



LET'S CHAT DEMENTIA PROJECT:

developing a best-practice model of care for cognitive impairment and dementia for and with aboriginal and torres strait islander communities attending primary care.

1-2pm on Thursday 7 September 2023

Location: hybrid – Zoom and Library Room N714, Level 7 North, Medical Building (181), University of Melbourne Parkville Campus

Zoom link: go.unimelb.edu.au/7wbs

Password: 752126

The Let's CHAT (Community Health Approaches To) Dementia in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities is a research project working with 12 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHSs) around Australia to improve detection of cognitive impairment and dementia, as well as dementia care and brain health in the primary care context. Previous research has consistently recorded high prevalence and low detection rates of cognitive impairment and dementia in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities. The Let's CHAT project has sought to address these issues by developing a best-practice model of care in collaboration with the project's partnering ACCHSs. In this presentation, members of the Let's CHAT team will give an overview of the study, describe the resources developed as part of the study, and present some of the preliminary findings.

PRESENTERS

Mr Harold Douglas

Project Officer, Department of Medicine – RMH and Integrated Team Care Coordinator, Victorian Aboriginal Health Service

Harold Douglas is a proud Gonnai man from south eastern Victoria. In his role at the University of Melbourne, Harry is the project lead on the 'Out, Proud n Blak' project, and Project Officer on the Let's CHAT Dementia project and co-ordinator of the project's Indigenous Reference Group. Harry also works as an Integrated Team Care Co-ordinator at the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service. Harry has worked as an aged care consultant and personal care assistant for over 20 years and is a passionate advocate for his Community and most of all for Elders.

Dr Jo-anne Hughson

Research Fellow, Department of Medicine – RMH

Jo Hughson (PhD) is a non-Indigenous woman, Research Fellow at the University of Melbourne and Project Manager of the national NHMRC-funded Let's CHAT (Community Health Approaches To) Dementia in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities research project. Jo's research interests include: Indigenous health research and dementia care; intercultural communication; co-design and community participatory methodologies; intercultural healthcare communication; and health equity.