

# The eGFR3 Study Newsletter

## June 2024

### Community Engagement

We were welcomed to Arrernte country and Mparntwe by local Elder Kumalie and local stakeholders from NT Health, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress, Purple House and Flinders University Poche to share results, experiences and stories with each other. The eGFR3 Study Team are currently contacting previous eGFR1 and eGFR2 study participants to take part in eGFR3. If you were a previous participant, please contact us so you can continue to be apart of the long term Kidney Health story. We are committed to working the right way by listening to, and training local community members.

### Annual Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Governance Group Workshop

The Annual eGFR3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Governance Group (ATSICGG) three day workshop was held at the Flinders Uni campus in Mparntwe (Alice Springs) on Arrernte Country in April 2024.

Highlights of the meeting were:

- Two way knowledge exchange with local stakeholders.
- An introduction to social enterprises born out of local need and the challenges renal services still face in Central Australia.
- Hearing from local community and health leaders about the importance of prevention, sharing knowledge, self-determination, kidney health and the eGFR3 Study.

**Photo:** Day 2. RN Kathleen Hauth and Dr Alamelu from Congress join Prof Louise Maple-Brown from Menzies in discussions.



**Photo:** Welcomed to Country by Kumalie Kngwarrae (Arrernte Elder). Also pictured is ATSICGG member Rrapa Dhurrkay & Dr Jason Agostino from NACCHO. Jason described funding of ACCHOs and touched on the possibility of refocusing funding towards health promotion for disease prevention.



**Photo:** Prof Jaqui Hughes and Sarah Brown (Purple House CEO) highlight the importance of health priorities identified by community and kidney health actions at day 2 of the annual eGFR3 ATSICGG 3-day meeting.



**Photo:** Wanamula Gondarra and Sian Graham (eGFR3 Community Governance Group Member and Chair/Chief Investigator) and Odette Pearson (Chief Investigator. Leader of Aim 4) at the Purple Shed Bush Balms social enterprise with Vanya Webster (eGFR3 ATSICGG Secretariat), and ATSICGG members Jeremiah Hester and Rrapa Dhurrkay.



**Photo:** Prof Louise Maple- Brown (eGFR3 Chief Investigator) sharing the history, results and impacts of eGFR1 and eGFR2 with local stakeholders



**Photo:** Prof Jaqui Hughes and Diana Mosca (eGFR3 Study manager) welcomed external stakeholders to share their experiences and knowledge with the eGFR3 team.

## Publication

In *Medicine Today*, Volume 25 (March 2024) eGFR3 investigators Professor Jaqui Hughes, Prof Mark Thomas with 2 other authors, published '[Chronic Kidney Disease, Doing simple things well for those most at risk](#)', highlighting the '6 Ts of effective patient clinician partnerships' and easy to remember health messages.



**Photo:** (From left) Kumalie Ngwarraye with Rapa Dhurkkay, Shirleen McLaughlin, Wanamula Gondarra, Natalie Hunter, Jeremiah Hester (ATSICGG members) in Mparntwe



**Photo:** Dr Elizabeth Barr and Prof Jaqui Hughes (eGFR3 Chief investigators) share findings from previous eGFR studies with stakeholders in Mparntwe

## Community Based Researchers

Since March 2024, community based researchers (CBR) in Darwin and Mparntwe have completed two days of induction training for eGFR3 research activities. Practice included obtaining informed consent, doing health measurements and learning more about research data collection and documentation. Community Based Researchers are well prepared to work with the eGFR3 Study team. Thanks to Central Australian Academic Health Science Network for the Aboriginal Researcher Grant awarded to Shirleen McLaughlin to undertake her induction training in Mparntwe.



**Photo:** Andrea Porteous (eGFR3 team) presents Shaquille Swan (CBR) with her eGFR3 Study CBR Induction certificate.

## Thank you

Thank you to all stakeholders for your contributions to the eGFR3 Study. Please contact us to find out when we will visit your region, as the operations team prepare for data collection by identifying and training community based researchers. We appreciate ongoing partnerships with communities and health services in Far North Queensland, NT and WA.

## In the media

Professor Jaqui Hughes was a finalist in the NT Woman of Year Award, 2024. She is recognised for her outstanding services to her community.

**Principal Chief Investigator Professor Jaqui Hughes**  
 Flinders Rural and Remote Health

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