



**MTPConnect**

MedTech and Pharma Growth Centre

**TTRA**

TARGETED TRANSLATION  
RESEARCH ACCELERATOR  
DIABETES + CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

# TTRA WEBINAR SERIES:

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research – Implementation Science

WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH 2023 | 12:00-1:00PM AEDT



Australian Government  
Department of Industry,  
Science and Resources

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**MTPConnect**



Championing a sector-led approach to accelerating the growth of the  
medical technology, biotechnology and pharmaceutical ecosystem in Australia





Thank you for joining us.

Our webinar will be starting shortly...

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**MTPCONNECT.ORG.AU/NETWORK**

# Connect with the MTPConnect TTRA Team

## TTRA Program Team



**Dr Mana Liao**

Acting Senior Director



**Dr Erin McAllum**

Acting Director



**Dr Andionne Parlade**

Associate Project Manager



For more information, please contact: [ttra-dc vd@mtpconnect.org.au](mailto:ttra-dc vd@mtpconnect.org.au)



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medical technology, biotechnology and pharmaceutical ecosystem in Australia



# Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country



**Dr Andionne Parlade**

**Associate Project Manager TTRA Program**

# Housekeeping



For information please contact  
[TTRA-DCVD@MTPCONNECT.ORG.AU](mailto:TTRA-DCVD@MTPCONNECT.ORG.AU)

## QUESTIONS



- Please enter questions in the **Q&A BOX** (*not the CHAT box*)
- You can **SUBMIT ANONYMOUSLY** – Just click the checkbox
- **Have the same question as someone else?**  
You can **UPVOTE** a question by clicking the **THUMBS UP**



## RECORDING



- This webinar will be recorded and slides published **within 48 hours** – We'll email you when they're ready!
- View the **ON-DEMAND VIDEO** at [mtpconnect.org.au/webinars](https://mtpconnect.org.au/webinars)
- Listen by subscribing to **THE MTPCONNECT PODCAST**  
Available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify and on our website

# Our Speakers



**Professor Gillian Harvey**

**Strength Lead – Implementation at  
the Australian Centre for Health  
Services Innovation (AusHSI)**

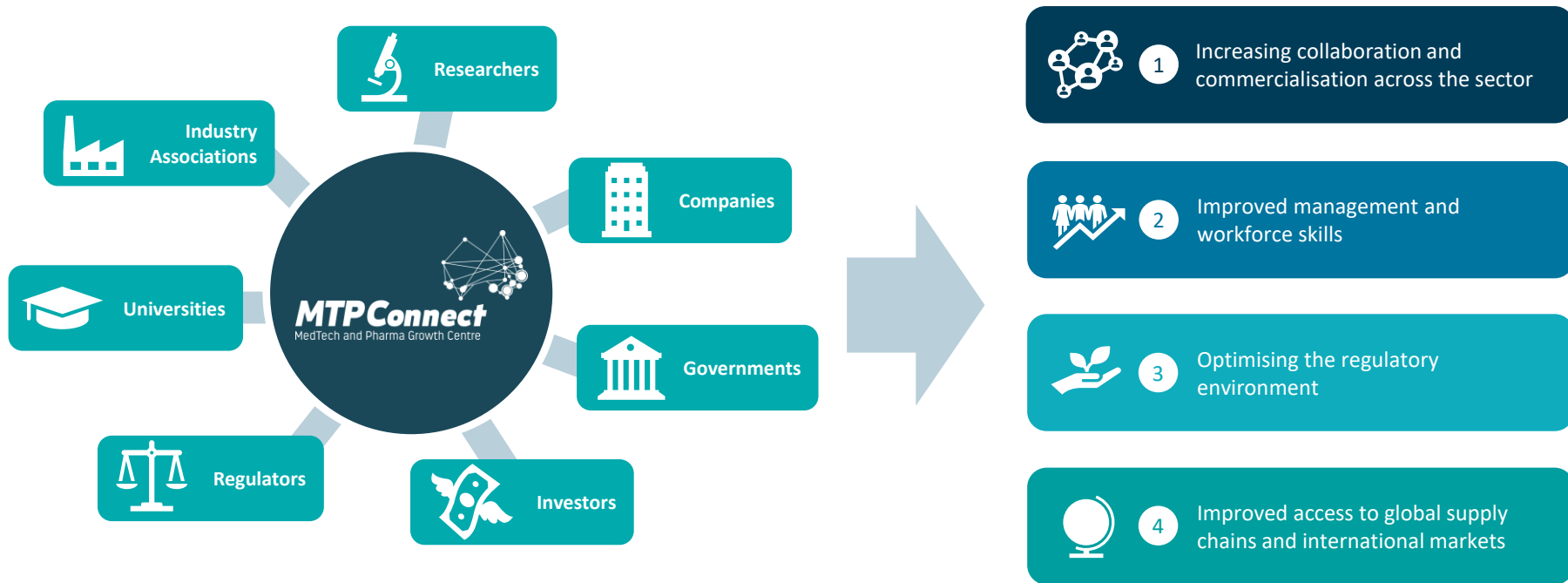


**Professor Ray Mahoney**

**Professor of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Health and Discipline Lead of Population Health  
& Visiting Scientist, Australian eHealth Research  
Centre (AEHRC), CSIRO**



# MTPConnect's goal is to accelerate the growth of Australia's MTP sector



# MRFF \$47M TTRA Program

## Pillar One

National Research Centres to address complications of diabetes and cardiovascular disease



## Pillar Two

Discrete Research Projects to address sector-identified Priority Areas in diabetes and cardiovascular disease



ROUND 1: Interactions between diabetes and cardiovascular disease

ROUND 2: Unmet needs in diabetes and cardiovascular disease

ROUND 3: Indigenous-specific unmet needs in diabetes and cardiovascular disease

## TTRA Partners



The graphic features a dark background with vibrant Indigenous Australian art. On the left, there's a large, stylized sun or star with concentric circles in yellow, orange, and red, surrounded by smaller circular motifs. To the right, the TTRA logo is displayed in large, bold letters, with 'T' in teal and 'TRA' in white. Below the logo, the text 'TARGETED TRANSLATION RESEARCH ACCELERATOR' and 'DIABETES + CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE' is written in white. A red rounded rectangle contains the text 'TTRA Round 3 Funding Research Projects focused on Indigenous Diabetes & Cardiovascular Disease'. At the bottom, a yellow circle with a black border says 'NOW OPEN' in bold red letters.

**TTRA**  
TARGETED TRANSLATION  
RESEARCH ACCELERATOR  
DIABETES + CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

TTRA Round 3 Funding  
Research Projects  
focused on Indigenous Diabetes  
& Cardiovascular Disease

**NOW  
OPEN**

For more information



- Submit **Notice of Intent** to gain access to SmartyGrants Application Form
- Submissions will close at **16:00 AEST on 28 April 2023**

# TTRA Webinar Series



Webinar 1  
**29 Nov 2022**

Principles of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research and engaging meaningfully with community

Available on-demand: <https://www.mtpconnect.org.au/webinars>



Webinar 2  
**27 Feb 2023**

Ethics & Reciprocity in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research

Available on-demand: <https://www.mtpconnect.org.au/webinars>



Webinar 3  
**Mid-March 2023**

Implementation Science in the context of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research



Webinar 4  
**Late-March 2023**

TBC

Registrations opening soon

# LET'S GET TO KNOW YOU...



Please answer all POLL questions and hit

**SUBMIT**

# Thanks for connecting with us.

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# Principles of Implementation Science

Gill Harvey

Matthew Flinders Professor, Caring Futures Institute, Flinders University

Professor of Implementation Science, AusHSI





## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS**

QUT acknowledges the Turrbal and Yugara, as the First Nations owners of the lands where QUT now stands. We pay respect to their Elders, lores, customs and creation spirits. We recognise that these lands have always been places of teaching, research and learning.

QUT acknowledges the important role Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people play within the QUT community.



# Principles of Implementation Science

- What it is
- Why we need it
- Some key concepts

# Implementation Science

- Late 1990s onwards, increased policy attention on the evidence-practice gap
- Emergence of ‘implementation science’ from 2006 with the launch of the journal by the same name
- Defined as:
  - “the scientific study of methods to promote the systematic uptake of research findings and other evidence-based practices into routine practice, and, hence, to improve the quality and effectiveness of health services”* [Eccles MP, Mittman BS. Implement Sci. 2006;1(1):1]
- Builds on previous work in quality improvement, clinical audit, evidence-based practice etc.

## **‘KNOW WHAT’**

- Evidence-based practice
- Clinical guidelines
- Systematic reviews

## **‘KNOW HOW’**

- Implementation Science
- Strategies to promote the uptake of evidence in policy and practice

# The need for implementation science?

- Studies consistently find that appropriateness of care, according to evidence-based guideline recommendations, is around 60 to 70 per cent
- Similar findings from 1998 to the present day
- We need to get better at connecting the 'know what' and the 'know how'

# Key concepts

- Implementation is not a linear or rational process
- Context matters
- Involves both social and technical elements

# How implementation happens



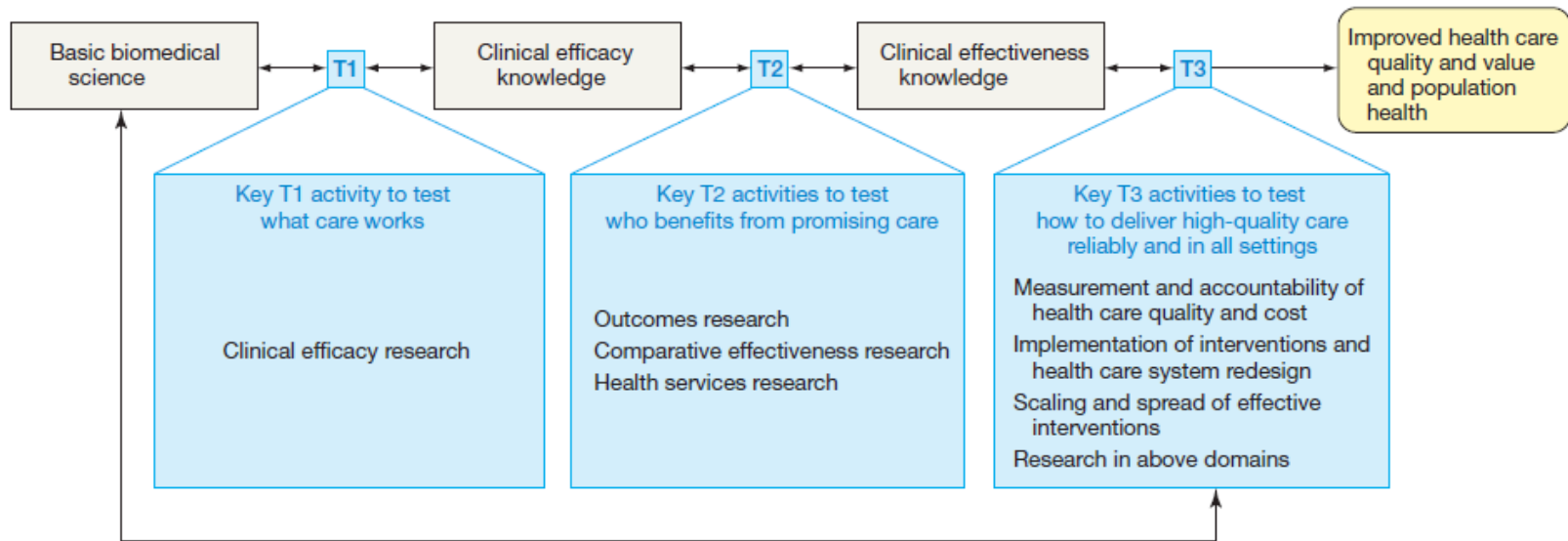
Source: Dennis R. Green, [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com)



Source: Michael Heiss, [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com)

# The Translation Pipeline

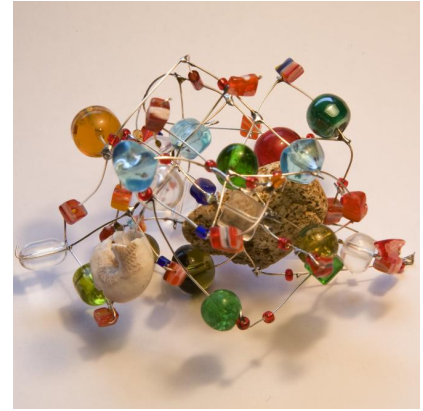
**Figure.** The 3T's Road Map





# The reality of implementation

- Complex
- Non-linear
- Multi-faceted
- Not just a product of 'strong' research evidence
- Context dependent
- Unpredictable
- Dependent on collaboration, networks and relationships
- A social, as much as a technical, process



# How can implementation science help?

- Theories and frameworks to inform implementation
- Strategies for implementation
- Processes to achieve desired implementation outcomes

# Implementation theories and frameworks

TDF

NPT

RE-AIM

Lots of them!

K2A

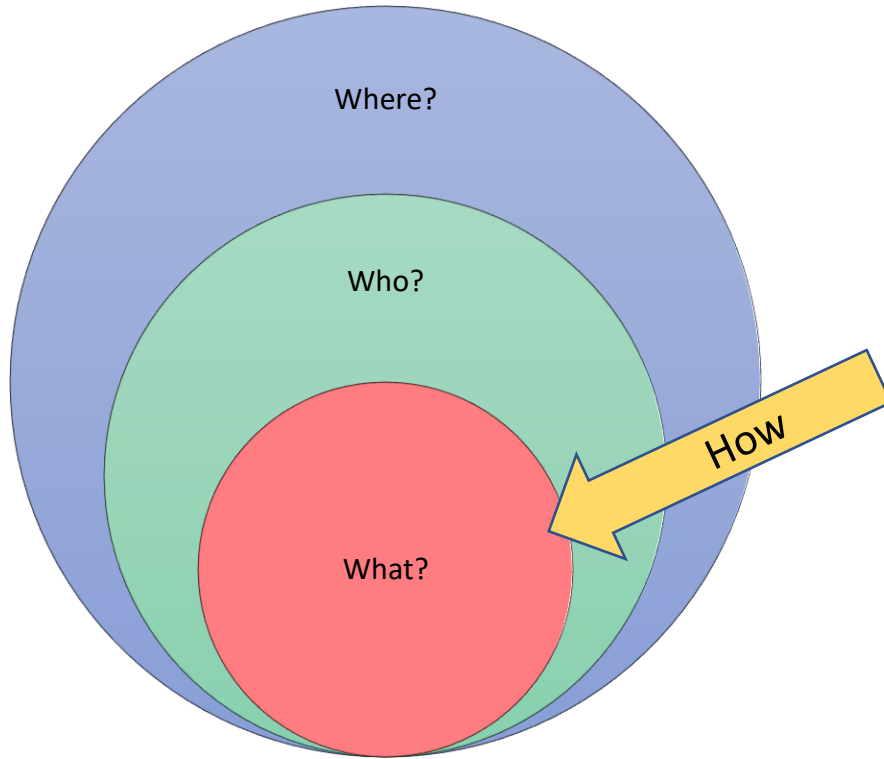
PARIHS

CFIR

i-PARIHS

# Implementation theories and frameworks

- Provide a 'scaffold' for planning, doing and/or evaluating implementation
- Identify the common elements to consider:
  - *What – the intervention or innovation*
  - *Who – do you want to implement it, support it?*
  - *Where – are you intending to implement?*
  - *How – do you plan to implement?*



- Assess and understand barriers and enablers in relation to the what, who and where
- Identify appropriate implementation strategies and processes

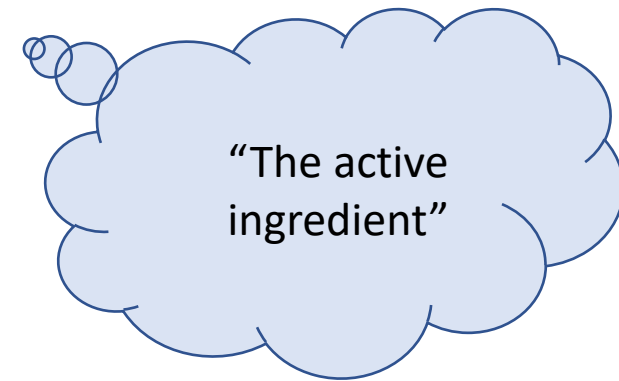
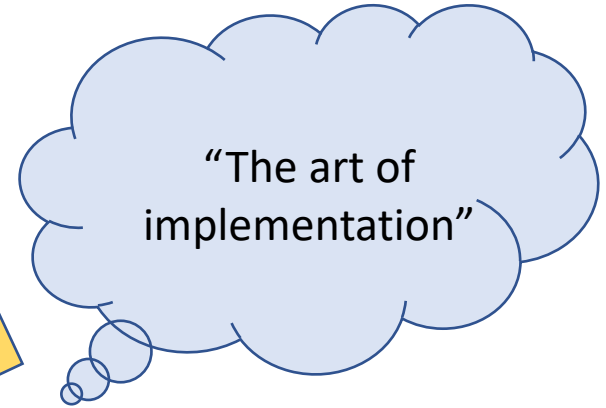
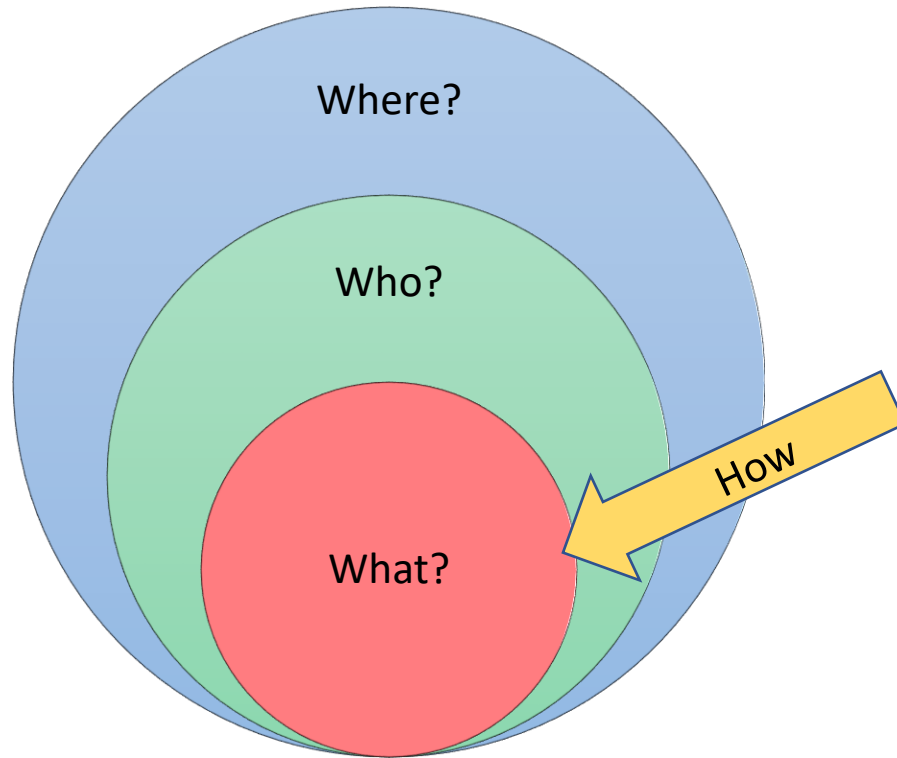
# Strategies for implementation

- Audit and feedback
- Quality improvement
- Printed materials
- Patient-mediated interventions
- Opinion leaders
- Academic detailers
- Knowledge brokers, facilitators, educational outreach
- Interactive education
- Reminder systems
- Financial incentives
- Multi-faceted implementation interventions



# Selecting implementation strategies







# Ongoing challenges

- Tailoring the right implementation strategies to the right project, people and context
- Addressing issues of equity
- The economics of implementation
- Ensuring a strong connection between implementation science and implementation practice

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# Implementation science in practice within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research





Flinders University acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands on which its campuses are located, these are the Traditional Lands of the Arrernte, Dagoman, First Nations of the South East, First Peoples of the River Murray & Mallee region, Jawoyn, Kurna, Larrakia, Ngadjuri, Ngarrindjeri, Ramindjeri, Warumungu, Wardaman and Yolngu people. We honour their Elders past, present and emerging.

**Artwork credit**

Elizabeth Yanyi Close, Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara, 2020



# Ray Mahoney



## Flinders University

College of Medicine & Public Health

Professor of Aboriginal and Torres  
Strait Islander Health &  
Discipline Lead for Population Health



Australian e-Health  
Research Centre

Visiting Scientist

# BACKGROUND



Bidjara  
people  
Central West  
Qld.



Australian e-Health  
Research Centre

# Indigenous Health Team

## Far North QLD:

- Cairns & Mareeba

## North West QLD:

- Mt Isa & Mornington Is

## Darling Downs QLD:

- Toowoomba & Dalby

## South West QLD:

- St George & Charleville

## Wide Bay-Burnett QLD:

- Maryborough & Hervey Bay

## Sunshine Coast QLD:

- Caloundra

## Central Australia NT:

- Alice Springs



Ray Mahoney  
Visiting Scientist



Georgina Chelberg  
Team Lead &  
Research Officer



Andrew Goodman  
PhD Candidate



Sophie Wright-  
Pedersen  
Research Officer



Megan Rebuli  
Research Dietitian



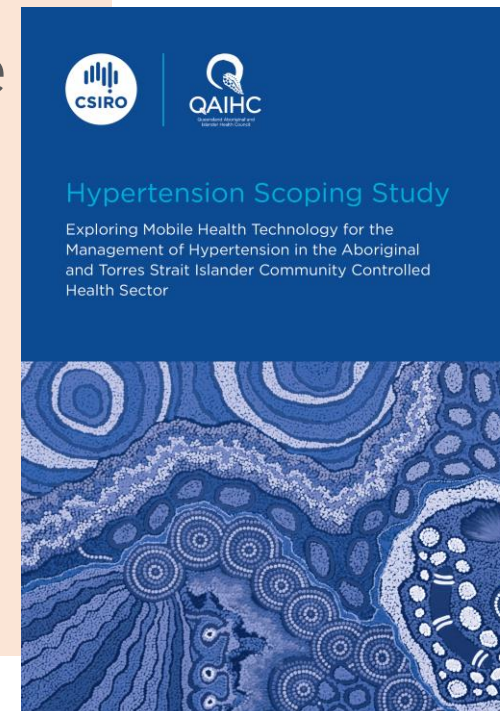




**St George  
Community Wellbeing Centre**

## Implementation science in practice within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research

- Case Studies (What – Who - Where – How)
  - mHealth Hypertension
  - St George Community Wellbeing Centre
- Co-design
- Research Translation

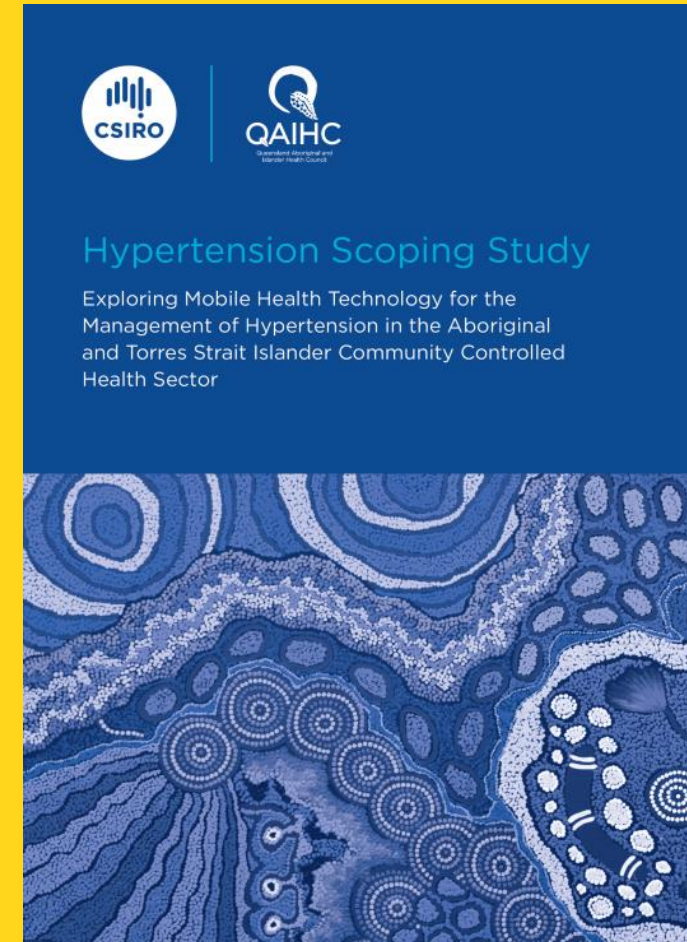




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# mHealth Hypertension

## Case study 1





# mHealth Hypertension *strong-eH*

- *Can mHealth support hypertension management with ATSI CCHO clients?*

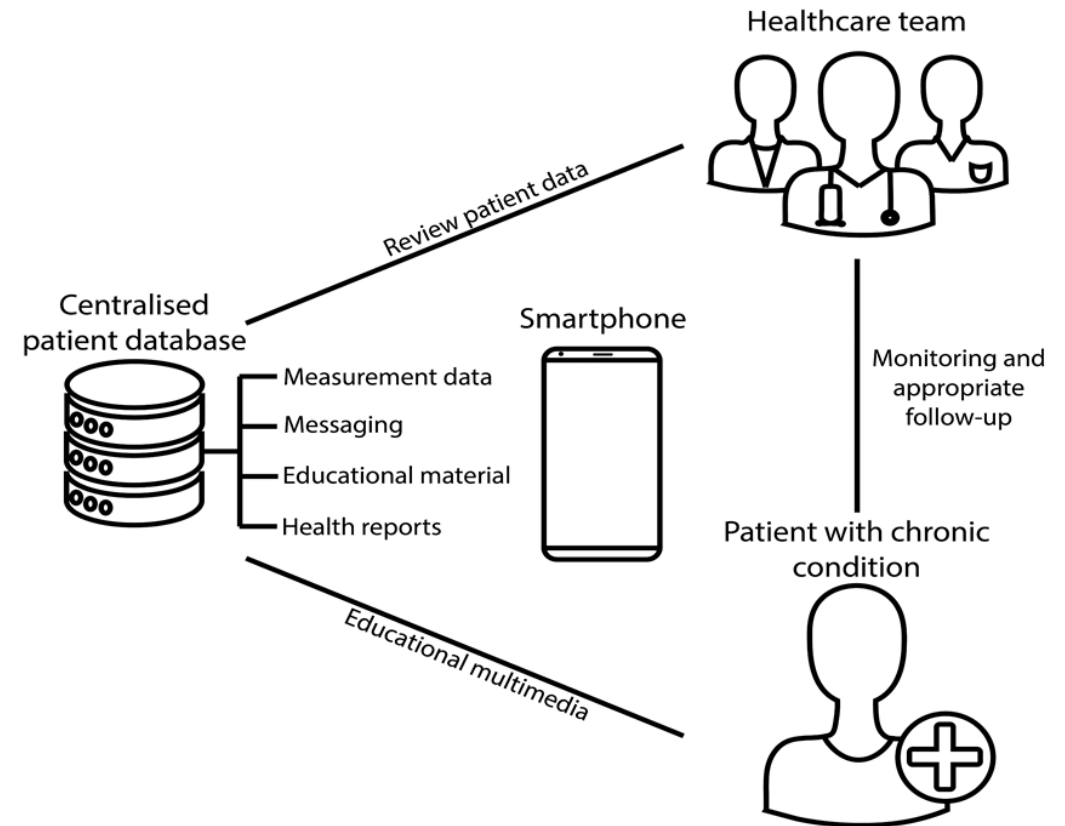
- Scoping Study – next phase
- Feasibility Trial
- Local research protocols
- Relationship building & Community Engagement
- Partnership with ATSI CCHOs in North QLD
- Bluetooth readings, interactive portal for clinician and client



Australian e-Health  
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## ATSI CCHO Partners in North QLD





## Hypertension Scoping Study

Exploring Mobile Health Technology for the Management of Hypertension in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Health Sector

# Co-designing Research – Case Study

## Co-design methodology Qld Aboriginal & Islander Health Council (QAIHC) & CSIRO



- Appropriate scope and approach as per Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Health Organisation (ATSICCHO) priorities
- Co-design of engagement method
- ATSICCHO's were invited to participate
- Models of care



Australian e-Health Research Centre



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# Community-driven Co-design

## Overarching themes



Internet access  
(Unreliable/limited)

Risk thresholds  
(real time intervention)

Smart phone access  
(1 phone per house)

Innovative Engagement  
(interactive tool)

Alignment with models  
of care

Data Sharing  
interoperability  
(EMR integration)

Education Tool  
(Health Promotion)

Patient 'ownership'  
(self-management of  
patient journey)





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# Research Translation

- Co-authored report (QAIHC / CSIRO)
- Localised site visits
- QAIHC Members meeting Nov 2020



THE AUSTRALIAN  
E-HEALTH  
RESEARCH CENTRE



## Hypertension Scoping Study

Exploring Mobile Health Technology for the Management of Hypertension in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Health Sector.

### The challenge

Chronic disease is the greatest contributor to the mortality gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and non-Indigenous people with Cardiovascular disease (CVD) the leading cause of death for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Hypertension is a causal risk factor of CVD. Inequality in levels of access to health information and services is a contributing factor to the disparity in CVD diagnosis and mortality among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and non-Indigenous populations. With the growing prevalence of smartphones and other mobile devices, m-health represents an increasingly useful way for people to access health information and tools to understand, monitor and improve their health.

### Our response

Researchers at the Australian E-Health Research Centre (AEHC), CSIRO's digital health research program, have developed an mHealth based platform. This clinically validated mHealth platform will be a customised (app + Web portal) to hypertension management. As a base platform, the capacity of the app will include BP data collection and tracking by way of Bluetooth sphygmomanometer. This clinical collection will mitigate human error and ensure rigour in measuring not only systolic and diastolic reading independent of the patient but also track the frequency of Home Blood Pressure Monitoring (HBPM). Education components of the app will be delivered via text messages and educational videos/links covering information on hypertension and antihypertensive medications. (Figure 1).



The Australian e-Health Research Centre is CSIRO's national digital health program and a joint venture between CSIRO and the Queensland Government

### Codesign Partners

The Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council (QAIHC) is a leadership and policy organisation, it was established in 1990 and is the peak organisation body representing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Health Organisations (ATSICHO) in Queensland at both a state and a national level. QAIHC membership is comprised of ATSICHOs located throughout Queensland which deliver holistic care that is patient and family centred, at no cost to the patient and at a single location. In delivering comprehensive primary health care, ATSICHOs also provide treatment, prevention and early intervention, rehabilitation and recovery services.

Self-governance of primary health care for Indigenous People is recognised nationally and internationally as best practice. Community-control is a process which allows the local community to be involved in the priorities, protocols and procedures as determined by the community.

This Scoping Study was undertaken to determine whether further consideration of hypertension m-health is a relevant priority with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Sector and to provide valuable insights about the needs, preferences and priorities of how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people may wish to engage with m-health for hypertension management.

The Scoping Study aimed to investigate and how m-health may apply to hypertension management within Models of Care (MOC) in ATSICHOs.

### The Results

Six overarching themes were identified; technology, interoperability, screening risks and thresholds, education and patient engagement. There are two key findings from this Scoping Study. Results contribute narrative information about the perceived value that m-health may have in the contexts of ATSICHO patients and Models of Care. The consultation process and subsequent findings have built a culturally respectful foundation to guide engagement, partnership, co-design and implementation of hypertension m-health with ATSICHOs in their communities.

The CSIRO mHealth platform uses smartphones and other mobile devices, to enable real-time information exchange between patients and healthcare service providers. mHealth can provide support and timely interventions, and by engaging patients in managing their own health conditions it has the potential to move the balance of power from healthcare providers to healthcare users and reduce the healthcare burden.



Figure 1: CSIRO Mobile Health Platform

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Dr Polly Orrell, Manager, Research and Evidence | +61 7 3328 8543 | polly.orrell@csiro.au  
Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council | www.qaihc.com.au

This document features designs by Leany Goodwin. Leany is a Queensland, Yolngu woman from Milngimbi (North West Arnhem Land) with links to the Yulu and Miri people of Roper.

# Capacity Building

Mr Andrew Goodman

- PhD Candidate, UQ Faculty of Medicine
- Heart Foundation Indigenous Research Award Scholarship
- CSIRO Postgraduate Indigenous top up Scholarship



Flinders  
University



Australian e-Health  
Research Centre

# St George Wellbeing Centre Research & Evaluation

## Case study 2

### Goondir Health Services



**St George**  
**Community Wellbeing Centre**



**Flinders**  
**University**



# Goondir Health Services



## St George Community Wellbeing Centre



### St George in Central West Qld

- 3k+ people
- 17%+ Indigenous
- Activity and Meeting Rooms
- Kitchen, Food Storage & Café
- Fitness & Outdoor Spaces
- Governance and Coordination





# St George Wellbeing Centre - Aims

## Contribute

Contribute to the 17  
**Close the Gap targets**,  
with a specific focus on  
7

## Influence

Influence  
intergenerational change  
to population-wide  
health and social and  
**emotional wellbeing**  
through the ongoing  
delivery of locally  
tailored, place-based  
preventative and early  
intervention initiatives

## Provide

Provide **cultural, health  
and mainstream  
education opportunities**  
to influence, change and  
empower community  
members

## Deliver

Deliver an effective  
model of **preventative  
health service delivery**  
that focuses on **holistic  
wellbeing** through  
partnership and  
collective place-based  
service delivery





Australian e-Health  
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# Research & Evaluation Governance

## Research Oversight Committee (ROC)

- Coordinates the research

## Members:

- Goondir Health Services
- CSIRO
- Flinders University
- University of Queensland
  - Centre for Online Health
  - Rural Medical School
- Southern Queensland Rural Health
- Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation





# Research & Evaluation Design

## Two arms

1. **WBC Evaluation:** ongoing monitoring, and process and impact measures to understand how well the WBC has been delivered and determine areas for enhancement continuously over time
2. **Longitudinal study:** look at the effect of the WBC over an extended period of time on the local St George community against the Closing the Gap targets.



Shubham Weling, GHS, Georgina Chelberg, AeHRC, Sophie Wright-Pedersen, AeHRC, Ray Mahoney, Flinders & AeHRC, Floyd Leedie, GHS.



Sophie  
Wright-Pedersen  
Research Officer



Megan Rebuli  
Research Dietitian



# CONCLUSION

## Questions:

- Are you working with or for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community?
- What is Indigenous leadership and decision making in research?

## Challenge:

- Where does codesign fit? In Implementation Science? In ethics?

## Tips:

- Be flexible with the start point.
- Invest time and resources into building and maintaining relationships
- Understanding what does and doesn't work
- Lived expertise of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People critical in implementation science



Australian e-Health  
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# Questions

## Thank you



Ray Mahoney  
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