

## **Sexual health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: providing evidence based, relevant information and resources to support the workforce**

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### **Background:**

The Australian Indigenous Health *InfoNet* is a trusted web resource ([healthinonet.ecu.edu.au](http://healthinonet.ecu.edu.au)) that provides information about the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and has been used by the health workforce sector for 23 years. The purpose of the new Sexual Health portal on the website is to make information relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sexual health readily accessible, to inform policy, practice, research and teaching.

### **Approach:**

Two concepts underpin the work of the Health *InfoNet*, the first is evidence-based or evidence-informed decision-making, whereby practitioners have access to the best available research and information. The second is knowledge exchange research, which involves making research and information available in a form that has immediate, practical utility. Implementation of these concepts involves synthesis, exchange and ethical application of knowledge through ongoing interaction with key stakeholders. In addition to the portal, the Health *InfoNet* will produce a review on sexual health, a summary, a fact sheet and a video.

### **Outcomes:**

The portal will include culturally appropriate information about:

- safe sex
- sexually transmitted infections including blood borne viruses
- sexual health problems and sexual dysfunction (males and females)
- reproductive health (males and females)
- sexuality (diversity and inclusion)
- healthy relationships.

This presentation will provide an overview of the portal, whilst also demonstrating the navigation of the Health *InfoNet* website and how to share information, knowledge and experiences through the Health *InfoNet* Yarning Places. It will equip delegates with the confidence to easily obtain sexual health information needed to make their work timely and efficient.

### **Innovation and Significance:**

The Health *InfoNet* has made a valuable and sustained contribution to support health professionals who work in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health. Through its partnership with ASHM the value of this resource can be demonstrated as it is freely available and a unique asset that supports the sexual health sector.

**Disclosure of Interest Statement:**

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