

➤ The AH&MRC Ethics Committee

The AH&MRC **Ethics Committee** assesses proposals for research and data collection projects affecting the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people in NSW to ensure these activities will be conducted ethically. The Committee, which began in 1996, operates as a Human Research Ethics Committee under National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) legislation. Since its establishment, over 650 research proposals and data publications have been referred to the Committee for review.

The Committee includes representatives of the AH&MRC Board, local Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services and the Aboriginal community, together with members who have varied qualifications and long experience in medicine, medical research, clinical work, and health-related law.

➤ Public Health Team

The AH&MRC **Public Health Team** provides support on public health issues to member services; develops and undertakes public health projects and research; builds workforce capacity; supports networks; develops and distributes health information and resources; and contributes to state and national policy development.

Areas of focus for the AH&MRC **Public Health Team** include:

- Sexual health
- Blood borne viruses
- Drug and alcohol
- Gambling
- Magistrates Early Referral Into Treatment (MERIT)
- Men's health
- Mental health
- Chronic disease
- Tobacco control

➤ Member Service Support Unit

The **Member Service Support Unit** purpose is to strengthen the capacity of member organisations to plan, manage and deliver sustainable primary health care services that respond to the needs and aspirations of Aboriginal peoples, families and communities.

Key focus areas are:

a) Information management

- ICT Infrastructure & information management

b) People development

- Standards of governance and management
- Workforce development
- Financial sustainability & physical infrastructure

c) Organisational development

- Administrative capability: Human resource & industrial relations
- Corporate legal improvement

d) Business management

- Accreditation / quality improvement
- Clinical governance



Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council
of New South Wales

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➤ The Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council of New South Wales

The Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council of NSW (AH&MRC) is the peak body for Aboriginal health in NSW and is comprised of over 50 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations throughout the state.

The AH&MRC provides vital health and health related services in association with its member organisations and these combined services include:

- Health service delivery
- Supporting Aboriginal community health initiatives
- Development & delivery of Aboriginal health education
- Research in Aboriginal health
- Collecting, evaluating and disseminating Aboriginal health data
- Policy development and evaluation
- Project and program planning, implementation and evaluation
- Ethical evaluation of Aboriginal health research and data
- Advocacy and networking



➤ Aboriginal Health College (AHC)



The Aboriginal Health College was established by the AH&MRC in 2002 and formally commenced educational delivery in 2003. The College develops and delivers a range of nationally accredited and recognised courses offered from within National Training Packages.

The College continues to expand its educational resources to meet the needs of Aboriginal communities in NSW and, operates from a purpose built facility in Little Bay.

For a Course Information Guide or further information about the College, please visit our website or contact us by e-Mail:

web www.ahc.edu.au
e-Mail ahc@ahc.edu.au

*Aboriginal
health education
in Aboriginal hands.*



➤ Coalition for Research to Improve Aboriginal Health (CRIA)

The Coalition for Research to Improve Aboriginal Health (CRIA) is a partnership between the AH&MRC and the Sax Institute that brings Aboriginal communities and researchers together to improve Aboriginal health.

Since its launch in 2004, CRIA activities and achievements include:

- Identifying and developing priority research programs, including the Study of Environment on Aboriginal Resilience and Child Health (SEARCH)
- Holding the first National Aboriginal Lupus Workshop
- Establishing the Aboriginal health research career development fellowships program
- Developing and disseminating tools and resources to support and build capacity in collaborative research
- Convening Aboriginal health research conferences



➤ Helping the work of the AH&MRC

If you would like to assist the work of the AH&MRC, all donations to the AH&MRC are tax-deductible. Contributions are all directly channelled into the provision of health services and projects for Aboriginal communities or, to specified purposes such as research or education, or other initiatives.