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Webinar 2

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' HEALTH AND COVID-19 PANDEMIC

EMERGING AND ONGOING ISSUES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

A Webinar Series



Indigenous Peoples and culturally appropriate public health interventions



Professor Pat Dudgeon, PhD
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*We acknowledge and pay our respects
to the traditional custodians of the land we meet on
today, and our Elders past, present, and emerging.
We also wish to acknowledge and respect the
continuing culture, strength, and resilience of all
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and
communities.*





COVID-19

Roadmap to Recovery

A Report for the Nation



9 The Care of Indigenous Australians

Current Context

The disproportionate impact of pandemics on Indigenous populations worldwide has been well documented. In responding to the global COVID-19 pandemic, Australian Indigenous organisations have shown exemplary leadership and innovation in their efforts towards preparedness. Urgent action is required to ensure Australia's indigenous community is protected from COVID-19, now and especially in the recovery phase as the nation 'reopens'. Plus, the inevitable recession will aggravate an already critical situation for many Indigenous people.

Recommendations and Key Findings

It is recommended that the Government addresses four key issues to design the COVID-19 recovery roadmap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities.

- **The right to self-determination & coordination**
- **Housing Supply**
- **COVID-19 Public Health and Clinical Responses should be maintained**
- **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce Review**



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A National COVID-19 Pandemic Mental Health Response

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Recommendation 1: Self-determination

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and organisations must be supported to lead the COVID-19 pandemic recovery responses for their communities and peoples

Recommendation 2: Health and Mental Health Workforce

Invest in local, place-based workforce solutions which meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Recommendation 3: Social and Cultural Determinants of Health

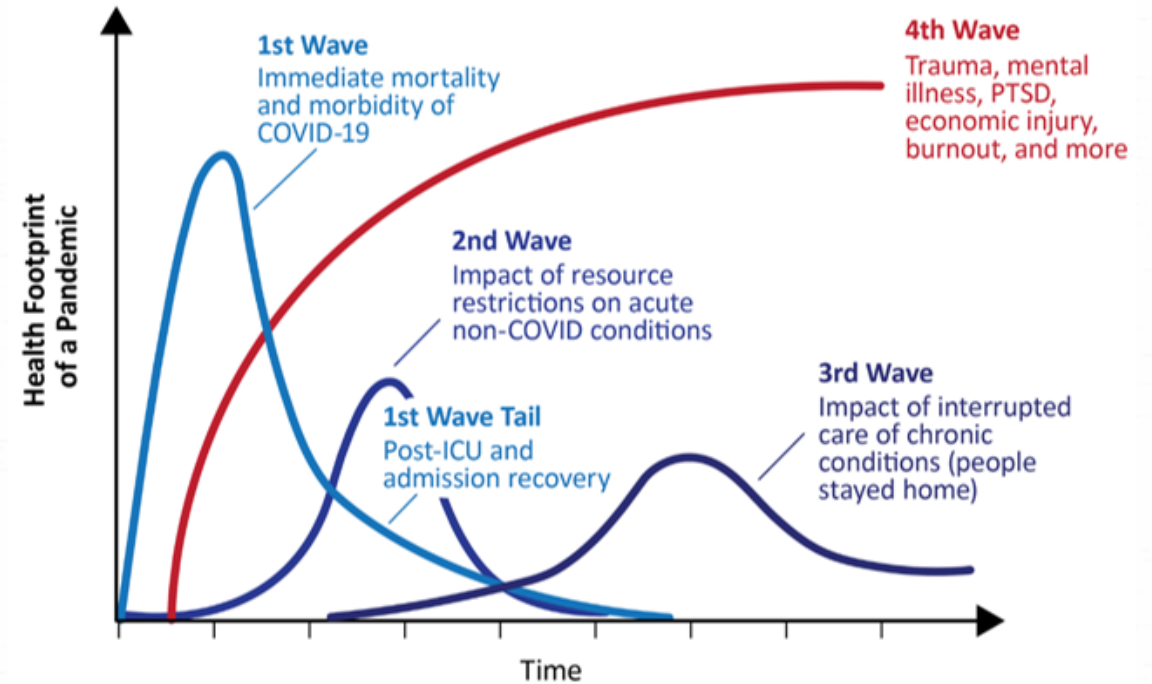
Ensure culturally safe mental health services by implementing the National Strategic Framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People's Mental Health and Social and Emotional Wellbeing 2017-2023³³ and Implementation Plan³⁴

Recommendation 4: Digital and Tele-health

Provision of appropriate and accessible Internet access and tele-health solutions

Recommendation 5: Evaluation

Implement a comprehensive national evaluation program across all communities that enables Indigenous data sovereignty





Transforming Indigenous Mental Health and Wellbeing

New approaches to
mental health
for Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander
peoples and
communities that
**foster and promote
cultural values and
strengths**



1. **Empowering access:**
community and services to meet half way to build
confidence in relationships
- including assessment & evaluation
2. **Empowering workforce:**
improving workforce models, supports, curriculum
development and cultural safety
3. **Empowering the service system:**
develop better models of service delivery, best
practice guidelines, and pathways of care