

# Community Consultation for 2023 Carnarvon Aboriginal Community Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Program

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## Abstract background

What is the problem or issue you intend to address?

To complete a community consultation with the Aboriginal community of Carnarvon to inform the 2023 Carnarvon Aboriginal Community TB Screening Program.

What's the rationale for this project?

To ensure the screening program is informed and culturally appropriate we needed to ensure we did extensive community consultation with the Aboriginal community.

## Aims and Objectives

What were you trying to improve through this project?

- Encourage input and participation of Aboriginal people in planning the 2023 Aboriginal Community TB Screening program.
- Ensure health communication messaging was culturally informed.
- Identify and address gaps regarding knowledge of TB in the community.

## Methods

What did you do to address the aims?

- Asked the community standardised questions to identify their current knowledge and awareness of TB, barriers to screening, use of incentives, key messaging, ways to improve participation and engagement, screening locations.
- Ensured the consultation was conducted over a suitable timeframe (occurring from September 2023 – October 2023).
- We consulted with 58 people. The coverage of the consultation allowed people from different Aboriginal language groups to participate.

## Results

What did you find from this project?

- Community members had varying awareness, attitudes, and beliefs about TB.
- Fear was a common theme – fear of needles, fear of the unknown and feeling shame of a positive result.
- Incentives were suggested and supported by the community.
- We learned we should use specific, key messaging.

- We learned where to offer screening and how to improve testing rates of specific demographic groups.

How do the findings relate to your objectives?

Recommendations and advice taken from the community consultation guided the design and implementation of the 2023 community screening program for TB in Carnarvon. Based on this feedback, improvements were made compared to the 2022 TB screening program.

### **Conclusion and further outcomes**

What will you do as a result of this project?

- The findings from this community consultation informed the 2023 Carnarvon Aboriginal Community Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Program.
- This consultation will inform future activities regarding TB.

What will you do differently?

One challenge we found was engaging with Aboriginal men. Engaging with this group should be our focus for next time and considered effort should be given.