

Assessing the quality and ethics of health research in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander settings: a tool to appraise health research from an Indigenous perspective



Stephen Harfield, on behalf of the CREATE Methods Group
Global Evidence Summit, Cape Town South Africa, 14th September 2017

 @sgharfield, @CREATE_NHMRC



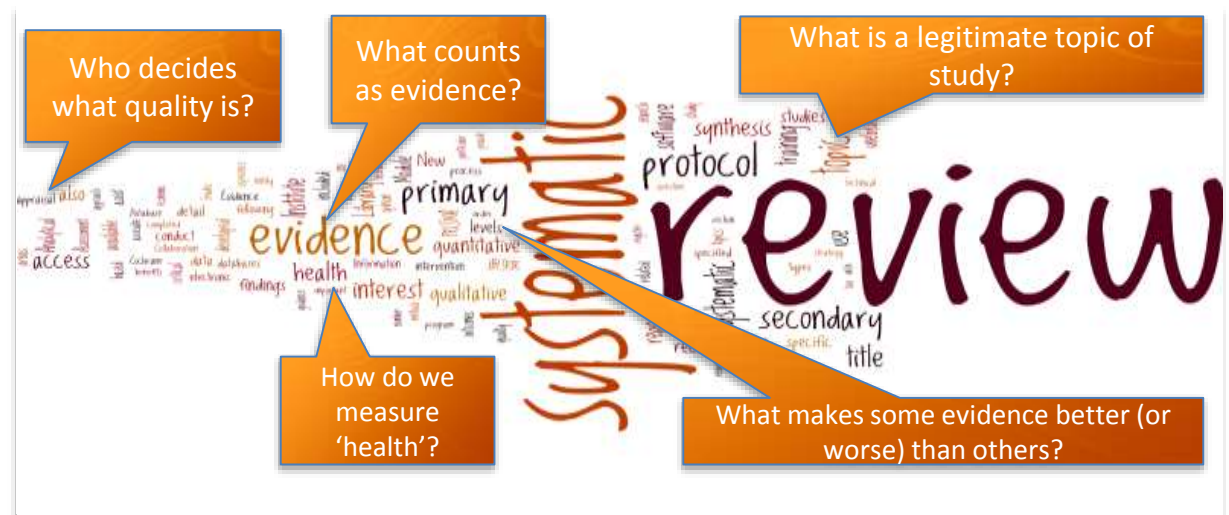
THE JOANNA
BRIGGS INSTITUTE

Conflict of Interest: No actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this presentation.
Funding: The Australian National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC No 1061242)

Rationale for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Appraisal Tool



- Systematic reviews produce reliable and useful evidence to guide and inform decision makers
- Lack of attention to Indigenous worldviews in systematic review tools
- When potential review findings are applied to Indigenous peoples current tool are not appropriate



Methods – How have we gone about it?

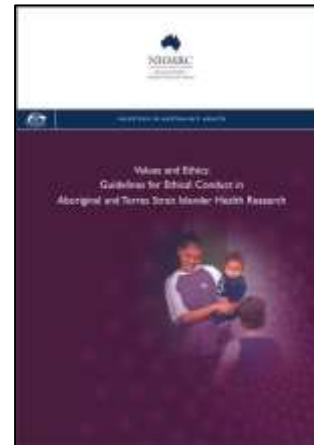


Established Methods Group

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander & non-Indigenous researchers
- Aboriginal health researchers, ethicists and systematic review experts

Three main strategies used to develop the tool

- Nominal group technique and discussion
- Indigenous lens
- Analysis against ethical guidelines



Piloting

- Internal piloting
 - Methods Group reviewed papers using the tool, refined the tool based on the outcomes
- External piloting – modified Delphi method
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers assessed validity of tool for methodological, ethical and epistemological rigour.
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous researchers with experience in conducting reviews tested the reliability and feasibility of the tool.

Outcomes – Tool and Companion Doc



- Need or priority determined by community
- Community consultation and engagement
- Research leadership and governance
- Community protocols
- Intellectual and cultural property rights
- Collection and management of research materials
- Indigenous research paradigm
- Strengths based approach
- Translation of findings into policy and/or practice
- Benefit
- Capacity strengthening and two-way learning



DRAFT CREATE CRITICAL APPRAISAL TOOL FOR APPRAISING RESEARCH THROUGH AN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LENS

Answer either "Yes", "Partially", "Unclear" or "No" to each question

Article citation: _____ Date: _____

Reviewer's name: _____

Question	Yes	Partially	Unclear	No
1. Did the research respond to a need or priority determined by the community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Was community consultation and engagement appropriately inclusive?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Did the research have Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research leadership?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Did the research have Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander governance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Were local community protocols respected and followed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Did the researchers negotiate agreements in regard to rights of access to, custody, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's, intellectual and cultural property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Did the researchers negotiate agreements to protect the intellectual and cultural property of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people <u>passed</u> through the research?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Did Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities have control over the collection and management of research materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Was the research guided by an Indigenous research paradigm?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Does the research take a strength based approach, acknowledging and moving beyond practices that have harmed Aboriginal and Torres Strait peoples in the past?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Did the research plan and translate the findings into sustainable changes in policy and/or practice?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Did the research benefit the participants and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Did the research demonstrate capacity strengthening for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Did everyone involved in the research have opportunities to learn from each other?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Current Status



Findings from Piloting

- Studies didn't meet many of the criteria of the Tool
- Further refinement of Tool and Companion Document

Application of Tool

- Designed to be used in conjunction with existing critical appraisal tools

Distribution

- Will be available shortly for use

Acknowledgements & Further Information



Acknowledgements

CREATE Methods Group: Stephen Harfield, Odette Gibson, Kim Morey, Elaine Kite, Karla Canuto, Karen Glover, Judith Gomersall Streak, Drew Carter, Carol Davy, Ed Aromataris, Annette Braunack-Mayer.

CREATE CIs, Leadership Group and Collaborating Institutions: South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute, University of Adelaide, National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation.

CREATE Email: infocreate@sahmri.com

CREATE Website: <http://create.sahmri.org/>

