

Indigenous Medication Review Service (IMeRSe) Feasibility Study



Season's
Greetings

Indigenous Medication Review Service (IMeRSe) Newsletter - Edition 2

As we look forward to the close of 2018 and spending valuable time with family and friends over the Christmas break, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing interest and support of the IMeRSe study, and reflect on all that has been achieved in partnership with our Aboriginal Health Services and participating community pharmacies in this first 12 months.

We wish you a relaxing and safe Festive Season and look forward to continuing to work with you on the second phase of the IMeRSe study during 2019, when recruitment of participants will be the primary focus during the first few months.

Professor Amanda Wheeler
IMeRSe Academic Project Lead

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Funding



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Participating Sites and Community Pharmacies

We welcome our final health services and community pharmacies involved in IMeRSe.

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Study Dashboard

Keep up-to-date with study progress and participant recruitment.

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Pharmacy & Coordinator Webinars - Save the Date!

Mark your Calendars for our first IMeRSe Pharmacist and IMeRSe Coordinators Community of Practice Webinars in early 2019!

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Spotlight on.....

We highlight our most active health services and community pharmacies to date

[Discover more](#)

Meet our Pharmacists

Meet Ruth Renshaw from Alive Pharmacy, Cooktown, Qld

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Latest News & Information

See the latest News and Information about the IMeRSe Study and submit your IMeRSe stories.

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Participating Sites and Community Pharmacies

As at the end of November, 2018, all nine study sites are trained and actively recruiting participants for the study. We are very pleased to have onboard since our last update, the following Aboriginal Health Services and community pharmacies:

Queensland

[Girudala - Herbert St Family Medical Centre, Bowen](#)

[Livlife Pharmacy - Bowen Healthcare](#)

[Livlife Pharmacy - Bowen Plaza](#)

New South Wales

[Pius X Aboriginal Corporation, Moree](#)

[Moree Discount Drug Store](#)

[Amaroo Pharmacy](#)

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Study Dashboard

Sites Recruited	Community Pharmacies Trained	Participants Enrolled	Medicines Talks Completed	Medicine Reports Completed	Medicines Plans Completed	Follow-ups Conducted
9	25	123	44	39	9	1

Spotlight on.....



Our study sites and community pharmacies have been very active in recruiting participants and conducting *MedicinesTalks* over the past 6 months. This edition we would like to highlight the following locations:

HealthWise Gunnedah - 40 participants recruited;
 Cooktown Multipurpose Health Centre - 27 participants recruited;
 Inala Indigenous Health Service - 18 participants recruited;
 Girudala Herbert St Family Medical Centre, Bowen - 10 participants recruited.

Community pharmacies who have completed the highest number of *Medicines Reports* include:

Alive Pharmacy Cooktown - 10 *Medicines Reports* completed;
 Cincotta Chemist, Inala - 6 *Medicines Reports* completed;
 Karen Carter Chemist, Gunnedah - 5 *Medicines Reports* completed;
 Livelife Pharmacy (Bowen Healthcare) - 5 *Medicines Reports* completed.

A huge thanks and congratulations to all of our participating pharmacists and health services in your great work in supporting IMeRSe!

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IMeRSe Pharmacy Webinar - Save the Date!

Our first Pharmacy Community of Practice Webinar will be held on Wednesday 6 February, 2019 at 7pm AEDST/6pm QLD time.

Stage 1 Medication Management Review Online Training - Available Now!

Our Stage 1 Medication Management Review component of the IMeRSe Study has been accredited by the Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacists and is now available to all participating IMeRSe Pharmacists via the Smart Sparrow account.



To meet Stage 1 MMR training requirements, you will need to complete the following by November, 2019:

1. Review the online MMR training module AVAILABLE NOW;
2. Attend the 1-day IMeRSe pharmacy training workshop and pre-work (you have already done this);
3. Attend the two IMeRSe webinars - the first on 6 February and the second to be held later in 2019 (date TBA); and
4. Complete all related assessment embedded into training.

Register your attendance by emailing: imerse@griffith.edu.au by 31 January, 2019.

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IMeRSe Coordinator Community-of-Practice Webinar Mark your Calendar!

The IMeRSe Coordinators play a pivotal role in the IMeRSe study and we are grateful for the wonderful staff we have involved from the Aboriginal Health Services who are undertaking this role and working closely with the participating community pharmacists.

We have planned the first IMeRSe Coordinators Community-of-Practice meeting, in a scheduled teleconference/webinar on the following dates:

NSW sites - 8am AEDST - Wednesday 30 January, 2019;

QLD/NT sites - 8am QLD time - Friday 1 February, 2019.

We hope you can join us for this first meeting to bring together IMerSe Coordinators across your state, with members of the research team, NACCHO, and a participating community pharmacist in the study, to share your experiences with IMerSe and network with other IMerSe Coordinators.

Register your attendance at the relevant webinar for you via: imerse@griffith.edu.au by Friday 25 January, 2019.

We will also be establishing a Facebook group for Coordinators on the IMerSe Study Facebook site, so be sure to subscribe to receive further news and information at: www.facebook.com/imersestudy.

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Meet our Pharmacists



Ruth Nona Renshaw

Pharmacist, [Alive Pharmacy Cooktown](#)

"After my IMerSe training at Griffith University, I was inspired! Indigenous people make up a huge part of my patient/customer base, not only in town, but also within the five remote communities that Alive Pharmacy Cooktown services.

As a unique pharmacy, both in location and unique within our banner group, I wanted to stand out and to acknowledge that difference. So I commissioned a local Aboriginal artist - his brief was 'Indigenous Health'. I wanted it to reflect how health should be important to Indigenous people, but not only Western but traditional medicine too.

The resulting artwork was developed through the collaboration between myself and Conrad Micheal. It has now been adapted and is going to be the permanent uniform for Alive Pharmacy Cooktown".

The Artist's Meaning behind the Painting

Ckuki Apple green leaves - used to treat bed sores

Black Sting Ray - meat and liver cooked and used to control cholesterol levels

Noni Fruit - used to treat diabetes

Centre horse shoe shapes represent the wind in Cooktown!

Ruth Nona Renshaw

Pharmacist, Alive Pharmacy Cooktown



Discover more

Latest News and Information

See the latest news and information relating to IMerSe. We also encourage you to submit stories for the IMerSe newsletter, and details of your team and their experience with implementing IMerSe in your health service or community pharmacy. Email submissions to: imerse@griffith.edu.au

This feasibility study is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health as part of the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement.

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