

eGFR3 Study Newsletter

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Governance Group Annual Workshop

The eGFR3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Governance Group (ATSICGG) at the annual 3-day Workshop on the lands of the Yawuru people, in Rubibi (Broome).



Standing, from left: Dr Jason Agostino (NACCHO) Rapa Dhurrkay, Shirleen McLaughlin, Sian Graham, Natalie Hunter, Prof Odette Pearson
Sitting, from left: Helen Fejo-Frith AM, Aunty Di Appleby, Prof Jaqui Hughes, Wanamula Gondarra

Annual Workshop

The aim of the Workshop was to facilitate two-way knowledge exchange with stakeholders in kidney health in Kimberley region, consolidate new knowledge and plan next steps to support community led kidney health action. The eGFR3 Study team were welcomed by Yawuru Elder Aunty Di Appleby, and met with local leaders, Professor Juli Coffin Yarwardani Jan-ga, Denese Griffin (East Metropolitan Health Service), Dr Emma Griffiths (Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service), Nathan McIvor (CEO Djarindjin Aboriginal Corporation) and Deserae Sibosado (Djarindjin Aboriginal Corporation), Cherie Heslington (CEO Aarnja), Tahlia Payne (COO Nyamba Buru Yawuru). We thank Rosanna Angus for guidance to work in culturally appropriate ways in the Dampier Peninsula.

ATSICGG recommendations to the study are informed by learning, sharing and meeting with leaders of community, health and interest holders and highlighted improving knowledge transfer to community members before end of eGFR3 Study.



Photo: Dr Emma Griffiths presents Acute Kidney Injury prevalence data from Kimberley Hospital systems data at the workshop in Rubibi (Broome)

eGFR3 Study in WA

In 2023, the eGFR3 Study confirmed with communities in the Dampier peninsula that the eGFR3 Kidney Health Study should continue with Flinders University. The eGFR3 Tri Governance groups now work on better ways to feedback research information to community members.



Photo: From left, eGFR3 Study ATSICGG members Wanamula Gondarra, Shirleen Mc Laughlin, Sian Graham with Yawardani Jan-ga researcher Cheryl Davies, Prof Juli Coffin (Director of Horses for Healing), Helen Fejo-Frith AM, Prof Odette Pearson, Prof Jaqui Hughes and Cassandra Matsumoto, in Broome, March 2025.

eGFR3 Study in Central Australia

In Alice Springs, face to face data collection is complete. Thanks to Emma Stubbs, Senior Research Assistant at Central Australian Aboriginal Corporation for contacting previous participants. As Community Based Researcher she attended the Lowitja Conference.

Sharing Knowledge

The eGFR3 Kidney Health Study team will present four talks at this year's 60th Australia New Zealand Society of Nephrology conference in Perth, contributing to the theme "Shaping Aotearoa and Australian Kidney Health: Past, Present and Future," reflecting our collective journey in advancing kidney health through history, addressing current challenges, and paving the way for future innovations.



Photo: From left eGFR3 Community Based Researcher Deidree Whap, (Thursday Island), Hylda Poi Poi (Torres & Cape Hospital and Health Service), eGFR3 Community Based Researcher Jill Lawrence (Cairns), eGFR3 project officer Catherine Scotney, and Professor Jaqui Hughes capacity building at the Lowitja International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference in Adelaide, June 2025

Community Engagement

The NAIDOC family fun day at Botanical Gardens in Darwin was a wonderful celebration to showcase kidney health and eGFR3 Study activities. The eGFR3 Kidney Health Study team created a chill out zone to engage with community and share information about the Study and Flinders University as a study option in the NT. The eGFR3 Community Governance banner was prevalent alongside Flinders University banners. Flinders University, Rural and Remote Health were well supported by the public.

eGFR3 Study progress

Participants in Katherine, Mparntwe, Waiben, Galiwin'ku and Cairns have generously shared information with the eGFR3 Study with the aim to improve kidney health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults. Later this year, the eGFR3 team will meet with participants in Kalgoorlie, Djarindjin and Ardyaloon.

Kidney health advocacy in action



Photo: From Left, Sian Graham, Helen Fejo-Frith (AM), Hon Selena Uibo, (MLA, leader of the opposition, NT) Vanya Webster and Professor Jaqui Hughes meeting about Kidney health strategies in NT



Photo: From left Dr Jason Agostino, Professor Odette Pearson and Professor Jaqui Hughes at National Indigenous Kidney Transplant Taskforce 2025



Photo: Natalie Hunter, Prof Jaqui Hughes, Wanamula Gondarra and Rapa Dhurrkay (online from Galiwinku), Helen Fejo-Frith AM, met with Ryan Neutert (Director, Priority Reform Regional Health Services and Maureen Namitch (NT Aboriginal Health Engagement and Workforce Division), in response to advocacy letter from ATSICGG earlier 2025.

More Information



<https://www.flinders.edu.au/fhmri/research/Aboriginal-and-Torres-Strait-Islander-Health-Advancement>

Thank you

Thank you to all network partners and champions for your continuing support for the eGFR3 Study. The eGFR3 Study team will finish meeting with participants at the end of 2025. We appreciate ongoing partnerships with communities and health services in Far North Queensland, NT and WA. We look forward to providing and receiving your feedback about the Study.

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