

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Working Group

Terms of Reference



*This document is designed to summarise the role and responsibilities of the **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Working Group** of the ANZDATA Advisory Committee.*

Working Groups of ANZDATA Advisory Committee:

Working Groups are composed of a small, functional number of clinicians, researchers and others with relevant expertise with special interest in particular areas of nephrology or Registry activities. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Working Group is a working group with a special interest in the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples of Australia in the field of kidney replacement therapy (kidney transplantation, haemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, paediatrics) and related areas.

Appointments to the Working Group should aim to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander professional people expert in clinical care, epidemiology, policy and health systems. We recognise the limited Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce in nephrology with these attributes, and welcome collaboration by those with non-nephrology clinical expertise willing to collaborate.

Group Responsibilities

ANZDATA working groups are charged with the responsibilities of:

1. Annual review of what data is captured by the ANZDATA survey;
2. Promotion of research within their area:
 - Generation of ideas/collaboration to develop high quality research proposals which are meaningful to the kidney health community, data analysis, publication, dissemination of key findings and presentation;
 - Fielding queries/applications/suggestions for research from ANZDATA contributors outside the working group and, where deemed appropriate, facilitating such research whether that be carried out by the persons making the request, by the working group, or by a combination of the two;
 - Providing an annual written report of their research activity to the Chair of the Advisory Committee;
3. Assistance with relevant chapter(s) for the Annual Report – primarily the responsibility of the Convenor/Manager of the working group;
4. Presentation of data/analyses at society meetings.

Specific responsibilities of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Working Group:

The Working Group, seeks to appoint Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as members and as convenor whenever this expertise is available, to work alongside non-Indigenous members appointed to the Working group. The working group will have a special relationship with the Indigenous Community Reference Group (see separate Terms of Reference), and it is anticipated that some members of the CRG will also be members of the Working Group.

The Working Group will have a role in providing advice to the ANZDATA Executive and operations around

- Appropriate mechanisms for respecting and enabling the principles of Indigenous Data Governance¹

¹ L Mick-Ramsamy, J Kelly, **D Duff**, A Cass, L Ross, D Croker, H Hall, P Mills, **JT Hughes** (2019) *Catching Some Air - Asserting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Information Rights in Renal Disease Project- The Final Report*. ISBN: 978-1-922104-63-2 (Online): Menzies School of Health Research

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- Assessment and handling of data requests that focus on aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Health².

Composition and Terms

The number of members in each working group will be a minimum of 4 including the Convenor, with no maximum size. In general terms, the size and composition of the Group is designed to be flexible. Generally, groups will include people with a diversity of career stage and background.

Members and Convenor(s) are appointed by the ANZDATA Executive (which includes the Advisory Committee Chair and Deputy Chair) for a three-year term with an option to extend if all parties agree this is in the interest of the working Group and Registry.

Members are:

1. Selected from an EOI process that is circulated through Heads of Units, ANZSN, RSA, and KHA. The selection of members and convenor(s) from the EOI process will be made by the ANZDATA Executive. The Convenor(s) will provide advice to the Executive to inform the selection of Working Group members.
2. Selected to provide a range of skills including leadership, sub-specialty expertise, registry data analysis and teamwork with the aim of creating groups to lead ANZDATA-based activity within each sub-specialty to maximise the output and utility of ANZDATA, and to continually review the scientific basis of data collection.
3. led by a Convenor (co-convenors) who is charged with coordination of the group, communication and direction and are required to report progress quarterly to the Advisory Committee

Members (usually 2) from the Community Reference Group will be chosen by the Consumer Reference Group, in conjunction with the Convenor, for a term determined by the Working Group.

To ensure effective succession planning, the Working Groups will:

- Identify members due to retire from the group at least 6 months in advance
- Seek nominations from ANZDATA contributors (via an Expression of Interest (EOI) email to all Heads of Units, KHA, ANZSN and RSA members and advertisement in the ANZSN and RSA newsletter and website) to fill up-coming vacancies in the Group

RACP Advanced trainees in Nephrology and Early career Researchers (ECR) will be invited to join working groups through an Expression of Interest process as follows:

- EOIs will occur annually with one advanced trainee accepted per working group each year
- Maximum of 2 trainees per working group
- The term for an advanced trainee will be 2 years. Trainees are eligible for appointment as a general member following the conclusion of their term if successful through the EOI process
- Selection will be based on (i) demonstrated data analysis skills and (ii) current involvement in ANZDATA projects
- Letter of support from RACP supervisor or Head of Unit for Advanced trainee membership is a pre-requisite for application
- ECR applications will proceed through the usual EOI process, although some Working Groups may wish to specifically seek nominations through a targeted EOI.

² The process for handling of these is laid out in the relevant ANZDATA Procedure.

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Version	Version Date	Endorsed	Outcome
2017	February 2017	Final	
2020	May 2020	Draft	Proposed inclusions of Community Reference Group
2020_2.2	Nov 2020	Draft	Updated incorporating feedback from discussions at Advisory Committee meeting Aug 2020
2020_2.3	Dec 2020	Draft	Updated incorporating feedback from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Working Group
2020_2.4	Dec 2020	Final	Updated incorporating feedback from discussions at Advisory Committee meeting Aug 2020 and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Working Group