The Lighthouse Hospital Project

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We would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this Land on which we meet today and to pay respect to the Elders both past and present.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Burden of disease

- Three times more likely to have a heart attack and are dying from cardiovascular disease at almost twice the rate of non-Indigenous Australians
- At significant risk of developing CVD due to high risk profiles
- Onset for disease process is earlier and associated with co-morbidities

Hospital experience for patients admitted with acute coronary syndrome

- Care not equivalent to non Indigenous patients
- Almost twice the in-hospital coronary heart disease death rate
- 14% lower rate of angiography
- A 34% lower rate of coronary angioplasty or stent procedures
- Discharge against medical advice rates are five times higher than for non Indigenous patients
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Aim: To drive systemic change in acute care hospital settings to improve the care and experience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples experiencing Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS)

- A collaboration between the Heart Foundation and the Australian Hospitals and Healthcare Association (AHHA).

- Funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health, Indigenous Australians’ Health Program.

- Implemented over three phases:
  - Phase 1: 2012 – 2013 – Project scoping
  - Phase 2: 2014 – 2016 – Toolkit pilot in 8 sites
  - Phase 3: 2017 – 2019 – Roll out to 18 sites
Liverpool Hospital: Phase 2

- Liverpool hospital had many successful outcomes during Phase 2, such as:
  - improved awareness, knowledge and confidence levels of staff on the issues and barriers faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples,
  - strengthening of relationships with patients and communities
  - systems change within the hospital setting.

- Liverpool is also participating in phase 3 of the project.
“The building of trust is very important.”
(Indigenous patient, Liverpool Hospital Phase 2).
Artwork by Lyn Keppler developed as part of Liverpool Hospital’s Phase 2 activities
For heart health information 1300 36 27 87
www.heartfoundation.org.au