

From classroom to community

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Background

Engaging culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities in an evolving information space requires a dynamic approach.

AMEP is a government sponsored program that offers education and skills to eligible migrant populations.

It's in this space that we may integrate health literacy surrounding hepatitis B into the flexible curriculum of the AMEP and online, increasing the longevity and impact of our programs.

AMEP – Adult Migrant English Program

The Australian Government provides up to 510 hours of English language tuition to eligible migrants and humanitarian entrants to help them learn foundation English language and settlement skills.

Analysis

- Mobilising adult migrant populations to readily access health care services is challenging.
- Widely documented evidence highlights these challenges.
- Despite the success of universal childhood hepatitis B childhood immunisation, adult migrants are still a vulnerable population, often unaware of their hepatitis B status and/or lacking appropriate immunisation coverage.
- Our project targets this issue, whilst addressing barriers and improving collaboration across health and education sectors while maintaining fiscal sustainability.

Hepatitis B Adult Migrant Education; Moving towards a sustainable space

Outcomes

Cost-effective savings from adapting Hepatitis Queensland's valuable resources enabled:

- Incorporation of interpreters where required,
- Larger sessions,
- Greater resource distribution,
- Sustainable approach to utilisation of health promotion resources,
- Development of an online portal for the resource with audio-files translated into 9 priority languages.
- Highlighted need for varying resources, including audio as many students are not literate in their own language but have suitable means to access online translations.
- Program content strongly related to settlement component of AMEP tuition.
- Primary barriers; restructuring of curriculum, term and assessment constraints and addressing dated misconceptions held by staff and community.

Activities

- Peer-reviewed resource, *Living Well with Hepatitis B*, created by Hepatitis Queensland.
- Localised content to Victorian context.
- Consultation with AMEP teachers and co-ordinators.
- Over 70 sessions to approx. 1,800 students at multiple metropolitan and regional AMEP campuses.
- Partnered with VHHITAL; enabled complementary delivery of education re: hepatitis B immunisation updates to GPs local to AMEP services.
- Digitalised all resources.
- Created audio files in 9 priority languages.
- Distributed 2,000 GP intervention cards (Hep B 1, 2, 3) to students and families.

Gayatri at PRACE



Ali at Swinburne Croydon



Meg and Kai



Anh at St. Albans

