

Development of a culturally appropriate, national website about crystal methamphetamine

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Introduction and Aims: Methamphetamine is a stimulant drug and of concern to communities across Australia. However, access to culturally appropriate and community led developed resources is limited. This presentation will provide an overview of the development of the first culturally appropriate, national website for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples which aims to provide evidence-based resources about crystal methamphetamine.

Method / Approach: Aboriginal elders, researchers, and health professionals guided the development of the toolkit. In 2017 community consultations were conducted nationally to identify information and resource needs among the wider Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. Beta-testing of the website was undertaken in 2020 via online survey and phone interviews.

Results: 166 people participated in the initial community consultations, which identified a need for more evidence-based resources about crystal methamphetamine as well as stories of lived experience and recovery.

During beta-testing of the website, 116 people (73 identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander) participated in the survey and eight in follow-up phone interviews. Feedback was positive with the majority of participants saying they would recommend the site to others. Key themes from interviews highlighted the importance of connection to family, shame associated with crystal methamphetamine use and the lack of support services.

Conclusions: The *Cracks in the Ice* website for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples launched on 21 July 2021. Based on knowledge shared by community, and from research literature, the website provides a variety of resources to support and empower people affected by crystal methamphetamine.

Implications for Practice or Policy: The *Cracks in the Ice* website developed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples provides culturally appropriate, trusted, evidence-based information about crystal methamphetamine 'ice'. The content has been designed to be accessible, in a range of languages and formats, aiming to increase access to evidence-based resources.

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