

# eGFR3 Study Newsletter

## Community Engagement

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



**Photo:** Activity at the Jingili Water Gardens NAIDOC Family fun day, July 2024.



**Photo:** From left, eGFR3 Study Project Officer, Catherine Scotney, Community based researcher Deidree Whap and Project officer Vanya Webster showcase the eGFR3 Study banner at JCU Australian Institute Tropical Health and Medicine in Waiben, November 2024.

## eGFR3 Study meets with participants in NT and Queensland

Participants have generously shared information with the eGFR3 Study with the aim to improve kidney health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults. In 2024, the eGFR3 team met with participants in Cairns, Thursday Island, Katherine, Darwin and Mparntwe. Special thank you to supporters at James Cook University (JCU) Waiben and Cairns, Cairns Diabetes Centre and Flinders Alice Springs, who go above and beyond each time we visit.



**Photo:** From Left, Catherine Scotney, Helen Fejo-Frith (AM), Rapa Dhurrkay, Professor Jaqui Hughes, Professor Billie Bonevski, Neil Wilkshire during Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Governance Group meeting, September 2024.

## eGFR3 Study in Central Australia

In Mparntwe, Emma Stubbs, Senior Research Assistant at Congress, is contacting previous participants of eGFR studies to offer participation in the eGFR3 Study. If Emma has left a message on your phone, please call her back, even if you do not want to continue in the eGFR3 Study.

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Governance

The eGFR3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Governance Group continue to meet regularly to guide eGFR3 Study activity. On a visit to Darwin in September 2024, Professor Billie Bonevski, Dean of Research and Director of Flinders Health and Medical Research Institute (FHMRI), recognised the important impact of eGFR3 Community Governance Group members.

## Community Based Researchers

Since June 2024, ten community based researchers (CBR) in Cairns and Thursday Island 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 Cairns Diabetes Centre for the training rooms and Queensland Ambulance Service for supporting Deidree Whap to complete training and work as eGFR3 CBR. We welcome back Loyla Leysley, who worked on the eGFR1 and eGFR2 studies in 2007 and 2014. Valonia Lalara from Darwin has been working with the eGFR3 team since March, and Paul Huddleston from Katherine completed CBR training and is working with the eGFR3 Study team in Katherine, Alice Springs and Cairns.



**Photo:** Catherine Scotney and community based researchers, Jill Lawrence, Paul Huddleston, Loyla Leysley enjoy a traditionally prepared lunch at Cairns Diabetes Centre, October 2024.

## eGFR3 Study in WA

WA Country Health Service Research Governance Office approval was granted in late October 2024. The eGFR3 team will begin contacting community researchers and participants in WA communities in early 2025. We are planning the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Governance Group workshop in Broome, March 2025. Opportunities exist for training and employment for community based researchers in WA. Contact us if you are interested in working with eGFR3 Study.

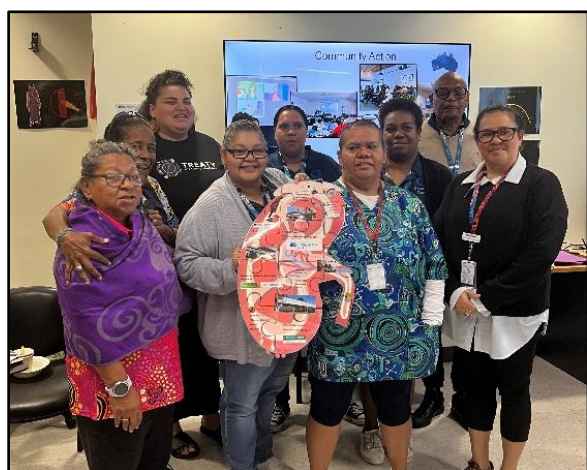
## Save the Date 2025

The annual eGFR3 Stakeholder meeting will be held in Broome in 2025 on 19th March 2025. For more information, contact us on numbers/email below.

## Thank you

Thank you to all stakeholders for your continuing support for the eGFR3 Study and allowing use of the photos in this newsletter. Please contact us to find out when we will visit your region, as the eGFR3 Study team continue meeting with participants. We appreciate ongoing partnerships with communities and health services in Far North Queensland, NT and WA.

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**Photo:** From left, Loyla Leysley, Deidree Whap, Yirgjhilya Lawrie, Narie John, Jilara Murgha, Leanne Johnson, Rochelle Wasiu, Eccles Ahmat, Jill Lawrence complete the kidney puzzle during eGFR3 Study Induction training in Cairns, September 2024

## International Influence



**Photo:** eGFR3 Principal Chief Investigator, Professor Jaqui Hughes, travelled to Canada to participate in the Paradigm consensus meeting about identifying tension between precision medicine, clinical trials and important patient outcomes, November 2024.