Date	09/18
Project Summary	This research project is to explore the specific issues and barriers preventing Aboriginal people living in Onslow from achieving optimal health. It will highlight priority health promotion and services needs for Aboriginal people and the findings will be used as a basis for advocacy and further service intervention to address the priority areas.		

Project Title	2018 / 863 Nurse-Led Aboriginal Dementia Prevention (The NULABOR Study) - Phase 1		
Chief Investigator	Sandra Eades		
Institution	UniMelb		
Region	Metro and South West		
Start Date	09/18	Finish Date	06/20
Project Summary	<p>To reduce the risk of dementia among Aboriginal adults aged 35-60 years at high risk through a nurse-led prevention program targeted at cardiovascular and other risk factors. Specific aims are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To establish a research program in partnership with the South West Aboriginal Medical Service (SWAMS, Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service (DYHS) and community members. 2. To undertake a Randomised Controlled Trial to test effectiveness of an Aboriginal- specific nurse-led prevention program. 		

Project Title	2018 / 865 Where are they now?" A follow up study about ear health in the Fitzroy Valley from childhood to early adulthood		
Chief Investigator	Maureen Carter		
Institution	ACCHSs		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	07/18	Finish Date	01/20
Project Summary	A pilot of 10 interviews is proposed to test the interview structure and obtain data to support funding applications. Interview data will be stored in a secure, confidential database at Nindilingarri.		
Project Title	2018 / 805 The ATLAS Project		
Chief Investigator	James Ward		
Institution	SAHMRI		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	07/2018	Finish Date	12/2020
Project Summary	To establish a national sentinel STI and BBV surveillance system among Aboriginal primary health care services for surveillance, monitoring and evaluation purposes (the ATLAS network).		

Project Title	2018 / 822 Career Pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Professionals Project		
Chief Investigator	Sally Nathan		
Institution	UNSW		
Region	National		
Start Date	11/2018	Finish Date	02/2019
Project Summary	This national project will provide insights and guidance to enhance the capacity or ability of the health system to retain and support the development and careers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working in the health system. The project will investigate who is part of the workforce, and the real – world experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health staff and the perspectives of health managers and other key stakeholders.		

Project Title	2018 / 826 SISTAQUIT		
Chief Investigator	Gillian Gould		
Institution	UNSW		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	03/18	Finish Date	03/20
Project Summary	To increase the proportion of health providers offering assistance in quitting to pregnant smokers and to improve the quit rates of pregnant smokers, measured by carbon monoxide testing during pregnancy and after birth. Aiming at improving birth weights and respiratory outcomes of the babies in the first six months of life.		

Project Title	2018 / 833 What Matters: Indigenous Quality of Life and Wellbeing Index Project – Phase 1: Qualitative Exploration		
Chief Investigator	Kristen Howard		
Institution	UNSW		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	ASAP	Finish Date	12/19
Project Summary	To develop an index to measure quality of life for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The index will incorporate dimensions that are important to indigenous people in order to improve the relevance and transparency of health decision making.		

Project Title	2018 / 866 Knowing Diabetes, Doing Diabetes: Practical knowledge in urban Aboriginal Australia		
Chief Investigator	Maja De Langen		
Institution	PhD Candidate		
Region	Perth Metro		
Start Date	10/18	Finish Date	10/19
Project Summary	The aim of the project is to understand how abstract medical knowledge relating to diabetes care changes when it moves from clinic to everyday life. The knowledge people develop and use to live with diabetes.		

Project Title	2018 / 867 Dementia Prevention and Risk Management Program for Aboriginal Australians (DAMPAA)		
Chief Investigator	Kate Smith		
Institution	UWA		
Region	Metro and South – West		
Start Date	5 years	Finish Date	06/23
Project Summary	To develop an ACCHS-based, Aboriginal health worker coordinated program to reduce cognitive decline in Aboriginal Australians aged 45 years and over who are at risk of dementia. The DAMPAA will based on best practice guidelines and also aims to enhance the quality of life and social emotional wellbeing, as well as improve daily function.		

Project Title	2018 / 870 Pre-school Osteoarticular Infections (POI) study. A study of bone and joint infections in children aged under 5 years		
Chief Investigator	Andrea Meehan		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	National – Data Linkage		
Start Date	No recruitment, retrospective data audit	Finish Date	12/19
Project Summary	To find out the number of children aged 3 months to 5 years admitted to Princess Margaret Hospital for bone and joint infections from 2014 to 2016, different rates of admission between		

	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and non-Indigenous children, which pathogens were detected and the difference in the types of pathogens causing the bone and joint infections.
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Project Title	2018 / 871 Revisiting the Murchison Stock take 2018: Murchison Primary Health Care Service		
Chief Investigator	Sandra Hamilton		
Institution	WA Rural Health		
Region	Murchison		
Start Date	10/18	Finish Date	31/12
Project Summary	The primary intent of this mapping was to identify service expansion and coordination opportunities to improve access to health care service for Aboriginal people residing in Murchison.		

Project Title	2018 / 875 The National Empowerment Project's Cultural, Social, and Emotional Wellbeing Program		
Chief Investigator	Pat Dudgeon		
Institution	UWA		
Region	Perth Metro		
Start Date	12/18	Finish Date	06/21
Project Summary	The NEP CSEWB Program is to promote and strengthen the cultural, social and emotional wellbeing of individuals, families and community and to involve a number of activities that have a community –wide focus.		

Project Title	2018 / 876 Rare cancers in Western Australia: Incidence and survival		
Chief Investigator	Gemma Bikey		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	10/18	Finish Date	12/19
Project Summary	To provide a descriptive analysis of the epidemiology (incidence, prevalence and survival) of rare cancers in Western Australia, analyzing fully de- identified data from the WA Cancer Registry.		

Project Title	2018 / 877 Second study of Sexual Health and Attitudes of Australian Prisoners (SHAAP-2)		
Chief Investigator	Tony Butler		
Institution	Kirby Institute		
Region	Metro and South – West		
Start Date	04/19	Finish Date	06/21
Project Summary	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To conduct a representative population-based survey of the sexual health, attitudes and behaviors of adult prisoners in three Australian jurisdictions (NSW, WA and QLD) 2. Examine the sexual health and safety of key vulnerable prisoner subgroups: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, victims of childhood sexual assault, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. 		

Project Title	2018 / 881 Indigenous family violence policies, legislation and services: Improving access and suitability for Indigenous women		
Chief Investigator	Marcia Langton		
Institution	University of Melbourne		
Region	Kununurra		
Start Date	09/18	Finish Date	12/19
Project Summary	This research aims to collect and analyse ethnographic data from the regional town of Kununurra, using ethnographic interviews with professionals, agency and service personnel and victims with the intention of identifying legal policy and practice gaps.		

Project Title	2018 / 883 Evaluation of the National Suicide Prevention Trial: The Kimberley		
Chief Investigator	Jane Pirkis		
Institution	University of Melbourne		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	01/19	Finish Date	12/21
Project Summary	The objectives is to determine what approaches are most effective in planning and implementing suicide prevention activities so that they meet the needs of local communities and reduce risk of suicidal behavior in those communities.		

Project Title	2018 / 884 Implementation of quality improvement in Indigenous primary health care: Leveraging Effective Ambulatory Practices (LEAP)		
Chief Investigator	Sarah Larkins		
Institution	University of Sydney		
Region	Pilbara		
Start Date	10/2018	Finish Date	31/2020
Project Summary			

Project Title	2018 / 885 Kimberley Suicide and Self Harm Data Project		
Chief Investigator	David Lawrence		
Institution	UWA		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	05/18	Finish Date	12/18
Project Summary	The project aims to collate all available existing suicide and self-harm data for the Kimberley region in order to provide an historical analysis of the suicide and self-harm trends in the region as compared to the rest of Western Australia.		

Project Title	2018 / 886 Young Leaders: Aboriginal youth educating their peers about youth health issues		
Chief Investigator	Daniel Vujcich		
Institution	AHCWA		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	09/2018	Finish Date	07/19
Project Summary	To identify and upskill future leaders in the Aboriginal health sector and encourage their peers to engage in healthy behaviors and access relevant services. The focus will be health issues that mostly affect young people- namely: Sexual health, blood-borne viruses and healthy relationships Alcohol and other drugs Mental and emotional wellbeing		

Project Title	2018 / 845 The Facts Study		
Chief Investigator	Bianca Calabria		
Institution	ANU		
Region	Pilbara		
Start Date	03/18	Finish Date	03/20
Project Summary	To examine the extent of exposure to violence against women and their children, social impacts, including on relationships, health, wellbeing, education, workforce participation. Focus on the availability, appropriateness and effectiveness of service or other supports and measures on how to reduce violence in communities.		

Project Title	2018 / 852 Exploring issues affecting breast cancer survival: A comparative study		
Chief Investigator	Shaouli Shahid		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	03/18	Finish Date	03/21
Project Summary	Listen to the stories of Aboriginal and non-aboriginal patients with breast cancer at remote, rural and local sites in order to gain an understanding of key issues associated with breast cancer and treatment, compare the experiences of different patients at different locations. To appraise understanding, philosophy, attitude and communication pertaining to outcome. Moreover to identify the best treatment and explore solutions for problems such as doctor and patient education.		

Project Title	2018 / 853 Real world Efficacy of Antiviral therapies in Chronic Hepatitis C (REACH-C)		
Chief Investigator	Gail Matthews		
Institution	Kirby Institute		
Region	Metro / Great Southern and Kimberley		
Start Date	06/18	Finish Date	12/20
Project Summary	The REACH-C study aims to monitor levels and types of treatment uptake over time as therapies for HCV infection evolve, to assess patterns of treatment prescription over time and treatment response rates to DAA based therapies including reasons for treatment failure. Besides an observation to be carried out on the rate of retreatment including for treatment failure and for reinfection		

Project Title	2018 / 889 Influenza ('flu') and pertussis ('whooping cough') vaccine effectiveness and safety in pregnancy		
Chief Investigator	Annette Regan		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	08/18	Finish Date	12/22
Project Summary	The project intention is to estimate the proportion of respiratory infections (influenza & pertussis) in pregnant women and their infants. Also to find out the amount of women receiving both vaccines during their pregnancy. It also aims at estimating the impact of maternal vaccination on the health of infants at birth and through 5 years of age and the effectiveness on both mothers and their infants.		

Project Title	2018 / 890 Women's Action for Mums and Bubs (WOMB): A trial of participatory women's groups to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternal and child health		
Chief Investigator	Sarah Larkins		
Institution	James Cook University		
Region	Mid – west		
Start Date	21/11/2018	Finish Date	31/12/2022
Project Summary	A cluster randomized trial, aims participatory women's group as an intervention improve the quality of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternal and child health care		

Project Title	2018 / 892 The Missing Piece Surveillance Study: A surveillance study for Strep A sore throat and skin infections in the Kimberley		
Chief Investigator	Asha Bowen		
Institution	Telethon Kids		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	01/19	Finish Date	12/20
Project Summary	This project aims to quantify the concurrent burden of Strep A sore throats and Strep A skin infections in Aboriginal children in the Kimberley. It also describes the epidemiology and compare the strains of Strep A impetigo and Strep A pharyngitis infections in Aboriginal children in Australia. Along with an evaluation of performance and development of clinical decision rules of Strep A.		

Project Title	2019 / 899 - Assessing the burden of streptococcal disease in Western Australia		
Chief Investigator	Lauren Manning		
Institution	UWA		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	04/2019	Finish Date	06/2020
Project Summary	To describe the vaccine preventable burden of invasive beta – haemolytic streptococcal disease in WA between year 2000 - 2018 Data Linkage participants will be de-identified from the Hospital Data Collection, Path west and mortality databases all within Western Australia.		

Project Title	2019 / 905 Cockburn Ear Portal – An ENT and audiology referral portal for improving access to ear health services for Aboriginal children in metropolitan areas using tele - health		
Chief Investigator	Chris Brennan – Jones		
Institution	TKI		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	07/2019	Finish Date	09/2020
Project Summary	The main aim of the study to create an equitable ear health service for Aboriginal children by reducing the waiting time to receive the first ENT consultation to less than 4 weeks. The children will be recruited via the existing Djaalinj Waankinj Aboriginal epidemiology program in the Armadale and Rockingham communities.		

Project Title	2019 / 910 - Understanding and promoting the social and emotional wellbeing and mental health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTIQ young people		
Chief Investigator	Ashleigh Lin		
Institution	TKI		

Region	Metro		
Start Date	06/2019	Finish Date	05/2020
Project Summary	<p>Identifying the guidance available for Australian health and social services on how best to support a young person who is Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex or Queer (LGBTIQ).</p> <p>Participants aged 14-25 years old who identify may not receive the same level of social support and health care as other members of the community.</p> <p>Aims to identify the SEWB needs of Aboriginal LGBTIQ young people, identify the risks for mental health difficulties and co – design interventions with local support services that support them</p>		

Project Title	2019 / 912 - Racism in the Australian Health Justice System and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples: Logics of racialization and Australian coronial inquests		
Chief Investigator	Chelsea Bond		
Institution	University of QLD		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	04/2019	Finish Date	03/2022
Project Summary	<p>The main aim of the study to create an equitable ear health service for Aboriginal children by reducing the waiting time to receive the first ENT consultation to less than 4 weeks.</p> <p>The children will be recruited via the existing Djaalinj Waankinj Aboriginal epidemiology program in the Armadale and Rockingham communities.</p>		

Project Title	2019 / 895 – A pilot survey of HTLV-1 in the Ngaanyatjarra lands in Western Australia		
Chief Investigator	Lloyd Einsidel		
Institution	Bakers Institute		

Region	The Lands		
Start Date	03/2019	Finish Date	12/2020
Project Summary	i) To study the prevalence of HTLV-1 in four remote Indigenous communities in Western Australia ii) To identify the clinical associations of HTLV-1 infection in these communities iii) To determine whether higher HTLV-1 proviral loads are associated with an increased risk of HTLV-1 associated diseases iv) To empower and improve communities through building knowledge and understanding of HTLV-1		

Project Title	2019 / 914 - Longitudinal study of wellbeing and quality of life in remote Indigenous youth: The Bigiswun Kid project		
Chief Investigator	Elizabeth Elliot		
Institution	West mead Clinical School		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	03/2019	Finish Date	12/2021
Project Summary	1. Describe the health, education and welfare status of the Lililwan cohort at 16 – 18 years of age. 2. Examine relationships between exposures during pregnancy, birth characteristics, and health and neurodevelopment at 7 – 9 years of age, and positive/adverse adolescent outcomes. 3. Determine whether Lililwan Project management plans were followed and identify past and present service gaps and support needs. 4. Document self-reported quality of life, mental health and well-being of adolescents.		

Project Title	2019 / 896 - Living Stories – Yarning about pituri and tobacco in Australia		
Chief Investigator	Sylvia Lockyer		
Institution	Independent – Prospective PhD Student		

Region	Pilbara		
Start Date	03/2019	Finish Date	06/2020
Project Summary	This project aims to extend knowledge of historical and traditional use of tobacco, nicotine and pituri and how and why the relationship with these plants and their substance has changed over time in Indigenous communities.		

Project Title	2019 / 915 - Decolonising psychology in practice: developing a holistic healing model of psychological services in Nyungar country		
Chief Investigator	Lauren Breen / Karen Ugle		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	05/2019	Finish Date	11/2023
Project Summary	To gain Aboriginal perspectives on the development of a culturally appropriate service model of psychological practice To capture the voices of Aboriginal people relating to the design of research into Aboriginal Social and Emotional Wellbeing in Nyungar country To inform the future development of respectful and safe psychology services and psychotherapeutic programs for the people in the South West of Western Australia		

Project Title	2019 / 916 - Evaluation of the Australian Government's investment in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care through the Indigenous Australians Health Programme		
Chief Investigator	Ned Hardie – Boys		

Institution	Allen and Clarke		
Region	National		
Start Date	05/2019	Finish Date	09/2019
Project Summary	<p>The Department of Health commissioned to conduct a national evaluation (2019-22) of the Australian Governments investment in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care.</p> <p>The purpose of the evaluation is to contribute to strengthening Primary Health Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their communities, the evaluation will;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify barriers, enablers and key intervention points for changes required at different levels of the system to improve health outcomes 2. Support informed policy and planning decision-making 3. Develop improved understanding of clients' and health care providers' perspectives and experiences of the health care system 4. Inform revisions to the Implementation Plan for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013 -2023. 5. Recommend a long-term approach for monitoring and evaluation 		

Project Title	2019 / 917 - Isolated ulna shaft fractures: Incidence, cost and demographics of patients admitted for inpatient care in Western Australian Tertiary Teaching Hospitals		
Chief Investigator	Sheldon Moniz		
Institution	WA Health		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	05/2019	Finish Date	08/2019

Project Summary	A retrospective audit of admissions, the primary aim of this project is to describe the demographic factors of patients presenting to Royal Perth, Fiona Stanley or Sir Charles Gardiner hospitals with isolated ulnar shaft fractures between 2013 – 2018.
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Project Title	2019 / 918 - Isolated ulna shaft fractures: Incidence, cost and demographics of patients admitted for inpatient care in Western Australian Tertiary Teaching Hospitals		
Chief Investigator	Rosetta Smith		
Institution	James Cook University		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	05/2019	Finish Date	09/2019
Project Summary	The aim of this project to explore community perceptions of the health and wellbeing relating to 5-11 year old children living at Pandanus Park Aboriginal community, findings presented back to the community who decide on the most effective strategies to improve health and wellbeing outcome for the children		

Project Title	2019 / 920 - Improving lung health of Aboriginal children hospitalised with chest infections		
Chief Investigator	Andre Schultz		
Institution	TKI		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	05/2019	Finish Date	06/2021
Project Summary	<p>Aboriginal children hospitalised with acute respiratory (ARIs) are particularly vulnerable to developing chronic lung disease, there is no formal follow up strategy in WA or Aboriginal children hospitalised with ARIs</p> <p>The project aims to implement a solution package (developed through participatory action research) to improve follow up of Aboriginal children hospitalised at PCH with chest infection</p>		

Project Title	2019 / 921 - Evaluation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's engagement with PrEP trials in Australia		
Chief Investigator	James Ward		
Institution	SAHMRI		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	05/2019	Finish Date	12/2019
Project Summary	This study is a retrospective analysis of the uptake of, and adherence with, PrEP amongst the Australian population at high-risk of HIV infection, with a particular focus on the differences that exists between the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and non-Indigenous people.		

Project Title	2019 / 922 - Exposure-dependent mumps vaccine effectiveness		
Chief Investigator	Darren Westphal		
Institution	DoH		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	05/2019	Finish Date	06/2020
Project Summary	The aim to assess the hypothesis that intense (e.g., recurrent, high-dose) exposures in close-contact settings might enable mumps virus to overcome vaccine-derived immunity, which would otherwise be expected to prevent infection and/or disease. We will test support for this hypothesis by comparing the ability of alternative mathematical models of mumps transmission to account for epidemiologic observations in Western Australia.		

Project Title	2019 / 923 - The BRICK Project: Burden and Response In Cellulitis in Kids		
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Chief Investigator	Elise Salleo		
Institution	TKI		
Region	State – wide		
Start Date	05/2019	Finish Date	07/2020
Project Summary	<p>A Retrospective audit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To describe the epidemiology of cellulitis in WA children by calculating the incidence and by identifying trends in patient characteristics such as age, Indigenous status, geographical location, common co-morbidities and recurrent cellulitis.2. To understand how cellulitis contributes to the overall burden of GAS infections in WA children.3. To investigate the treatment of cellulitis and the adherence of treatment to current guidelines.4. To compare cellulitis in paediatric cases to adult cases.5. To validate the ICD codes for cellulitis in children.		

Project Title	2019 / 925 - Investigating factors which impede and enable optimal implementation of regional rheumatic heart disease control strategies and interventions.		
Chief Investigator	Judith Katzenellenbogen		
Institution	UWA		
Region	Statewide		
Start Date	10/2019	Finish Date	06/2020
Project Summary	This health systems research project aims to a) investigate the factors influencing the capacity of Australia's primary health care system to implement strategies for the diagnosis and management of acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease, and b) determine how these relate to the health system functioning.		

Project Title	2019 / 926 - Yawardani Jan-ga (Horses doing healing)		
Chief Investigator	Juli Coffin		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	07/2019	Finish Date	07/2024
Project Summary	The aim of this project is to implement, evaluate and consolidate the approach of Equine Assisted Learning in a setting where there is a demonstrated need for culturally appropriate, Social and Emotional Wellbeing interventions for Aboriginal youth.		

Project Title	2019 / 927 - Maxillofacial trauma at Royal Perth Hospital: aetiology and treatment patterns between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients		
Chief Investigator	Samuel Chu		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	Metro		

Start Date	01/2019	Finish Date	06/2019
Project Summary	This project aims to study the difference in both the epidemiology and the treatment of maxillofacial trauma at Royal Perth Hospital over two years, and to quantify the differences existing between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients.		

Project Title	2019 / 928 - A pilot study of Meningococcal carriage in the remote northern communities of Western Australia		
Chief Investigator	Charlene Kahler		
Institution	University of Western Australia		
Region	Pilbara/Western Desert		
Start Date	09/2019	Finish Date	01/2020
Project Summary	This survey will determine if vaccination has improved and reduced meningococcal carriage and what other types are still being carried without any symptoms in Aboriginal communities.		

Project Title	2019 / 929 – Pneumonia hospitalisations in Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children 0 – 5 years following the introduction of a pneumococcal vaccination schedule: 1998 – 2017		
Chief Investigator	Frank Beard		
Institution	National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance		
Region	Statewide		
Start Date	10/2019	Finish Date	10/2021
Project Summary	This study will use existing national hospitalisation data to perform a comprehensive review and analyse the rate of hospital admissions for pneumonia in children aged 0-5 years, over an extended time-frame including all changes in the pneumococcal vaccine schedule. Rates of hospitalisation for pneumonia in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children will be compared to non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.		

Project Title	2019 / 930 – The per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances health study: Data Linkage Study		
Chief Investigator	Rosemary Korda		
Institution	The Australian National University		
Region	NSW, Queensland, Northern Territory		
Start Date	10/2019	Finish Date	12/2020
Project Summary	This data linkage study is one component of The Per- and Poly-fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Health Study: Phase II, which is investigating the exposure to and potential health effects of PFAS in areas of known contamination in the communities of Williamtown in New South Wales, Oakey in Queensland and Katherine in the Northern Territory, Australia.		

Project Title	2019 / 931 – Identifying gaps in Hepatitis B screening and management in the midwest region of Western Australia, and Aboriginal and Vietnamese insights into their understanding of Chronic Hepatitis B		
Chief Investigator	Marisa Gilles		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	Midwest		
Start Date	09/2019	Finish Date	12/2020
Project Summary	This study will identify gaps regarding screening, diagnosis, and management of Chronic Hepatitis B by GPs and their patients notified in the Midwest region between 2009-2018, and determine the knowledge of individuals in the high-risk groups of Aboriginal and Vietnamese people living in Carnarvon with regard to Chronic Hepatitis B screening and prognosis.		

Project Title	2019 / 932 – Increasing Aboriginal peoples' use of services that reduce harm from illicit drugs		
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Chief Investigator	Roanna Lobo		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Statewide		
Start Date	09/2019	Finish Date	03/2020
Project Summary	This project aims to co-design intervention strategies to reduce harms from illicit drugs among Aboriginal peoples (includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander).		

Project Title	2019 / 933 – Evaluation of the Essential Pain Management workshops in Aboriginal Health Services		
Chief Investigator	Roger Goucke		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	Statewide		
Start Date	10/2019	Finish Date	04/2020
Project Summary	The research project will evaluate a pilot program that uses the Essential Pain Management training program to: provide healthcare professionals with pain management and training skills; increase the number of Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists trainees with skills and experience working in Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHSs); increase the number of health practitioners working in ACCHSs with the skills to assess and treat chronic pain; encourage and foster interest in pain medicine and anaesthesia careers in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healthcare professionals; foster stronger links between Aboriginal health services and local specialist healthcare providers; improve the management of chronic pain conditions in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients, improving health outcomes.		

Project Title	2019 / 934 – National audit and operational framework for Safe at Home Programs – Western Australia Case Study
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Chief Investigator	Kyllie Cripps		
Institution	University of New South Wales		
Region	Statewide		
Start Date	12/2019	Finish Date	07/2020
Project Summary	As part of the 'National Audit and Operational Framework for Safe at Home Programs' this project will be assessing the effectiveness of the Keeping Women Safe in their Homes (KWSITH) / Safe at Home (SAH) responses to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women. This project applies to a case study focusing specifically on the effectiveness of KWSITH/SAH responses to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in Western Australia.		

Project Title	2019 / 935 - Childhood systemic lupus erythematosus in the Western Australian Aboriginal population: clinical presentation, management and outcomes		
Chief Investigator	Anne Sage		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	Statewide		
Start Date	09/2019	Finish Date	10/2019
Project Summary	This project will be a retrospective longitudinal observational single centre cohort study of patients with confirmed childhood Systemic Lupus Erythematosus managed within the Child and Adolescent Health Service in Western Australia from 1998 to 2018. It will include documentation of the clinical manifestations and long term outcomes of SLE in Aboriginal children in WA.		

Project Title	2019 / 936 - Eye-tracking data for typically developing Australian children on four tasks		
Chief Investigator	Martyn Symons		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		

Metro	Statewide		
Start Date	09/2019	Finish Date	03/2020
Project Summary	New technologies are being developed to quickly screen children and determine their risk of having FASD. Using a special eye-tracking machine that can accurately measure where children are looking on a computer screen, while performing simple tasks for 30 minutes, it may be possible to quickly and cheaply determine if they should be referred for FASD diagnosis. This project is the first step in developing a set of quick, inexpensive eye-tracking tests to screen children for a range of problems including FASD, ADHD, and Autism Spectrum Disorder so they get treatment and support at the earliest age possible.		

Project Title	2019 / 937 - Prediction of Indigenous women at high risk of preterm birth using vaginal bacterial biomarkers		
Chief Investigator	Matthew Payne		
Institution	University of Western Australia		
Region	Mid-West		
Start Date	12/2019	Finish Date	12/2020
Project Summary	This study will conduct a pilot-scale prospective cohort study of early mid-gestation WA Indigenous pregnant women in the mid-west region, to document vaginal bacteria present using full-length 16S rRNA gene profiling (molecular analysis) and to ascertain whether the GLU test can accurately predict preterm birth in this ethnic group, and if not, identify specific bacterial DNA profiles that are predictive of preterm birth risk.		

Project Title	2019 / 938 - Understanding and responding to the cost and health impact of short-term health staffing in remote and rural Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health services		
Chief Investigator	John Wakerman		
Institution	Menzies School of Health Research		

Region	Statewide		
Start Date	11/2019	Finish Date	11/2022
Project Summary	This study aims to generate new knowledge about the impact of short-term staffing in remote and rural Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health services on Aboriginal communities, the potential mitigating effect of community control, and effective, context-specific, evidence-based retention strategies.		

Project Title	2019 / 940 - Describing congenital heart defects in Western Australia: 1980-2016		
Chief Investigator	Michele Hansen		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Statewide		
Start Date	12/2019	Finish Date	05/2021
Project Summary	A comprehensive description of Congenital Heart Defect (CHD) cases in WA has not been undertaken since 1994 when CHD were described for all births from 1980-1989 and a prevalence of 7.6/1000 total births was reported. An additional 20 years of data are now available. The aim of this study is to examine the prevalence and characteristics of congenital heart defects in a geographically defined Australian population over a 36-year period (1980 to 2016).		

Project Title	2019 / 941 - A review of the survival of patients diagnosed with penile cancer in Western Australia.		
Chief Investigator	Simeon Ngweso		
Institution	Joondalup Health Campus		
Region	Western Australia		

Start Date	10/2019	Finish Date	02/2020
Project Summary	The primary objectives of the research are to highlight patterns of care to reveal whether penile cancer patients in Western Australia are being managed in accordance with international standards and whether their survival outcomes are at an internationally acceptable level. In order to provide an accurate representation of all patients, the project aims to accurately capture statistics from all communities including rural and remote locations and also Indigenous patients.		

Project Title	2019 / 943 - Indigenous child removals Western Australia (I-CaRe WA)		
Chief Investigator	Sandra Eades		
Institution	University of Melbourne		
Region	Statewide		
Start Date	12/2019	Finish Date	12/2022
Project Summary	This project will explore the views and narratives from Aboriginal kinship carers about positive and negative experiences of providing out-of-home care to Aboriginal children and their views on how they can be better supported. The project will also explore the views and narratives from primary health care staff of Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) about how services can be strengthened to support families at risk of having their children removed, to increase kinship carer arrangements and to better support kinship carers.		

Project Title	2019 / 948 - The economic empowerment project - Me, Myself and Money Evaluation		
Chief Investigator	Donna Chung		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Statewide		
Start Date	11/2019	Finish Date	04/2021

Project Summary	This research aims to evaluate the Me, Myself and Money program which is being developed as a training program for women to raise women's awareness of economic abuse, increase their financial wellbeing and confidence with finances. The Curtin program evaluation will focus on identifying what works well and what needs to be changed so it can be more helpful for future facilitators and program participants.
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Project Title	2019 / 949 – A retrospective review of presentation features and outcomes in patients diagnosed with leukemia in Australia		
Chief Investigator	Rishi Kotecha		
Institution	Department of Health		
Region	Statewide		
Start Date	11/2019	Finish Date	11/2020
Project Summary	Questions asked in this study are: Are there differences between the leukaemia presentation features (such as age, phenotype, cytogenetics and molecular genetics) and response to treatment and outcome (Event-Free Survival, Leukaemia-Free Survival) within one centre and within the above states? Is 'remoteness' associated with different presentation features and different response to chemotherapy? Are there differences between the different states in the ration of patients from remote communities? Do Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children have a different pattern of presentation and outcome? Depending on patient number, can we demonstrate differences between other ethnic groups?		

Project Title	2019 / 953 – A diagnostic aid for the diagnosis of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in an Indigenous Australian population using non-contact sound recordings		
Chief Investigator	Scott Claxton		
Institution	Genesis Care Sleep and Respiratory		
Region	Midwest		
Start Date	01/2020	Finish Date	07/2020

Project Summary	ResApp Health Limited has developed an innovative smartphone-based software application (COPDCheck) to screen adults for COPD. This study will test the COPDCheck diagnostic algorithms and application at the Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service with the goal of investigating its clinical performance and usage when compared to standard-of-care clinical diagnosis in an Indigenous Australian population. This study is important to validate the algorithms more broadly as previous Australian studies have not focused on specifically testing efficacy and applicability in the Indigenous Australian population.
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Project Title	2019 / 955 – Our Journey, Our Story: building bridges to improve Aboriginal youth mental health and wellbeing		
Chief Investigator	Michael Wright		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Metro and Kimberley		
Start Date	01/2020	Finish Date	05/2024
Project Summary	This project aims to enhance the capacity of mainstream mental health service providers to be flexible, confident and competent when responding to the needs of Aboriginal young people. Specifically, 'Our Journey, Our Story' aims to establish an evidence base for optimal youth mental health service accessibility and responsiveness that improves the social, emotional and mental wellbeing of Aboriginal young people.		

Project Title	2020 / 911 – Improving Aboriginal Health and well-being: young people and type 2 diabetes		
Chief Investigator	Lisa Whitehead		
Institution	Edith Cowan University		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/07/2019	Finish Date	07/09/2020
Project Summary	The aims of the project are to explore the health beliefs and behaviours of young people who identify as Aboriginal with type 2 diabetes mellitus registered on the Perth Children's Hospital (PCH) database in Western Australia; to explore barriers to engagement with health services and enablers/incentives to increase engagement and self-management by Aboriginal young people with diabetes, and to co-develop culturally defined and appropriate principles for ways to make change and support young people and families, with the longer term view of informing potential intervention programs around managing type 2 diabetes.		

Project Title	2020 / 939 – A mixed methods investigation of mutual support groups for Aboriginal People		
Chief Investigator	Peter Kelly		
Institution	University of Wollongong		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/2020	Finish Date	12/2020
Project Summary	The overall aim of this study is to investigate the cultural utility of SMART Recovery Australia as a recovery resource for Aboriginal peoples.		

Project Title	2020 / 944 – Developmental Disability among Aboriginal Children in Western Australia		
Chief Investigator	Alison Gibberd		
Institution	University of Melbourne		

Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	31/12/2019	Finish Date	30/06/2021
Project Summary	The aims of this study are to use linked, population-based data to: identify regions of WA where health services are making early diagnoses and children are accessing disability services in early childhood; identify characteristics of children and families where children are diagnosed early and receive services early; examine the relationship between developmental disability and the child protection system and how this varies with access to disability services and other strengths and vulnerabilities within the family.		

Project Title	2020 / 945 – Urban Hearing Pathways		
Chief Investigator	Samantha Harkus		
Institution	Hearing Australia		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	30/11/2019	Finish Date	30/06/2020
Project Summary	The Urban Hearing Pathways Project is seeking to understand how Aboriginal families with children aged 0-5 years can access services to make sure their children can hear well so that they can develop their listening and talking skills.		

Project Title	2020 / 951 – ESCALATION: Establishing a state-wide system to identify and respond to clinically deteriorating children in Western Australia		
Chief Investigator	Fenella Gill		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	10/2019	Finish Date	12/2020

Project Summary	The ESCALATION project aims to develop a system across Western Australian health care services for doctors and nurses to be able to better recognise and respond to early signs when a child's health condition is getting worse.
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Project Title	2020 / 957 – Evaluation and development of Key Performance Indicators under the Rheumatic Fever Strategy		
Chief Investigator	Andrew Alderdice		
Institution	Abt Associates		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/03/2020	Finish Date	31/05/2020
Project Summary	To assess the extent to which the locally designed preventative activities that form part of Rheumatic Fever Strategy have had an impact on reducing the incidence of GAS infections and new cases of ARF within the timeframes of the evaluation.		

Project Title	2020 / 958 – Process Evaluation of the Family Support Networks		
Chief Investigator	Lisa Thompson		
Institution	Department of Communities		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	19/08/2019	Finish Date	31/01/2020
Project Summary	Process evaluation of Family Support Networks.		

Project Title	2020 / 959 - Prioritising and privileging First Nations voices in the decision-making about pandemic influenza vaccine allocation in Australia: listening to community panels		
Chief Investigator	Kristy Crooks		

Institution	Hunter New England Local Health District, Charles Darwin University/Menzies School of Health Research		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	02/2020	Finish Date	12/2020
Project Summary	This research is about working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to develop a new way of distributing flu vaccine by conducting community participation decision-making panels. It will explore new ways of understanding and new ways of working in the public health emergencies spaces, so that First Nations people are engaged in the decision-making process.		

Project Title	2020 / 960 - Culturally Appropriate Family and Domestic Violence Support Services: Engaging with Communities to Design a Culturally Appropriate Family Violence Program to Strengthen Aboriginal Family Safety		
Chief Investigator	Angela Ryder		
Institution	Relationships Australia		
Region	Metro and South West		
Start Date	01/01/2020	Finish Date	30/12/2021
Project Summary	The Aboriginal Family Safety Project will use a co-design approach to develop a culturally appropriate program to improve the safety and wellbeing of Aboriginal women experiencing family violence.		

Project Title	2020 / 961 - Osteoarthritis in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians - Phase 1 of Enhancing Equity, Collaboration and Culturally secure Osteoarthritis care for Aboriginal Australians		
Chief Investigator	Ivan Lin		
Institution	Western Australia Centre for Rural Health		
Region	Geraldton and Murchison		

Start Date	03/02/2020	Finish Date	31/07/2021
Project Summary	This project aims to understand Osteoarthritis (OA)-related Quality Of Life from the perspective of Aboriginal people with OA; to identify the barriers and enablers for Aboriginal people with OA to access care, from the perspective of Aboriginal people with OA and key informants who work in Aboriginal health care.		

Project Title	2020 / 962 – Preventing falls in older Aboriginal People: The Ironbark Trial		
Chief Investigator	Anne-Marie Hill		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	12/2019	Finish Date	06/2022
Project Summary	The Ironbark trial aims to show that the <i>Ironbark: Standing Strong and Tall Program</i> reduces the rate of falls in Aboriginal people 45 years and older, compared to people who receive a community wellbeing program - <i>Ironbark: Healthy Community program</i> .		

Project Title	2020 / 963 – Identifying candidates for renal transplantation in the Kimberley region		
Chief Investigator	Emma Griffiths		
Institution	KAMS & The Rural Clinical School of WA		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	01/01/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2022
Project Summary	Aims of the project are: to develop and evaluate a CQI process to improve the process of transplant suitability assessment in the Kimberley region; to increase the proportion of patients dialysing with Kimberley Renal Services who have been formally assessed		

	for transplant status; to increase the number of patients waitlisted for transplantation.
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Project Title	2020 / 964 – GP Urgent Care Network Pilot Evaluation		
Chief Investigator	David Whyatt		
Institution	University of Western Australia		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	03/02/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2020
Project Summary	This research project is an evaluation of the Urgent Care Network to determine the characteristics of the patients seen by the urgent care clinics, based on data collected as part of the administration and delivery of healthcare.		

Project Title	2020 / 965 – Impact of the (PTB) preterm birth prevention initiative in Western Australia		
Chief Investigator	John Newnham		
Institution	University of Western Australia		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	04/03/2020	Finish Date	04/03/2023
Project Summary	The study aims to evaluate whether the WA Preterm Birth Prevention Initiative's strategies have resulted in a delay in gestational age at delivery.		

Project Title	2020 / 966 – Australian hepatitis B and hepatitis C duplicate notifications linkage project		
Chief Investigator	Benjamin Cowie		

Institution	WHO Collaborating Centre for Viral Hepatitis, Doherty Institute		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/02/2020	Finish Date	01/02/2022
Project Summary	This study will collect all state and territory notified cases of hepatitis B and C across Australia and link these data to identify duplication notifications.		

Project Title	2020 / 967 – Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Aboriginal Corporation Respiratory Disease Health Quality Improvement Plan		
Chief Investigator	Richelle Douglas		
Institution	Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Aboriginal Corporation		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	02/03/2020	Finish Date	05/07/2021
Project Summary	The aim of this project is to assess the impact of a quality improvement program for clinical diagnosis and management of chronic respiratory disease at Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Aboriginal Corporation.		

Project Title	2020 / 968 – Current practice for lung function testing in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people		
Chief Investigator	Graham Hall		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	06/01/2020	Finish Date	06/09/2021
Project Summary	The aim of the study is to review current practice of lung function testing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within health care services throughout Australia.		

Project Title	2020 / 969 – Smileyscope: evaluating acceptability in the Kimberley		
Chief Investigator	Emma Carlin		
Institution	Rural Clinical School of Western Australia		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	10/02/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2020
Project Summary	This evaluation will assess the impact and outcomes of Smileyscope for young people with rheumatic heart disease who are patients of Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service, Ord Valley Aboriginal Health Service, Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services – Bidyadanga.		

Project Title	2020 / 970 – Equity in access: a NDIS Kimberley case study		
Chief Investigator	Emma Carlin		
Institution	Rural Clinical School of Western Australia		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	10/03/2020	Finish Date	30/12/2021
Project Summary	This study will address the paucity of knowledge in the high priority area of Aboriginal people's access to, and the provision of, services through the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). It aims to evaluate process and short term impacts of the Kimberley NDIS Remote Community Connector & Evidence Access and Coordination of Planning Program.		

Project Title	2020 / 972 – Tackling Indigenous Smoking Program 2018-19 to 2021-22 Evaluation		
Chief Investigator	Lena Etuk		

Institution	Cultural & Indigenous Research Centre Australia		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	17/04/2020	Finish Date	28/02/2022
Project Summary	This research project is an evaluation of the Tackling Indigenous Smoking program 2018-19 – 2021-22, assessing its contribution to progress toward minimising the harms from smoking among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.		

Project Title	2020 / 974 – Seven Sisters Program: Netball, Teamwork, Resilience		
Chief Investigator	Rose Whitau		
Institution	Glass Jar Australia		
Region	Wheatbelt		
Start Date	07/2020	Finish Date	31/01/2021
Project Summary	The Seven Sisters program will provide Aboriginal girls and women with opportunities to develop positive social and emotional wellbeing skills and preventative mental health strategies, which will enable them to respond and adapt to emerging challenges as they progress through the life course.		

Project Title	2020 / 975 – Identifying opportunities for prevention of cerebral palsy and improved outcomes in Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children through the examination of sociodemographic and clinical profiles		
Chief Investigator	Tanya Martin		
Institution	University of Sydney		
Region	Western Australia		

Start Date	01/03/2020	Finish Date	01/03/2022
Project Summary	The project is a retrospective population based cohort study using data from the Australian Cerebral Palsy Register (ACPR). The project will determine the prevalence of cerebral palsy (CP) in Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (in birth years 1995 – 2014), and whether rates are increasing or decreasing.		

Project Title	2020 / 977 - Evaluating and enhancing the Kimberley Empowerment, Healing and Leadership Program (KEHLP)		
Chief Investigator	Emma Carlin		
Institution	Rural Clinical School of Western Australia		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	01/05/2020	Finish Date	30/12/2020
Project Summary	This project will evaluate and enhance the Kimberley Empowerment, Healing and Leadership Program (KEHLP). The aim of the project is to evaluate process, impact and outcomes of the KEHLP and use these learnings to refine and enhance the KEHLP.		

Project Title	2020 / 979 – Promoting vitamin D sufficiency among Aboriginal people through dietary strategies and safe sun exposure		
Chief Investigator	Lucinda Black		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	28/04/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2024
Project Summary	The aims of the project are to: identify traditional and current knowledge and attitudes about diet and sun exposure; collect samples of bush tucker and measure vitamin D content using pioneering methods; compile a vitamin D composition database		

	using internationally-standardised methods; estimate intakes of vitamin D among Aboriginal people using national food consumption data; determine optimal food fortification strategies for increasing vitamin D intakes among Aboriginal people; and disseminate findings on diet and safe sun exposure to promote vitamin D sufficiency.
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Project Title	2020 / 980 – Be You Kimberley and Pilbara Evaluation		
Chief Investigator	James Smith		
Institution	Menzies School of Health Research		
Region	Pilbara/Kimberley		
Start Date	27/04/2020	Finish Date	01/03/2021
Project Summary	This project is an evaluation of the <i>Be You Kimberley and Pilbara Project</i> (BYKP). BYKP is a place-based mental health in education program that seeks to promote mentally-healthy learning communities by creating and disseminating culturally-responsive resources that support educators to promote mental health, and respond to critical incidents in their communities.		

Project Title	2020 / 981 – Understanding the experiences of Kimberley children and young adults with diabetes, to improve models of care		
Chief Investigator	Renae Kirkham and Kimberley Seear		
Institution	Menzies School of Health Research & Rural Clinical School of WA		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	20/04/2020	Finish Date	30/06/2021
Project Summary	The specific aim of the current study is to understand the lived experiences of Aboriginal young people with diabetes in the Kimberley, in order to understand factors impacting on their knowledge of self-management, and health behaviours that contribute to glucose levels.		

Project Title	2020 / 983 – Linking-up for better outcomes: Western Australian Aboriginal children and families		
Chief Investigator	Rhonda Marriott		
Institution	Murdoch University		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/05/2020	Finish Date	30/04/2024
Project Summary	<p>This study is an extensive and systematic examination of the mental health of Aboriginal parents in the period around birth. It draws on powerful population data sources in Western Australia to tackle two urgent aims:</p> <p>1) improve understanding of the deleterious impact of poor parental mental health on the development of Western Australian Aboriginal children via robust examination of the timing and accumulation of problems on early life outcomes; and</p> <p>(2) inform the implementation of culturally appropriate and workable parenting skills education, health promotion and cultural resilience interventions to reduce the burden of perinatal mental health problems among Aboriginal Australians.</p>		

Project Title	2020 / 986 – Mooditj Miyal. Healthy Eyes: Empowering Health Worker Staff to Perform Retinal Screening		
Chief Investigator	Kristin White		
Institution	South West Aboriginal Medical Services		
Region	South West		
Start Date	06/2020	Finish Date	28/02/2021
Project Summary	<p>This project aims to develop a standardised pathway for Aboriginal Health Workers to take retinal photographs, and send the photographs to the Lions Eye Institute for review and action. It is designed to empower and build capacity in the Aboriginal Health Worker workforce, and ensure the screening cycle remains sustainable into the future.</p>		

Project Title	2020 / 988 – Welcome to the place of healing from fire: Welcome to Country and orientation to the State Adult Burns Unit at Fiona Stanley Hospital		
Chief Investigator	Tiffany Ryan		
Institution	Fiona Stanley Hospital		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/12/2020	Finish Date	01/12/2024
Project Summary	Previous research has indicated the benefits of patient voice content to develop an animated audio-visual orientation tool employing storytelling for culturally appropriate communications. The animated video-story will be accessible before Aboriginal patients transfer to the burns unit. The first aim of this research is to develop the animated audio-visual tool and printed visual resources.		

Project Title	2020 / 992 – Improving joint replacement outcomes in Australia		
Chief Investigator	Stephen Graves		
Institution	Australian Orthopaedic Association National Joint Replacement Registry		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/07/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2025
Project Summary	The overarching aim of this proposal is to use Australian Orthopaedic Association National Joint Replacement Registry (AOANJRR) data linked with national and state/territory administrative datasets to identify and describe trends and variation in a range of serious and burdensome complications following joint replacement.		

Project Title	2020 / 993 – DETECT Schools Study: Understanding the impact of COVID-19 in Western Australian Schools		
Chief Investigator	Peter Gething		
Institution	WA Government and Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	18/05/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2020
Project Summary	Through this project, the WA Government in partnership with Telethon Kids, proposes to make good decisions about relaxing restrictions, gain a greater understanding of any role that schools play in the transmission of the disease, and understand how students and staff are coping in this challenging environment.		

Project Title	2020 / 946 – Evaluation of the Aboriginal Acute Care Coordination Team (AACCT) project		
Chief Investigator	Erica Parker		
Institution	WA Department of Health		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	12/2020	Finish Date	08/2021
Project Summary	The aim of this research is to investigate the impact that the AACCT program has had on health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with an acute condition who are enrolled in the program.		

Project Title	2020 / 947 - Kaat-Koort: Aboriginal Brain Health Study - Phase 2		
Chief Investigator	Sandra Eades		
Institution	University of Melbourne		
Region	Metro and South West		
Start Date	08/2020	Finish Date	06/2023
Project Summary	The overall aim of the project is to reduce the risk of dementia among Aboriginal adults aged 35-60 years at high risk, through an Aboriginal Health Worker-led program targeting diet, physical exercise, smoking cessation, and cardio-metabolic disease risk factor management over a period of 24-months.		

Project Title	2020 / 950 - The experiences and impact of racism on Indigenous general practice trainees		
Chief Investigator	Talila Milroy		
Institution	Royal Australian College of General Practice		
Region	National		
Start Date	15/01/2020	Finish Date	15/02/2021

Project Summary	The aim of the project is to elucidate the experiences and impact of racism on Indigenous general practice trainees completing training term 1, 2 or 3, and to better understand the experiences of this group of health professionals including the barriers and challenges faced by this group.
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Project Title	2020 / 971 - Brain Injury Yarning Circles: Support groups for Aboriginal Australians after brain injury		
Chief Investigator	Elizabeth Armstrong		
Institution	Edith Cowan University		
Region	Metro and Murchison/Gascoyne		
Start Date	01/06/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2020
Project Summary	The aims of the project are: to provide a culturally secure, feasible and acceptable community based support group for Aboriginal people post stroke and traumatic brain injury in rural and metropolitan areas; to promote social and emotional wellbeing post brain injury, for the brain injury survivors themselves and to decrease carer strain. The project will establish and evaluate the first regional and metropolitan support groups specifically for Aboriginal brain injury survivors and their families to encourage social and emotional wellbeing, and ultimately improve health outcomes for this under-served population.		

Project Title	2020 / 973 - Ngulluk Koolunga Ngulluk Koort (Our Children, Our Heart) Early Years Education and Support project		
Chief Investigator	Brad Farrant		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	28/04/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2022
Project Summary	This project is focused on improving the educational, social, emotional and cultural wellbeing of Aboriginal children (3 year old children/pre-Kindy), their families and the broader community in the Willagee area (Caralee Community School catchment area).		

Project Title	2020 / 976 - Healing conversations: a practical framework for clinical communication between Aboriginal communities and healthcare practitioners		
Chief Investigator	Andrea McKivett		
Institution	University of Adelaide		
Region	South Australia and Western Australia		
Start Date	01/05/2020	Finish Date	01/12/2022
Project Summary	This research study aims to develop and test a tailored communication framework to assist healthcare practitioners have more effective clinical conversations with Aboriginal peoples. It aims to develop and test a tailored clinical communication framework for use in healthcare interactions between Aboriginal community members and healthcare practitioners. Once the framework has been developed in consultation with the Aboriginal community, healthcare practitioners and medical students, the framework will be tested in two medical education programs in South Australia and Western Australia to assess its utility and acceptability.		

Project Title	2020 / 978 - HTLV-1 in the centre: A longitudinal study on HTLV-1 and associated conditions among Aboriginal people in central Australia		
Chief Investigator	Mohammad Radwanur Talukder		
Institution	Baker Institute		
Region	Central Desert Region		
Start Date	01/06/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2025
Project Summary	This longitudinal study will prospectively identify the medical conditions that are associated with HTLV-1 in remote communities and provides an opportunity to determine whether people with HTLV-1 are more likely to develop medical conditions over time. The study will specifically seek to determine why people in remote communities are more likely to develop other serious medical problems including diabetes, heart disease and chronic kidney disease. The study will generate important evidence for developing		

	clinical and public health guidelines on HTLV-1. The overall aim of this study is to evaluate the association between HTLV-1 infection and mortality, morbidity and healthcare service utilisation among Aboriginal people living in remote communities in the Ngaanyatjarra lands.
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Project Title	2020 / 985 - The Aboriginal Health Grand Challenge Initiative		
Chief Investigator	Glenn Pearson		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Metro and Pilbara		
Start Date	01/01/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2024
Project Summary	The Aboriginal Health Grand Challenge Initiative will co-create an Aboriginal health research platform at the Telethon Kids Institute that facilitates the implementation of research and translation which is informed by Aboriginal community and family priorities. This will be achieved via Aboriginal leadership through strong, accountable project governance structures and the following objectives: developing understandings from families, communities, service organisations and research partners on how to create and sustain healthy environments for children; identifying and responding to Aboriginal families' unmet social, clinical and cultural needs; co-creating and implementing a community-driven and responsive internal Telethon Kids Institute research platform; and evaluating the Aboriginal Health Grand Challenge, including the processes and impact of the internal research platform and projects on child and family outcomes.		

Project Title	2020 / 989 - How does independent individual advocacy contribute to the patient experience of healthcare in Western Australia?		
Chief Investigator	Colleen Fisher		
Institution	The University of Western Australia		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	10/06/2020	Finish Date	02/02/2023

Project Summary	The aim of this project is to explore the experience for patients/health consumers who have worked with an independent advocate, to navigate any aspect of WA Health. This project will provide a richer understanding of the work of advocacy within healthcare by exploring the perspective of people who use advocacy and the people who deliver advocacy services. The focus for this project is the perspective and experience of advocacy of the health consumer.
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Project Title	2020 / 990 – Improving hospital-based care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander pre-term infants and their families		
Chief Investigator	Mary Sharp		
Institution	WA Department of Health		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	02/11/2020	Finish Date	30/09/2021
Project Summary	The overall aim of the project is to improve hospital-based care of Aboriginal preterm infants in Western Australia. The primary objectives are to: investigate pathways of how Aboriginal preterm infants move from hospital through to primary and secondary health care services and the barriers and facilitators of these pathways, and to evaluate programs delivered by King Edward Memorial Hospital for preterm infants, the Family Integrated Care program and the Neonatal Follow-up Program, through a clinical audit. It is expected the results of this work will be the development of a culturally appropriate model of care and recommendations to support families of Aboriginal preterm babies. It will also highlight areas of care between services that could be improved for Aboriginal families.		

Project Title	2020 / 991 - Australian Hepatitis and risk survey in prisons (AusHep)
Chief Investigator	Tony Butler
Institution	University of New South Wales

Region	National		
Start Date	01/06/2020	Finish Date	31/05/2030
Project Summary	The Australian Hepatitis and Risk Survey in Prisons (AusHep) aims to build on and replace the National Prison Entrants' Blood Borne Virus Survey (NPEBBVS) as the national BBV surveillance measure in the prison sector. The AusHep aims to: annually monitor the prevalence of HCV, HBV and HIV (including exposure, current infection, immunity and reinfection); monitor the engagement in BBV care cascades (i.e. engagement in testing and treatment); and collect important health and risk behaviour data (e.g. harm reduction access, injecting practices).		

Project Title	2020 / 995 – An early start to nutritional health: Improving the rates of breastfeeding in Western Australian Aboriginal babies		
Chief Investigator	Daniel McAullay		
Institution	Edith Cowan University		
Region	Perth Metro		
Start Date	01/2021	Finish Date	01/2026
Project Summary	This project aims to improve exclusive breastfeeding rates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants in the Perth Metropolitan area. It will facilitate hospital and community-based primary health care staff to provide culturally competent care and support to encourage the initiation and longer-term continuation of breastfeeding as a protective and beneficial practice for mother and child.		

Project Title	2020 / 996 – B Part of It NT Study: Immunisation for adolescents against serious communicable diseases		
Chief Investigator	Helen Marshall		
Institution	The University of Adelaide: Women's and Children's Hospital		

Region	Central Desert		
Start Date	01/02/2021	Finish Date	31/12/2025
Project Summary	This study aims to implement a 4CMenB immunisation program in young people aged 14-19 and to evaluate the effectiveness of the 4CMenB vaccine against meningococcal disease, meningococcal carriage and gonorrhoea. This study includes the Northern Territory and Western Australian communities serviced by the Ngaanyatjarra Health Service. These Western Australian communities have been included because they follow the NT Immunisation schedule.		

Project Title	2020 / 997 – Augmented reality as a tool to improve cultural security for Aboriginal patients of the Northam Health Service		
Chief Investigator	Danika Tager		
Institution	Wheatbelt Aboriginal Health Service		
Region	Wheatbelt		
Start Date	01/09/2020	Finish Date	01/01/2022
Project Summary	This project aims to increase the accessibility of culturally appropriate information in the Northam Health Service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The project will trial the use of Augmented Reality (AR) to deliver video and other culturally appropriate forms of communication at key points on their patient journey in the Northam Health Service. This content will communicate important information that is known to directly impact patient health outcomes. Specifics will be determined via an extensive community and staff co-design process and could include audio-visual information about patient rights, availability of Aboriginal Liaison Officers, hospital maps, or key discharge information.		

Project Title	2020 / 998 – Strong and Deadly Futures: A randomized controlled trial of a computerized school-based alcohol and other drug use prevention program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students		
Chief Investigator	Lexine Stapinski		

Institution	The University of Sydney		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	10/2020	Finish Date	12/2024
Project Summary	Strong & Deadly Futures is a culturally inclusive alcohol and other drugs (AOD) prevention program that features computerised delivery to enhance engagement, reach and sustainability. The study builds on a 2019 pilot trial in four schools in NSW and QLD, and will expand the Strong & Deadly Futures program and evaluate its effectiveness in preventing alcohol and other drug use, and increasing feelings of empowerment and wellbeing.		

Project Title	2020 / 1000 – Walkern Katatdjinn (Rainbow Knowledge) National Survey: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQA+ young peoples’ social emotional wellbeing		
Chief Investigator	Ashleigh Lin		
Institution	Telethon Kids Institute		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/08/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2021
Project Summary	This study is Phase 2 of a three-year project, examining the social emotional wellbeing (SEWB) and mental health of Indigenous LGBTQA+ young people (14-25 years). Building on the qualitative work done in Phase 1, the current phase of the project aims to: quantitatively index the SEWB and mental health of Indigenous LGBTQA+ young people across Australia; determine risk and protective factors for SEWB and mental health among Indigenous LGBTQA+ young people; describe Indigenous LGBTQA+ young peoples’ experiences in health care services including any geographical (e.g. urban vs. remote) differences in access to and experiences in services.		

Project Title	2020 / 1001 – Nutrition issues related to food insecurity in families of Aboriginal and Torres Islander children with diabetes or pre-diabetes		
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Chief Investigator	Hannah Bres		
Institution	Perth Children's Hospital		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/09/2020	Finish Date	01/09/2021
Project Summary	This study aims to collect information on nutrition issues related to food insecurity and its prevalence among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families with children with pre-diabetes or type 2 diabetes (T2D) attending Perth Children's Hospital. This information will inform the clinical team who provide care to Aboriginal families and document the prevalence of food insecurity in Perth, compared to national statistics.		

Project Title	2020 / 1002 – Novel Interventions to Address Methamphetamine Use in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities Phase 4 - We Can Do This: A web-based therapeutic program for reducing methamphetamine use amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: Wait-list control, randomised trial		
Chief Investigator	James Ward		
Institution	The University of Queensland		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	08/10/2020	Finish Date	30/06/2021
Project Summary	The aim of the research is to test the effectiveness of a web-based therapeutic program developed with input from a range of stakeholders including Aboriginal people who have used methamphetamine, clinicians and health workers from our Aboriginal health service partners and cultural advisors, in a wait-list controlled randomised trial across multiple sites in urban, regional, and remote locations.		

Project Title	2020 / 1003 – A comparative study of the TOMiscope and conventional diagnostic modalities for detection of Otitis Media on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in Western Australia		
Chief Investigator	Harvey Coates		

Institution	Earbus Foundation of WA, University of Western Australia		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	12/10/2020	Finish Date	30/09/2021
Project Summary	The Foundation will compare current standard diagnostic tools with an innovative instrument called a TOMi Scope© to ascertain an effective and clear diagnosis. Effective diagnostic imagery can greatly assist audiologists/screeners/nurses'/nurse practitioners/GPs to diagnose in a non-intrusive method to get better long term treatment. This scope is a form of ultrasound that can show what is happening behind the eardrum and can be used even when the ear canal is largely obstructed.		

Project Title	2020 / 1005 - Evaluation of the impact of the Young Deadly Free resources in remote communities: Post project follow up		
Chief Investigator	Roanna Lobo		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/09/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2020
Project Summary	The aim of the current evaluation is to investigate the broader reach of the Young Deadly Free (YDF) resources. The evaluation also aims to determine the long-term impact of the YDF brand and resource messaging on the project's participating communities and other communities not directly involved with the project. Note: The YDF project sought to raise awareness about sexually transmissible infections and blood borne viruses.		

Project Title	2020 / 1006 – Impact of a primary care health assessment and guided service navigation on Aboriginal youth mental health and wellbeing outcomes: Listening and Understanding, Co-design and Pilot (Phase 1)		
Chief Investigator	Sandra Eades		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Metro and South West		

Start Date	01/10/2020	Finish Date	31/10/2021
Project Summary	This aim of this study is to undertake qualitative and co-design activities with key stakeholders within the Perth and Bunbury communities of Western Australia, to inform a health service navigation intervention to increase the mental health and wellbeing of young Aboriginal people. This is a 12 month first phase of a five-year project which will later test the intervention.		

Project Title	2020 / 1008 – Development and evaluation of resources to prevent methamphetamine (“ice”) related harms in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population		
Chief Investigator	Maree Teesson		
Institution	The University of Sydney		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/11/2020	Finish Date	01/03/2022
Project Summary	This aim of this project is to improve access to culturally appropriate evidence-based information and resources about the drug crystal methamphetamine (‘ice’) for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including people who use crystal methamphetamine, health workers, affected family members and general community members. The objective of this second phase of the project is to seek feedback from the community on the developed information and resources along with the proposed layout and accessibility of the online information toolkit. This consultation will also ask participants to provide suggestions on further resources that could be developed.		

Project Title	2020 / 1009 – Trajectories toward well-being: exploring the psychological phenomena inherent and emerging within flourishing Stolen Generation families		
Chief Investigator	Jonathan Bullen		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Metropolitan		

Start Date	17/08/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2020
Project Summary	This research seeks to explore and understand past and present experiences that have influenced, or currently influence, the life trajectory toward flourishing and wellbeing of the Hill family.		

Project Title	2020 / 1010 – The Real Picture: recognising the high prevalence of diabetes in remote Kimberley communities		
Chief Investigator	Caitlyn White		
Institution	Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	28/10/2020	Finish Date	29/01/2021
Project Summary	The aim of this project is to provide reliable prevalence estimates for diabetes in Aboriginal people aged 15 years and over in five remote Aboriginal communities in the Kimberley region who attend primary health care services that are provided by Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services. This is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service-initiated audit to help improve the quality of service delivery by regional health organisations for the prevention and management of diabetes.		

Project Title	2020 / 1012 - Concussion in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander People/Communities		
Chief Investigator	Gill Cowen		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	19/08/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2020
Project Summary	The aims of the project are to review existing literature relating to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples knowledge surrounding potentially concussive injuries, concussion and its potential sequelae, and identify similar literature in other indigenous populations worldwide; to investigate current understanding of concussion in Aboriginal peoples in Perth; to investigate if and where Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander		

	Peoples present for assessment in the case of a potentially concussive injury. The project asks: In people who have presented, what is the perception about how the concussion was managed and was the consultation was conducted in a culturally appropriate way?
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Project Title	2020 / 1014 - Evaluation of the Aboriginal In-home Support Service		
Chief Investigator	Jen Ehlers		
Institution	Social Ventures Australia		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	19/10/2020	Finish Date	28/12/2020
Project Summary	This project will assess the quality and success of implementation, delivery, and ongoing management of the Wungening Moort program, and Inform future design, development, investment, and implementation decisions. Wungening Moort is made up of four service providers – Wungening Aboriginal Corporation, Coolabaroo Community Services, Ebenezer Aboriginal Corporation and Moorditj Koort.		

Project Title	2020 / 1015 - A Focus Group on Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET) with Counsellors from Yorgum Aboriginal Health Services		
Chief Investigator	Hugo Gonzales		
Institution	Murdoch University		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/06/2020	Finish Date	31/08/2020
Project Summary	The aim of this research is to introduce Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET) as a potential intervention tool with Aboriginal communities that have experienced trauma. NET is a sustainable, effective, and culturally appropriate treatment for complex trauma that has been successful with refugee communities. The research aims to add NET as a tool to help to facilitate healing within Aboriginal communities that have experienced complex trauma.		

Project Title	2020 / 1017 - Qualitative research into the experiences of technology-facilitated abuse of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women living in regional and remote areas		
Chief Investigator	Eunice Yu/Mandy Yap		
Institution	Nagula Jarndu (Broome) and Australian National University		
Region	Broome, Alice Springs and regional New South Wales		
Start Date	02/11/2020	Finish Date	31/03/2021
Project Summary	This qualitative research seeks to better understand the experiences of technology-facilitated abuse (TFA) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women from regional and remote areas, and how best to support them deal with it. The outcomes of this research will inform the development of resources, programs, policies and other supports for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women who live in regional and remote areas in relation to TFA, under the eSafety Women's programs.		

Project Title	2020 / 1018 - Staying moving, staying strong: Developing culturally appropriate health information resource for Aboriginal Australians with osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, lupus and gout.		
Chief Investigator	Ivan Lin		
Institution	University of Western Australia		
Region	Murchison/Gascoyne		
Start Date	01/11/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2022
Project Summary	The aim of this project is to develop culturally appropriate information for Aboriginal Australians with osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus and gout. Whilst information for consumers exists, it has not been designed to meet the information needs of Aboriginal Australians. This project aims to address this gap, and is one of several projects embedded in the wider research program 'Enhancing Equity, Collaboration and Culturally secure Osteoarthritis care for Aboriginal Australians'.		

Project Title	2020 / 1019 - Evaluating the progress of regional implementation of the Roadmap to Close the Gap for Vision		
Chief Investigator	Hugh Taylor		
Institution	University of Melbourne		
Region	National		
Start Date	19/10/2020	Finish Date	30/06/2021
Project Summary	This project is the first comprehensive national evaluation of regional implementation of the Roadmap to Close the Gap for Vision (the Roadmap), adding a level of transparency and context to current national data. The aims of the project are to evaluate progress of regional implementation of The Roadmap; to explore successful approaches to improving eye-care for Indigenous Australians; and to inform future activities. The role and effectiveness of Indigenous Eye Health in Roadmap implementation will be evaluated, and transferable lessons beyond eye health identified.		

Project Title	2020 / 1020 - Achieving Equity in Genomic Health (AEGH) for Indigenous Australians		
Chief Investigator	Margaret Kelaheer		
Institution	The University of Melbourne		
Region	National		
Start Date	07/10/2020	Finish Date	30/06/2023
Project Summary	The AEGH project will co-design, implement and evaluate measures to improve access, availability, affordability and acceptability to Clinical Genetic Services, and support their integration into the health system. The overarching aim of the project is to increase the benefits of Clinical Genetic Services for Indigenous people. It will involve both service- and system-level activities and analyses to achieve this aim.		

Project Title	2020 / 1021 - Understanding and responding to the cost and health impact of short-term health staffing in remote and rural Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health services
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Chief Investigator	John Wakerman		
Institution	Menzies School of Health Research		
Region	Western Australia and Northern Territory		
Start Date	01/11/2019	Finish Date	30/11/2022
Project Summary	This study aims to generate new knowledge about the impact of short-term staffing in remote and rural Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health services on Aboriginal communities; the potential mitigating effect of community control; and effective, context-specific, evidence-based retention strategies.		

Project Title	2020 / 1022 - Establishing and evaluating an Aboriginal Designed Framework and Methodology for understanding Early Childhood Development of Aboriginal children.		
Chief Investigator	Robyn Williams		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	12/10/2020	Finish Date	31/03/2021
Project Summary	This project will evaluate and co-mentor the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Aboriginal Corporation clinical staff to build new capacities for understanding Early Childhood Development and Wellbeing of Aboriginal children through: implementation of an overarching Aboriginal worldview on formulation of a child's developmental strengths, difficulties and well being; training in the application and interpretation of evidence-based screening and assessment tools for understanding Early Childhood Development; application of evidence-based Aboriginal methodology to understand cultural strengths and Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing; and two-way learning to interpret, synthesise and summarise the above information to formulate best health and therapeutic plans to build strong children.		

Project Title	2020 / 1024 - Knowledge activation, implementation and support for COVID-19 messaging in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities		
Chief Investigator	Neil Drew		
Institution	Edith Cowan University		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	18/01/2021	Finish Date	30/06/2022
Project Summary	This study will investigate the lived experience of Aboriginal people and communities in translating web-based knowledge about COVID-19 messaging into community action and behaviour change. The project will contribute to a better understanding of the critical health literacy support needs within communities focussing in particular on the role of natural helpers; those 'naturally' turned to in times of crisis.		

Project Title	2020 / 1025 - The Fifth National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan – Reducing Stigma and Discrimination: Targeted Consultations		
Chief Investigator	Nicola Reavley		
Institution	The University of Melbourne		
Region	National		
Start Date	20/10/2020	Finish Date	01/03/2021
Project Summary	The aim of the project is to undertake targeted consultations with people who have lived experience (either their own or as a support person) on options for a nationally coordinated approach to reducing stigma and discrimination towards people with mental illness that is poorly understood in the community (such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder or personality disorders). The project has a national focus and includes the views of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from across Australia, to ensure that any national stigma and discrimination reduction strategy is informed by their views and experiences.		

Project Title	2020 / 1028 - Substance Use Disorder Aeromedical Retrievals in Western Australia		
Chief Investigator	Matthew Coleman		
Institution	The University of Western Australia		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/02/2021	Finish Date	31/12/2022
Project Summary	The purpose of this study is to understand the characteristics of people (18 years and older) who needed to be evacuated for treatment by the Royal Flying Doctor Service for substance problems in WA, and to compare their problems, clinical outcomes and care requirements against a metropolitan group of people with similar problems. This study hopes to build evidence and information for regional services to better understand, prepare and advocate for services, funding and resources to care for regional people with substance use problems.		

Project Title	2020 / 1030 - Evaluation of the Australian Government's investment in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care through the Indigenous Australians' Health Programme (IAHP Yarnes)		
Chief Investigator	Ned Hardie-Boys		
Institution	Allen and Clarke Consulting		
Region	National		
Start Date	19/11/2020	Finish Date	30/06/2023
Project Summary	The overall aim of the IAHP Yarnes evaluation is to strengthen the appropriateness and effectiveness of comprehensive Primary Health Care (PHC) systems for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This should include consideration to develop an accountability framework that measures the public value and health outcomes of the Australian Government's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders'-specific PHC investment.		

Project Title	2020 / 1032 - Debakarn Koorliny Wangkiny (working title—project name to be co-designed with Nyoongar Elders)		
Chief Investigator	Michael Wright		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Metro		
Start Date	06/01/2021	Finish Date	31/12/2023
Project Summary	The aim of the research is to decolonise practice in the School of Occupational Therapy, Social Work and Speech Pathology at Curtin University, across teaching, curricula, research and service. A decolonising process or framework will be developed which can be replicated across Curtin University and Australian higher education to ultimately, improve the social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.		

Project Title	2020 / 1033 - Transforming Indigenous Mental Health and Wellbeing: Stream 1: Empowering Access and Outcomes: Developing an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service Social and Emotional Wellbeing service model for the Kimberley region.		
Chief Investigator	Pat Dudgeon		
Institution	The University of Western Australia		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	10/12/2020	Finish Date	31/12/2024
Project Summary	This study aims to understand how Aboriginal people access Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHS) for social and emotional wellbeing (SEWB) and mental health support/services, the types of support offered and the outcomes of the support provided. This study will utilise an Aboriginal participatory action research methodology to determine the strengths and limitations of current approaches and design/enhance a regionally appropriate SEWB and mental health service model for the ACCHS that is responsive and aligned to community need.		

Project Title	2020 / 1034 – Understanding overcrowding and health in our community		
Chief Investigator	Ray Christophers		
Institution	Nirrumbuk Environmental Health & Services		
Region	Kimberley		
Start Date	12/2020	Finish Date	12/2021
Project Summary	This mixed-methods project ensures Aboriginal experience directly determines the conceptualisation, validation and ongoing use of a culturally-specific guideline to address remote housing, overcrowding and health preventive practices in ongoing COVID-19 preparedness, response and recovery. In three sites, Nirrumbuk will consult with community Councils about initiating discussions on lived experience and overcrowding. Statistical analysis will be used to validate the guideline with health data based on environmental disease transmission routes.		

Project Title	2020 / 1035 - Co-designing an ethical decision making framework to improve Aboriginal mental health and wellbeing		
Chief Investigator	Michael Wright		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	30/11/2020	Finish Date	01/10/2021
Project Summary	This Aboriginal-led research project aims to: develop an ethical decision making framework with the guidance and leadership of Aboriginal Elders across metropolitan and regional areas of Western Australia; utilize a co-design approach to inform this framework by establishing partnerships between Elder co-researchers and senior government staff in the WA Departments of Premier and Cabinet and Treasury; and to respond effectively and culturally appropriately to Aboriginal mental health and wellbeing concerns that are a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.		

Project Title	2020 / 1036 - Transforming Indigenous Mental Health and Wellbeing: Empowering the Workforce - Understanding curriculum and training needs		
Chief Investigator	Jill Milroy		
Institution	The University of Western Australia		
Region	Western Australia		
Start Date	01/12/2020	Finish Date	01/12/2023
Project Summary	This project aims to empower the mental health workforce to deliver a culturally safe and responsive model of care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This will be achieved by building the cultural responsiveness of mental health professionals and decolonising educational curricula, in addition to empowering the Social and Emotional Wellbeing workforce. The project will use Aboriginal Participatory Action Research to investigate the key principles of cultural safety in mental health care and research.		

Project Title	2020 / 1039 - Prevention of childhood iron deficiency anaemia in Aboriginal communities		
Chief Investigator	Garth Kendall		
Institution	Curtin University		
Region	Pilbara and Wheatbelt		
Start Date	01/04/2021	Finish Date	01/04/2022
Project Summary	This study, conducted in partnership with the Western Australian Country Health Service, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services and the Curtin University Centre for Aboriginal Studies, aims to identify barriers and enablers to the successful prevention and management of childhood iron deficiency anaemia (CIDA) in Aboriginal rural and remote communities in Western Australia, these being the Pilbara and Wheatbelt regions. It will result in a report that will guide the implementation of innovative approaches to prevention and management and help decrease the prevalence of CIDA in these vulnerable communities.		