

**ABORIGINAL  
KIDNEY  
CARE  
TOGETHER  
IMPROVING  
OUTCOMES  
NOW**



# Karrendi: Rise Up

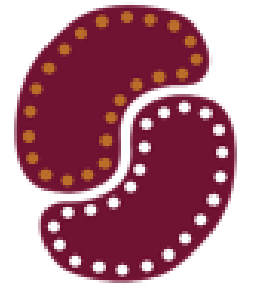


Poche Indigenous Health Network; 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Showcase  
Wed 17 November 2021

Presenters: Kelli Owen and Dr Janet Kelly  
On behalf of the AKtion Research Team & AKtion Reference Team



# Acknowledgement of Country



**We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Kurna people, the traditional custodians whose ancestral lands we gather on.**

**We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of the Kurna people to country and we respect and value their past, present and ongoing connection to the land and cultural beliefs.**

**A moment of silence to remember**

# Background - AKction 1



Aboriginal people with lived experience of kidney disease

+

Australian Nursing School Research team

+

Central Northern Adelaide Renal and Transplant Service (CNARTS)

committed to:

- Improving the health of Aboriginal people with renal disease
- Developing a culturally-responsive health system
- Promoting Aboriginal community health and wellbeing

*Strengths based approach*

AKction 1 was based on community priorities as determined in community consultation workshops

Awarded a Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) Grant through Health Translation SA Jan 2019-Dec 2021\* \*Extended due to COVID

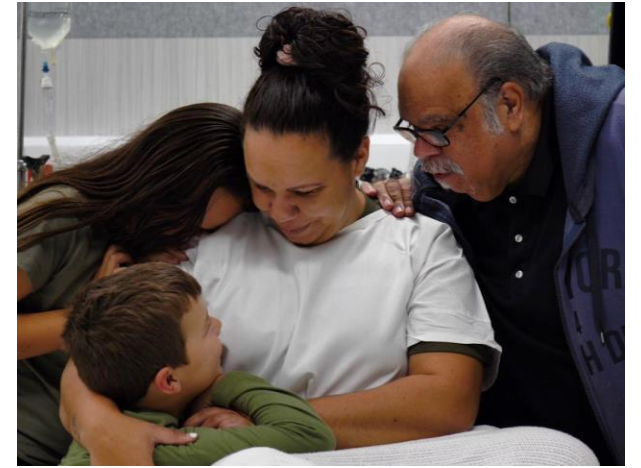
# Aktion1 Processes & Outcomes

- Establishment of AKtion Reference Group
- 3 Community Consultations – Adelaide, Pt Augusta, Ceduna – reports are informing inaugural National Indigenous Kidney Care Clinical Guidelines
- Patient journey mapping
- 2 annual key stakeholder workshops – Nov 2019, 2020
  - Transport & accommodation
  - Workforce & dental
- Co-created new models of care & support
  - dialysis in an Aboriginal Hostel – Kanggawodli
  - peer navigators – Port Augusta



# Aktion1 Outcomes continued

- Updated Patient Journey Mapping tools with Lowitja Institute
- Cultural bias and policy report – with Lowitja Institute & NIKTT
- Croakey articles
  - <https://www.croakey.org/holding-that-space-game-changing-kidney-project-has-research-activism-at-its-core/>
  - <https://www.croakey.org/dreaming-big-building-a-movement-in-aboriginal-kidney-healthcare/>
- Successful NHMRC Ideas Grant funding for next 5 years (2021-2026) - strong Indigenous Governance



Humour is our super power-  
and helps us with healing





# Aboriginal Kidney Care Together – Improving Outcomes Now: AKAction1 → AKAction2

Working Together

- Community
- Health, renal & support services: CHARTS CALHN NAHNN
- National Indigenous Kidney Transplant Taskforce
- SAHMRI
- Universities
- Aboriginal Chronic Disease Consortium
- Aboriginal Health Services
- Kidney Health Australia
- CARI guidelines
- Purple House

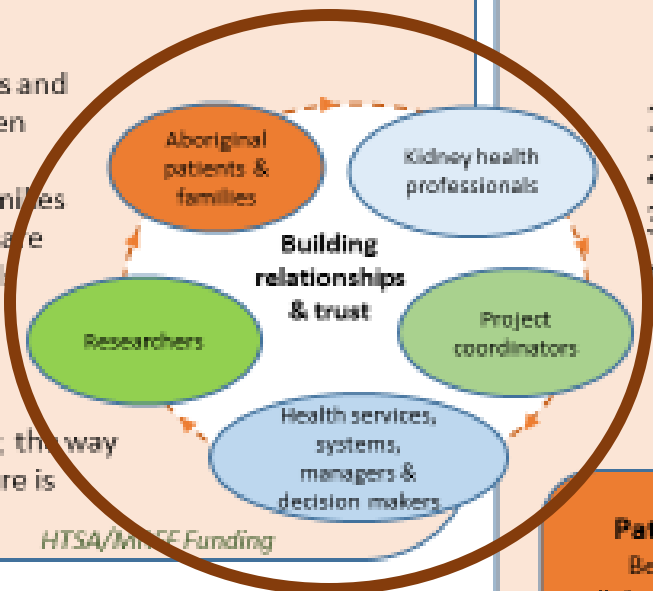
## AKAction1

- Aboriginal Reference Group
- Community Consultations
- Patient journey mapping
- Stakeholder workshops
- Networking - local, NT, international
- New national clinical guidelines

Building relationships and trust between Aboriginal patients, families and health care professional

Changing the way kidney care is provided

*HTSA/MHCF Funding*



### Working with NIKTT: National Indigenous Kidney Transplant Taskforce

- IRG – Indigenous Reference Groups
- National Community Kidney Panel
- Peer navigators
- Cultural Bias report & policy document

## AKAction2

### Decolonising approaches & methodologies

#### Indigenous methods

Yarning – relaxed conversations  
Dadirri – deep listening  
Ganma - knowledge sharing

#### Interface – working in Brave Spaces

combining Indigenous and Western concepts  
Co-design, collective decision making  
Participatory Action Research  
*Look & Listen, Think & Discuss, Take Action Together*

#### Western methods

Interviews, focus groups  
Surveys, evaluation  
Critical reflection

### 4 sub studies

1. Indigenous governance *“We are more than our disease!”*
2. Kidney journey mapping *“No one else should have to experience this”*
3. Support for Aboriginal kidney care patients *“We know what it is like”*
4. Cultural safety in kidney care *“Sometimes they just don’t get it”*

### What we want to achieve - our end goals

#### Patients & families

Better kidney care, dialysis & transplantation experiences & outcomes  
Access, education & prevention  
Peer support

#### Health professionals

Cultural safety training & tools  
Effective partnerships with patients, families and communities  
Increase Indigenous workforce

#### Health services and systems

Improved coordination of care - within and across health services & systems  
Improvements in care processes and outcomes  
Implementation of new guidelines & standards  
Increased Indigenous workforce  
Reducing racism

*NHMRC Ideas Grant Funding*

# Working at the interface

- Established relational networks
- Continue to work with key organisational networks (key stakeholders)
- Deepening the Indigenous Governance structures, processes, decision - making, leadership, sustainability, accountability and transparency.
- Drafting the Working Together Agreement to guide our work over the next 5 years – a living document
- Working collaboratively on position descriptions of each team member



# Research Team

AKtion1	Akktion2
<p><b>Chief investigators</b> Dr Janet Kelly Prof Stephen McDonald A Prof Shilpa Jesudason <b>Dr Odette Pearson</b> Ms Melissa Arnold-Chamney Ms Tiffany Whittington</p> <p><b>Research Team</b> <b>Dr Kim O Donnell</b> Ms Tahlee Stevenson And a large group of associate investigators (informal) from a range of organisations</p> <p><b>Reference Group members</b> <b>Ms Nari Sinclair, Ms Inawintji Williamson</b> <b>Ms Rhanee Lester, Mr Jared Katinyeri</b> <b>Ms Kelli Owen, Mr Ramon Gadd, Mr Matthew Hobbs</b> <b>Ms Alice Abdullah, Mr Richard Brooks &amp; Mr Sydney Sparrow</b></p>	<p><b>Chief investigators</b> <b>Dr Kim O Donnell</b> Dr Janet Kelly <b>Ms Kelli Owen</b> <b>Ms Rhanee Lester</b> <b>Ms Nari Sinclair</b> Dr Samantha Bateman Prof Josee Lavoie</p> <p><b>Associate Investigators</b> <b>Dr Odette Pearson, Dr Tamara Mackean</b> A Prof Shilpa Jesudason, Prof Stephen McDonald Dr Su Caril, Ms Melissa Arnold-Chamney, Dr Richard Le Leu, Prof Lisa Jamieson, Ms Kylie Herman</p> <p><b>Reference Team members</b> <b>Ms Nari Sinclair, Ms Inawintji Williamson</b> <b>Ms Rhanee Lester, Mr Jared Katinyeri</b> <b>Ms Kelli Owen, Mr Ramon Gadd, Ms Donna Abdulla,</b> <b>Mr Derek Forbes, Ms Tennille Thompson &amp; Mr Luke Tucker, Kuranye Owen</b></p>