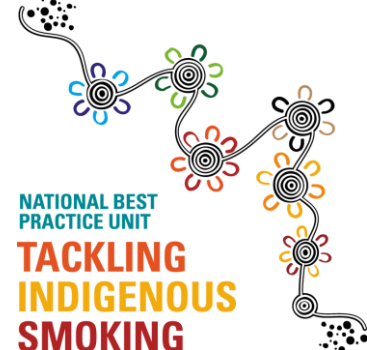


National Best Practice Unit – Tackling Indigenous Smoking
Advisory Group Meeting #7
13 March 2018
Communiqué



The Advisory Group for the National Best Practice Unit for Tackling Indigenous Smoking (NBPU TIS) met by teleconference on 13 March 2018.

In light of the 11 February 2018 announcement by the Minister for Indigenous Health the Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP of a four year extension to the Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS) program, the Advisory Group received an update on the future of TIS Program from the Department of Health.

Grant recipients (for regional tobacco control, Quitline Enhancement, and Quitskills) have received letters indicating they will be contacted by the Department to negotiate new grant agreements for 2018-19 to 2021-22, taking into account:

1. the findings of the final evaluation of the TIS program;
2. instructions from the Minister, particularly regarding a greater focus on population health approaches, and adequate reach to Indigenous people who are not already clients of regional TIS organisations; and
3. where grant recipients have had significant underspends of TIS funds, there will be a process to identify why this has occurred and whether ongoing budgets need to be adjusted appropriately.

The Group was also briefed on progress with the four extension activities that the NBPU TIS is carrying out, namely:

1. leadership workshops targeting board members and chief executives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations;
2. updating the TISRIC and TIS portal to make it more user friendly;
3. producing and distributing best practice videos; and
4. an audit of nutrition and obesity resources.

The Advisory Group also discussed the results from the latest NBPU TIS Survey of Grant Recipients.

The next Advisory Group meeting is planned to be held face to face in Adelaide to coincide with the National TIS Workshop in May 2018.