

Media Release: Transplantation Equity.

December 1, 2022

Gathering Brings Community to Adelaide to Plan for Transplantation Equity

The National Indigenous Kidney Transplantation Taskforce (NIKTT) is a multi-disciplinary network of clinical, patient, and community advocates from across Australia. The aim of the Taskforce is to **improve access to, and outcomes from, kidney transplantation** for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The NIKTT will host a two-day meeting in Adelaide with over 30 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kidney patients and their carers coming in from all over the country. We will plan for the future of transplantation equity together, in a decolonised, brave new conference format.

The NIKTT has worked for the last three years to address some of the barriers to transplantation access, including enhanced data collection, piloting access and equity initiatives, and investigating cultural bias in kidney care. More work is needed to continue to address this critical health and welfare issue, as there remains a substantial, and disproportional, burden of kidney failure amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia, coupled with a considerably lower chance that those in need will receive a kidney transplantation.

The Taskforce is coming together in person, alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kidney patients and their families, to plan together for future work to improve equity in kidney transplantation.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kidney transplant recipients, dialysis patients, and their carers and family from the Kimberley, the Torres Strait, central Australia, far north Queensland, regional NSW and Victoria, and the Top End, are coming to Adelaide to work together with clinicians, researchers, and policy makers to **determine priorities and next steps for the NIKTT.**

Dialysis patients coming from interstate will be able to experience Adelaide's innovative, culturally safe Caring House solution, as they receive dialysis on the Rural Support Service's custom-designed mobile dialysis truck that will be stationed at Kanggawodli.

The two-day Gathering, hosted at Adelaide's Aboriginal cultural centre Tandanya, will see sessions led by consumers start conversations about the complex pathway to transplantation. Consumers and clinicians will share experiences and solutions from pre-transplant to post-transplant, and everything in between. The meeting has been designed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kidney patients, non-Indigenous advocates, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers to be a safe, shared, brave space that will allow us to **co-design the future of transplantation equity together.**

Media Contacts

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Event Details

When: Monday December 5 – Tuesday December 6, 2022

Where: Tandanya Cultural Centre, Adelaide

More Information: www.niktt.com.au/niktt-gathering

Meet the Attendees: www.niktt.com.au/gatheringattendees

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