

## **Connecting International Students with Online Sexual and Reproductive health Information**

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**Background/Purpose:** Health literacy and trustworthy online information sources were prioritised barriers and enablers for international student's access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services. A gap was observed in websites that were both culturally inclusive and contained specific SRH information.

Online consultations were conducted with 186 NSW (New South Wales) based international students with diverse demographics. Levels of SRH knowledge were self-rated very low, low, or average. Specific knowledge gaps and topics of importance included sexually transmissible infections (STIs), cost of services, HIV, the Australian health system, overseas student health cover and cost of contraception and healthcare services.

This informed the development of an online platform for international students to access reliable SRH health information and website referrals. The International Student Health Hub launched in March 2021.

**Approach:** Ongoing co-creation is a main component and key strength, with international students advising across content, design, evaluation, and communication strategies.

**Outcomes/Impact:** Monitoring web-analytics and evaluation show the impact of the Hub for the international student community. The analytics confirms the consultation data and identifies content needs.

The most viewed page besides 'Home' is 'Sex and Sexual Health' including STIs, HIV and safer sex information. The behaviour flow recorded through page pathways identifies that after a viewer visits 'Sex and Sexual Health' they move to 'Overseas Student Health Cover' including cost and private health fund information. Further demonstrating the importance of these topics is the most popular pages based on time spent; 'Sex and Sexual Health', 'Australian Healthcare System' and 'Contraception and Pregnancy'.

Current evaluation is further gathering international student's feedback on the Hub to maintain the integrity of the co-design process.

**Innovation and Significance:** The Hub's co-design process is a unique strength, connecting the priority population of international students to trustworthy SRH information and services.

**Disclosure of Interest Statement:** None