
National Best Practice Unit –
Tackling Indigenous Smoking

JURISDICTIONAL WORKSHOP REPORT QUEENSLAND

21 July 2021



August 2021

Introduction

The Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS) jurisdictional workshops are an important way in which the National Best Practice Unit Tackling Indigenous Smoking (NBPU TIS) provides support to the TIS teams located in the Regional Tobacco Control Grant (RTCG) organisations.

The workshops aim to:

- develop and create working relationships with TIS teams and Project Officers with the National Best Practice Unit
- promote an evidence-based approach to tackling smoking in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities;
- share best practice of 'what works' and develop a community of practice amongst TIS teams (peer-to-peer learning and network building);
- provide a forum for resolving implementation challenges;
- provide training and tools to assist TIS teams in program delivery; and
- ensure a shared understanding of the TIS program

There are six jurisdictional TIS workshops per year¹.

The Queensland Jurisdictional Workshop

Fortunately, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the Queensland TIS jurisdictional workshop was able to be held face-to-face in Cairns with all five TIS teams attending in person along with key NBPU TIS staff. However, many of the presenters were unable to attend in person and made their presentations by video conference. The workshop was held over a full day on its planned date of 21 July 2021.

Program

A draft workshop program was developed on the basis of consultation with TIS teams from the jurisdiction through an online survey. See [Attachment A](#) for an outline of the program as distributed to participants ahead of the workshop.

Summaries of the Workshop sessions are as follows – please see participant presentations on the Jurisdictional Workshop presentations page of the TIS Website² for details.

1. Housekeeping (Glenn Clarke, NBPU Project Officer)

2. Welcome to Country & Introductions

Henrietta Marrie, Gimuy Walubara yidinji Elders Corporation welcomed participants to Country.

¹ The workshops for New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, and for Tasmania and Victoria are combined.

² See <https://tacklingsmoking.org.au/resources/jurisdictional-workshop-presentations/>.

3. National Co-ordinator – Latest Update for the TIS Program and Q&A (Prof. Tom Calma AO, National Co-ordinator TIS)

Tom gave an overview of the TIS Program, which was good as there has been a big turnover of staff in the past year in several teams.

Tom spoke about this being the final year of funding and that in order for the TIS program to continue to be funded all Grant Recipients TIS teams need to continue the work they are doing to deliver services and gather data on the effect of changing behaviours of smoking in their communities.



Prof Tom Calma addresses the workshop via videoconference

He reminded teams to keep networking and partnering with other stakeholders.

Tom mentioned to teams that they should now be out on communities in their jurisdictions now that COVID restrictions have eased in most places.

4. Impact Evaluation – TIS regional grants on smoking outcomes (Raglan Maddox PhD MPH)

This presentation was delivered by Raglan Maddox from the Australian National University (ANU) about the impact evaluation being conducted by the Australian National University of TIS regional grants on smoking outcomes. Raglan reported that Smoking rates are declining for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people but there is still room for improvement. The ANU team is working with TIS teams to measure the impact of the TIS program on smoking rates, attitudes to smoking and exposure to smoking.

5. Looking Forward: Indigenous Smoking priorities and opportunities (Matilda Jureidini, A/Director Child and Family Health Section, Department of Health)

Ms Jureidini updated participants on the TIS program from the perspective of the Department of Health, including on:

- how tobacco use is tracking against 'big picture' goals;
- the emerging priorities and policy context, including the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, the draft National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2021-2031, the draft National Preventive Health Strategy, and the National Tobacco Strategy 2020-2030 (in development); and
- key priorities for TIS (demonstrating impact and maximising impact)

6. NBPU TIS Update (Eileen Van Iersel, Manager NBPU TIS)

Eileen introduced NBPU Team. She spoke about the importance of TIS Teams going through their Project Officer when new resources are getting produced, so that the NBPU can support teams in making sure all information is evidence-based and correct.

7. Discussion of findings from mid-term evaluation of the TIS Program (Lena Etuk Cultural & Indigenous Research Centre Australia)

Lena of CIRCA reported on the findings of the mid-term evaluation of the TIS Program which will be released once approved by the Department of Health. The evaluation has looked at the implementation, appropriateness and outcomes of the TIS programs, and has made a number of recommendations about how to further enhance its impact.

8. Wise Practices to Address Vaping (A/Prof. Penney Upton)

In response to requests from TIS Teams, Penney's presentation covered a range of issues about vaping / e-cigarettes, including:

- what are e-cigarettes?
- evidence that vaping is increasing in Australia
- emerging evidence to support population health promotion approaches to tackling vaping
- a summary of best practice approaches to tackling vaping (using similar methods and approaches to addressing tobacco use)
- discussion with teams about the extent of e-cigarette use in their communities and how they are tackling this.

Great discussion came out of this from the teams, with one asking whether they need to start educating and speaking about vaping / e-cigarettes as it's not in their community yet, and other teams responding by saying 'yes actually start talking about because as soon you know it it'll be there'.

9. TIS Teams' Success Stories

Each TIS team was invited to brief the workshop about their approach to tackling smoking in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in which they live and serve about their successes and challenges.

Apunipima Cape York Health Council – Carrie Rofe

- Apunipima are in the process of looking for Tobacco Champions in community.
- To do this they are travelling to different communities setting up tobacco stalls and running activities to hopefully attract someone in those communities to put their hand up and become a Tobacco Champion and spread the messaging about TIS
- When they find Champions they will be creating films to be aired on harms of smoking

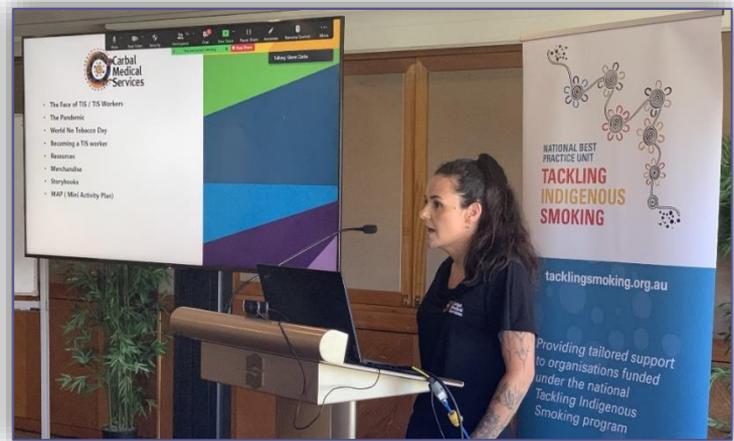


**Kurtis Gibson (TIS Worker),
Apunipima - Cape York Health Council**

- They have some great resources for all ages with messaging on them
- Apunipima have strong partnerships with other services and attend community events when invited

Carbal Medical Service – Tamika Campbell

- Throughout the pandemic Carbal have designed several resources online that people have access to, to get TIS messaging and support to the community
- They have put together a great presentation which they do with clinical workers, called "What is a TIS Worker". They deliver it to all clinical staff and new workers, breaking down the role of a TIS worker and what they do.
- Carbal have good partnerships with other services and are continuing to make more with their ongoing program in which they support other services in becoming smoke free.
- Great resources such as story books, merchandise and on social media



**Tamika Campbell (Clinical Operations Manager),
Carbal Medical Services**

North Coast Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health – Karen Kairupan / Krystal Sidaway

- NCACCH have a great school program they deliver which the students really interact with well and learn a lot.
- They have a strong social marketing branding in the community with a few buses, a car and a big mural with tobacco messaging for all to see



**Karen Kairupan (TIS Coordinator) & Krystal
Sidaway (TIS Worker), North Coast Aboriginal
Corporation for Community Health**

- The community survey with participants and community members gives great data from when they do tobacco stalls and attend events
- Great resources and merchandise, their merchandise is not just given it is provided more as a reward for effort
- They have done several case studies and have received a lot of feedback throughout the year

Torres Health – Joanna Dorante

- Torres have a new social marketing which they released not long ago “Nor Mor Smok”, with the mascot Malu the turtle
- They have great films and messaging using local role models from their community
- They have recently completed Quitskills training
- Have great programs on the Island for people to access
- They have designed some great resources using local mob and have some good merchandise
- They have partnerships with other services and expect to build on more in the future.



Joanna Dorante (TIS Worker), Torres Health Indigenous Corporation

IUIH - Luke Dumas, Davin Crampton & Sam Pierce

- Deadly Choices deliver Population Health TIS programs to a number of locations throughout Qld which for all ages, they recently just launched their new program which is a 6-week Junior Tobacco Education Program – animated series delivered across six sessions
- They run Tobacco Information Stalls



Samuel Pierce (left) and Luke Dumas (right), Deadly Choices

- Their campaign ‘Deadly Choices Smoke-Free Spaces’ targets countrymen to make or continue to have smoke-free environments in households, cars and community.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic Deadly Choices put out weekly tobacco podcast through our social media platform
- Deadly Choices continue to deliver TIS programs and get great feedback and data.

10. Workshop Wrap up (Prof Tom Calma AO, National Coordinator TIS)

Professor Tom reflected on the workshop, thanking all participants and especially the TIS teams for their informative presentations.

Highlights from team stories which showed:

- good work using social media which increases program reach
- excellent information around data collection – teams to share that data with NBPU and DOH to show what they are achieving

- good partnerships

Some challenges:

- need more partnerships with clinical services (GP, pharmacist) so there is a pathway for referral
- the challenge of lack of tenure for TIS workers means they cannot get home loans – this is a limitation that can be a barrier to recruitment and retention of staff
- shocking to hear that GPs would tell pregnant women not to quit straight away (cold turkey) as it would be bad for baby – the opposite is true! These myths need to be busted

Opportunities moving forward include:

- Queensland Health partnership/collaboration. Chance to share community feedback so services like Quitline can address challenges. We know Quitline is working in Queensland as the referral numbers are excellent but seem to be some challenges outside of urban areas
- evaluation shows what is working in regard to community messaging and TIS successes so far – need to build on this and address any challenges. This is what CQI is all about – if it doesn't work make changes. How can we do the very best possible?
- messaging about smokes impact on the environment – for example bush fires, polluting land/rivers/sea etc

Lessons to be learnt from COVID:

- Deadly Choices study involving over 3,000 participants will give some interesting additional information regarding this.
- COVID has affected mental health and wellbeing for many because of restrictions keeping them isolated and away from friends and family. This leads to many people smoking more because of stress – we know this doesn't help, but makes things worse. There is a good paper around this on the TISRIC written by NBPU that explains about stress and smoking.

Need to keep our eye on vaping as an emerging issue.

- TGA will be providing further information for prescribers in October when nicotine vapes will become available in a very limited fashion for heavily addicted people. Not expected that this will be a strategy that is used much.
- For most Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders this heavy addiction is not the reason they smoke – more about habit so this is where our efforts should be focused (behaviour).
- Important to report breaches around vape or cigarette sales. Often this will be local government at State or Shire level, but Federal gov can also act and send someone to investigate so you can let us know too
- Finally it was good to hear about Deadly Choices recognition from WHO for their work. Global recognition for the TIS program not just Deadly Choices – we are having a big impact so keep up the good work. Get those resources and success stories on the website so we can share and celebrate these successes.

Attendance

The workshop was attended by 37 participants, including 17 representatives from all 5 Grant Recipients in Queensland. All TIS team participants attended face-to-face, with a range of others attending remotely through Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

See [Attachment B](#) for a list of participants.

Participant Evaluation

Each jurisdictional workshop includes participant evaluation, with both quantitative and qualitative feedback. This assists the NBPU TIS to ensure that future workshops are of most use to TIS teams. Participants were able to respond using an online survey platform (Qualtrics).

A total of 14 responses were received from the 17 TIS workers in attendance. Overall satisfaction with the workshop and presentations was high, despite all except one presentation having to be delivered via Zoom due to COVID restrictions on travel. Sessions were generally rated as very useful or somewhat useful (see *Figure 1*).

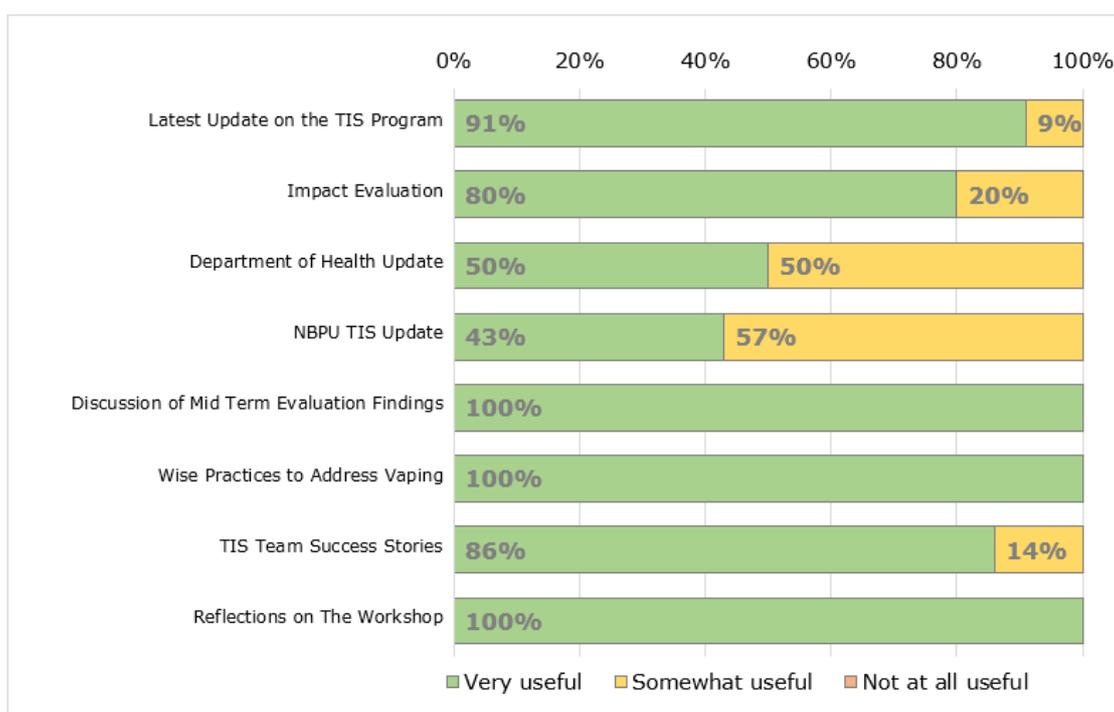


Figure 1: Participant evaluation of QLD Jurisdictional Workshop, July 2021

Participants valued the update on the TIS program provided by the National Coordinator:

Always a pleasure to hear Professor Calma speak with passion and belief in and about the TIS Program

The information provided around the impact evaluation was also appreciated, although it was suggested by one participant that his presentation should have been taken place in the morning:

Always great to hear the latest updates from Raglan

Should have been the AM

The process evaluation information provided by CIRCA was also received positively. There was also a suggestion that further sessions with a focus on how to do TIS better would be valuable:

Would be great to spend further time exploring the factors that need attention and making team plans on how to combat these - could be its own session that way team come out of it with practical ways and a plan moving forward

It is unlikely that CIRCA would have the capacity to deliver further sessions. However it is something that NBPU TIS can look into developing as delivering this type of session would be in line with NBPU's remit to support continual quality improvement (CQI). We would need to consider whether this is something that is best delivered at a national, jurisdictional or team level.

Participant's comments on the Department of Health update were also very positive, suggesting the information provided was well received:

Generated a lot of useful discussion

Participants also gave positive feedback on the session on addressing vaping:

Very useful especially for our team on the Sunshine Coast

Very valid relevant discussion, lots of good feedback from other teams

As always, the sharing our stories sessions was very well received:

Great networking and opportunity to learn. Good strategies shared to deliver our message

Deadly Presentation Apunipima

I think it is great to share good news stories but also beneficial to seek feedback on the good areas as well as areas that may need improvement and use peer support to problem solve

Once again this final comment underlines the importance of CQI for activity development. This is certainly something that NBPU does when engaging with teams on a one-to-one basis, however this comment suggest there may also be some value in promoting this type of critical review between teams if they are willing (perhaps on a jurisdictional basis with their Project Officer).



**Carrie Rofe (TIS Team Leader),
Apunipima Cape York Health Council**

Finally, the roundup of the days sessions provided by the National coordinator was well received by most participants:

Love hearing from Tom- great info and wrap up! Has encapsulated the presentations and conversations really well!

Thoughts on the venue and catering

Feedback on the venue (Shangri La Hotel, Cairns Marina) was very positive, particularly in regard to the catering:

Food was nice.

Hate to see all that food go to waste, would have been great to have been able to take some home so it isn't thrown out

Beautiful venue, waay too much food!

Seriously lovely food choice etc!

Overall this was a well organised workshop, held at a venue with good technical support and up to date equipment, resulting in a very successful hybrid (face-to-face / videoconference) event.

ATTACHMENT A: Workshop Program



QLD Tackling Indigenous Smoking Jurisdictional Workshop Program

Wednesday 21 July 2021
Marina Room -Shangri-La The Marina,
Point Pier Rd, Cairns



Time	Session	Facilitators/Speakers
8:45 – 8:50	Welcome and Housekeeping	Glenn Clarke NBPU Project Officer
8:50 - 9:00	Welcome to Country & Introductions	Glenn Clarke NBPU Project Officer
9:00 – 9:30	National Co-ordinator - <i>Latest Update for the TIS Program and Q&A</i>	Prof. Tom Calma AO National Co-ordinator TIS
9:30 – 9:45	NBPU TIS Update	Eileen Van Iersel NBPU TIS Manager
9:45 – 10:25	RTCGR / TIS Shared Success Story	Apunipima Cape York Health Council
Morning Tea Break		
10:45 – 11:25	RTCGR / TIS Team Shared Success Story	Carbal Medical Service
11:25 – 11:55	Department of Health - <i>Looking Forward: Indigenous Smoking priorities and opportunities.</i>	TBA
11:55 – 12:35	RTCGR / TIS Shared Success Story	North Coast Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health
Lunch Break		
1:30 – 2:00	Wise Practices to address Vaping	Assoc. Prof. Penney Upton – University of Canberra
2:00 – 2:40	RTCGR / TIS Team Shared Success Story	Torres Health
2:40 – 3:20	Impact Evaluation – <i>TIS Regional Grants on Smoking</i>	Dr Raglan Maddox PhD MPH Australian National University
Afternoon Tea Break		
3:35 – 4:15	RTCGR/TIS Team Shared Success Story	Institute for Urban Indigenous Health
4:15 – 4:45	Cultural & Indigenous Research Centre Australia (CIRCA)	Lena Etuk - CIRCA Manager Research & Evaluation
4:45 – 5:00	National Co-ordinator - <i>Reflections on the messages from the workshop</i> - <i>Wrap up</i>	Prof. Tom Calma AO National Co-ordinator TIS
Workshop close		

Attachment B: Attendance

#	Name	Organization
1.	Prof Tom Calma*	NC TIS
2.	Carrie Rofe	Apunipima - Cape York Health Council
3.	Clara Saleh	Apunipima - Cape York Health Council
4.	Errol Leon	Apunipima - Cape York Health Council
5.	Fiona Gibson	Apunipima - Cape York Health Council
6.	Jana Booy	Apunipima - Cape York Health Council
7.	Jodie Fitzpatrick	Apunipima - Cape York Health Council
8.	Kurtis Gibson	Apunipima - Cape York Health Council
9.	Quinlyn Cannon	Apunipima - Cape York Health Council
10.	Renee Montgomery	Apunipima - Cape York Health Council
11.	Tamika Campbell	Carbal Medical Services
12.	Davin Crampton	Institute for Urban Indigenous Health
13.	Indianna Tillet	Institute for Urban Indigenous Health
14.	Luke Dumas	Institute for Urban Indigenous Health
15.	Sam Pierce	Institute for Urban Indigenous Health
16.	Karen Kairupan	North Coast Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health
17.	Krystal Sidaway	North Coast Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health
18.	Joanna Dorante	Torres Health Indigenous Corporation
19.	Clayton Urwin*	Department of Health
20.	Katherine McHugh*	Department of Health
21.	Marlene Duus*	Department of Health
22.	Matilda Jureidini*	Department of Health
23.	Renee Baldwin*	Department of Health
24.	Raglan Maddox*	Australian National University
25.	Lena Etuk*	CIRCA
26.	Rochelle Braaf*	CIRCA
27.	Isabella Saunders*	DSS Funding Agreement Manager
28.	Luisa Scarmozzini*	DSS Funding Agreement Manager
29.	Madonna Kennedy	Preventive Health Branch - Queensland Health
30.	Rebecca Whitehead	Preventive Health Branch QLD Health
31.	Eileen Van Iersel*	NBPU TIS
32.	Glenn Clarke	NBPU TIS
33.	Kelly Franklin	NBPU TIS
34.	Maxine Turner*	NBPU TIS
35.	Penney Upton	NBPU TIS
36.	Rod Reeve*	NBPU TIS
37.	Scott McLennan*	NBPU TIS

* Participated by videoconference (Zoom)