



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

- **2021 ANZSN ASM**

Nari Sinclair & Melissa Arnold-Chamney
(On behalf of the AKction Team)

AKction1 was funded by Health Translation SA
(2019-2021-extended due to Covid)

AKction2 is funded from a NHMRC Ideas Grant (2021-2026)

ABORIGINAL
KIDNEY 
CARE
TOGETHER
IMPROVING
OUTCOMES
NOW

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.

Background



- **Aboriginal people with lived experience of kidney disease**, Australian Nursing School and Central and 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

Awarded MRFF Grant - based on workshop priorities (Jan 2019-June 2021).

*Extended due to COVID

AKction Aim



- To provide opportunities for Aboriginal kidney patients and family members, health professionals, health services, academics and researchers to work together to improve kidney care in South Australia.

- Identify
- Respond
- Inform
- Improve



A partnership approach



An approach that often occurs in health care & research	<i>The preferred approach: working in collaboration and partnership</i>
<p>Top Down approach Health care staff and services direct care</p> <p>Disconnect</p> <p>Bottom UP approach Aboriginal patients, family, community feel positioned below</p> <p>A top down, bottom up, approach where cultural safety is not guaranteed and providing feedback can feel or be unsafe.</p> <p>17/09/2024</p>	<p>Patients, family & community members</p> <p>Health care staff and services</p> <p>2 way conversations</p> <p>Sharing important information and personal preferences</p> <p>Willingness to listen, engage & respond</p> <p>Equity & safety</p> <p>Equitable and safe ways for recipients of care people and all staff to be actively involved in identifying priorities, strengths, gaps, responsibilities and responsiveness of care.</p>



AKtion 1 – activities

- AKtion Reference Group
- Community consultations – Kanggawodli, Pt Augusta, Ceduna
- Patient journey mapping – workshop and case studies
- Kidney yarning Get Together – collective peer support – Kanggawodli
- Workshop focused on accommodation and transport issues
- Helped inform the new model of dialysis care at Kanggawodli
- COVID – closed face book page, Art project
- Mental health training for ARG members



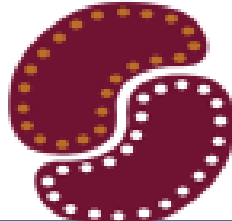


aKction

Aboriginal kidney care together - improving outcomes now

- Initially **focused on consultations for Guidelines and patient journey mapping**
- Has grown into a “movement” **based on community expertise and priorities**
- Shaping kidney health in SA
- Embedding this expertise in SA Renal Services
 - Dialysis management
 - **New dialysis models of care** – Kangawoddli Hostel
 - Transplant Management
 - Patient Navigators
 - National Profile

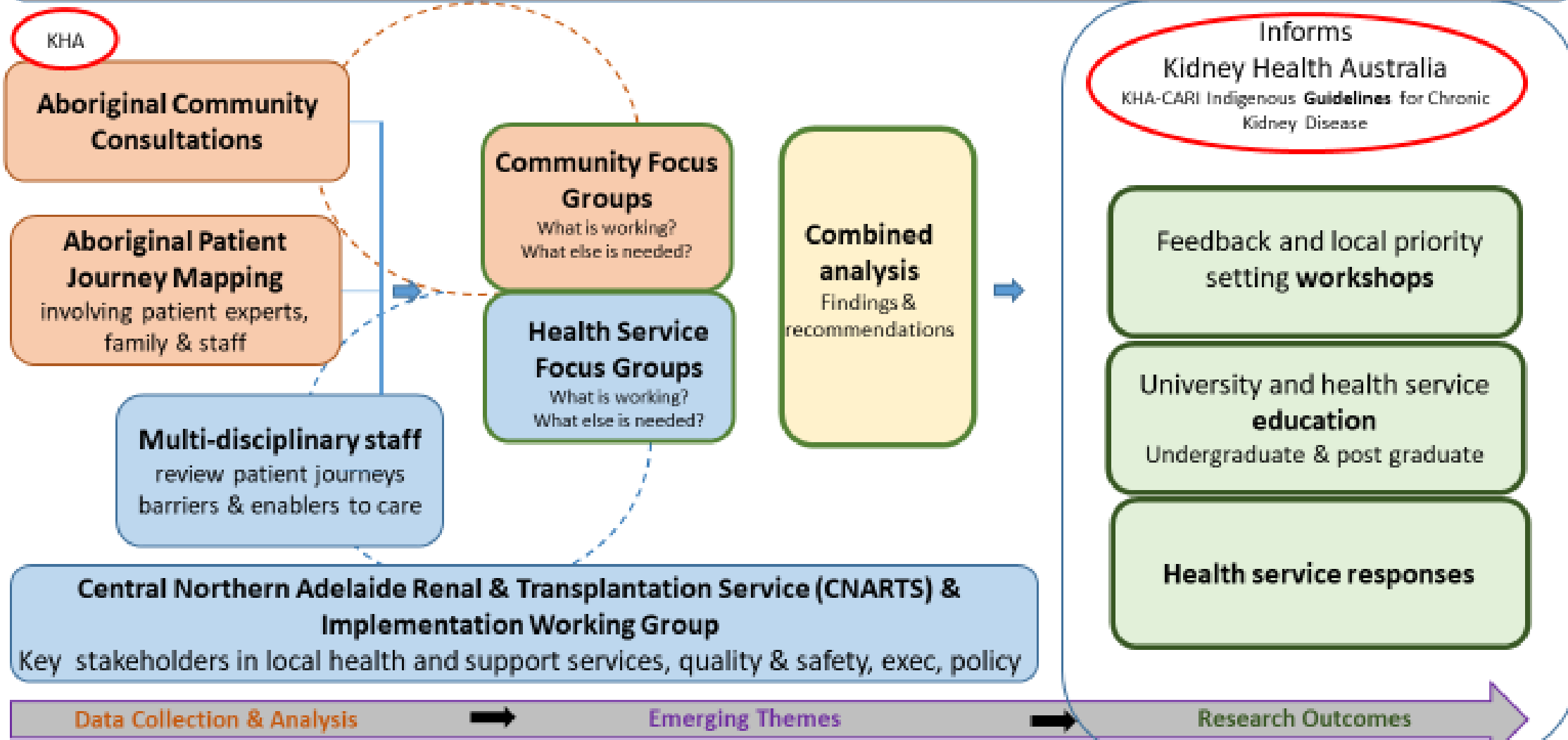




National Indigenous Kidney Transplant Taskforce

Aboriginal Community Reference Group
consumers & carers

- Community
- University of Adelaide
- Renal & support services
- SAHMRI
- Aboriginal Chronic Disease Consortium
- Aboriginal Health Services
- Kidney Health Australia
- Purple House



Data Collection & Analysis → Emerging Themes → Research Outcomes

Aktion2

Bringing together Indigenous & Western approaches to research

Informed by AKtion1, Aboriginal patients, health carers standards & guidelines

Resulting in multi-level improvements in care processes and outcomes

AKtion2: using Decolonising Methodologies to co-create improvements in Aboriginal Kidney Care

Indigenous methods

Yarning: relaxed conversations
Dadirri: deep listening
Ganma: knowledge sharing

AKtion1 processes & findings - 2019-20

Aboriginal kidney patients, families and communities
Real world kidney health experiences & priorities.
AKtion1 Reference Group
Community consultations
Journey Mapping Tools

Working at the *interface* in Brave Spaces

Challenging conversations, racism anxiety
Co-creation, collective decision making
Participatory Action Research
Look & Listen, Think & Discuss, Take Action Together

Four interwoven sub studies

1 Indigenous governance

2 Kidney journey mapping

3 Patient support needs

4 Cultural safety in kidney care

Western methods

Interviews, focus groups
Surveys, Critical reflection
Implementation, Evaluation

Health carers, standards & guidelines

Renal health professionals
Health Action Framework
Cultural safety
Reducing racism
National Indigenous renal clinical guidelines

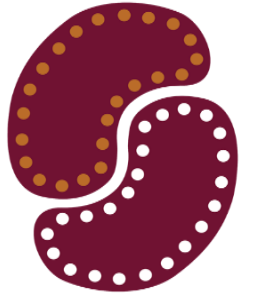
Outcomes

Patients: improved kidney health journeys, outcomes and quality of life, reduced readmissions

Health professionals & services: Aboriginal informed patient centred care & best practice evidence based framework, cultural safety training tools, partnerships with community, Indigenous workforce

Systems: improved coordination of care within and across health services, future research leaders

Research Team



- Dr Janet Kelly, University of Adelaide
 - Ms Nari Sinclair, AKction Reference Group co-lead, Aboriginal health consumer
 - Melissa Arnold-Chamney, University of Adelaide
 - Dr Odette Pearson, Wardliparingga Aboriginal Research Unit, SAHMRI
 - Ms Tiffany Whittington, Central Adelaide Local Health Network
 - Associate Professor Shilpa Jesudason, Central Northern Renal & Transplantation Service
 - Professor Stephen McDonald, Central Northern Renal & Transplantation Service
 - Ms Tahlee Stevenson, Marie Stopes Clinic, Melbourne
 - Ms Inawintji Williamson, AKction Reference Group co-lead, Aboriginal health consumer
 - Dr Kim O'Donnell, University of Adelaide
- **This research is a collaboration between**
 - Aboriginal community members
 - Adelaide Nursing School, University of Adelaide
 - Central Northern Adelaide Renal & Transplantation Service / SA Health
 - Aboriginal Research, SAHMRI
 - The Aboriginal Chronic Disease Consortium
 - Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services
 - Kidney Health Australia
 - Purple House, Alice Springs
 - The Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand & NIKTT - National Indigenous Kidney Transplantation taskforce