

MEDIA RELEASE
25 October 2018

Kidney Health Australia to Develop New Renal Guidelines with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Kidney Health Australia has been commissioned to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in developing kidney health guidelines to improve their kidney health outcomes.

In receiving more than \$300,000 in Government funding, Kidney Health Australia's CEO Chris Forbes said, "We are honoured to receive the funding and gratefully acknowledge the Minister of Indigenous Health, Ken Wyatt AM's support in delivering better treatment options and a healthier future for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

"Kidney disease is a significant health problem for all Australians, but chronic kidney disease and end-stage kidney disease are consistently reported as being significantly higher among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples compared to other Australians. Recent research shows almost one in five Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged over 18 have indicators of chronic kidney disease; these guidelines are imperative in helping support chronic kidney disease education, prevention, early detection, management and workforce education."

The grant will fund national community consultations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to inform the development of specific clinical guidelines for Indigenous kidney disease.

Minister Wyatt said, "The grassroots consultation will allow Kidney Health Australia to ensure the guidelines are relevant and reflect what communities want and need. The guidelines will complement the national renal roadmap currently under development and the priority placed on First Nations kidney health by the Council of Australian Governments."

The Program will sit under the 'Kidney Health Australia – Caring for Australasians with Renal Impairment' (KHA-CARI) Guidelines. The guidelines aim to improve the quality of care and outcomes for patients living with kidney disease in Australia and New Zealand, with a focus on kidney disease, dialysis and transplantation.

Commencing in 1999, the KHA-CARI Guidelines seek to improve the quality of care and outcomes for patients living with kidney disease in Australia and New Zealand by facilitating the development and implementation of clinical practice guidelines based on the best available evidence and effectiveness.

Completion of the community consultations is expected in late 2019.

Now in its 50th year, Kidney Health Australia is a not-for-profit and the peak body for kidney health in Australia with a vision 'to save and improve the lives of people living in Australia affected by kidney disease'.

-ENDS-



For more information or to arrange an interview please phone 0434 801 485 or
email media@kidney.org.au
Connect with us on Twitter, LinkedIn or www.kidney.org.au