

Professional Development Workshop

Recognising and Responding to Dementia in Indigenous Communities

This two-day workshop is suitable for health and allied health professionals, aged and community care coordinators, health students, and others working with older people and people with dementia in indigenous communities.

About the workshop:

Dementia is acknowledged as a significant issue for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in remote communities. Recent studies indicate a prevalence rate of up to five times more than in the non-Indigenous population. Primary health care and related workers from rural, remote and Indigenous communities require a clear understanding of dementia, and the skills and strategies to assess and assist both the person with dementia and their family in managing their dementia.

The workshop will give you the skills you need to provide quality dementia care and support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with dementia, their families and community.

Dates: Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th December 2015

Time: 9.00 am—4.30 pm (both days)

Venue: Flinders University Rural Clinical School

27 Joyce Street

Murray Bridge, SA, 5253

Catering: Morning tea and lunch provided each day

Cost: No cost

Register: <u>registerdtsc.com/events</u>

REGISTRATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL AS PLACES ARE LIMITED







For more information, please contact Trudy or Gina on 08 8372 2100 or at dtsc@alzheimers.org.au





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Learning Objectives

- Identify different types of dementia including causes, signs, symptoms, and progress of the disease, and be able to communicate this effectively to the family.
- Distinguish dementia from other conditions that may have similar signs and symptoms.
- Use appropriate tools (including KICA) to assess Indigenous clients for dementia.
- Understand the progressive changes associated with a person with dementia.
- Identify ways of managing the person with dementia including behaviour management, environmental modifications, medication and other appropriate interventions.
- Develop strategies with family and other carers to enable them to manage any difficulties with their family member in their community for as long as possible.
- Develop a plan for long-term management of a person with dementia in their community.
- Source and utilise up-to-date resources in the management of people with dementia.

About the presenters

Ms Annie Farthing is a physiotherapist who has lived in Central Australia for more than 20 years. She has worked in urban and remote contexts, in community health, rehabilitation and aged care. She is currently teaching into the Remote Health Practice Program, an active member of Services for Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH) and is part of the research team looking at the issues surrounding dementia among Indigenous people living in remote communities.

Ms Heather Jensen worked as an occupational therapist in Central Australia in the 1990s before joining the teaching team for the first six years of the Occupational Therapy program at James Cook University. Since 2004 she has been coordinating the allied health stream of post graduate studies in Remote Health Practice, as well as Disability and Care Planning courses for the Centre for Remote Health in Alice Springs. She has been involved in various research projects about dementia in Indigenous communities including needs assessment, pathways to care, the role of key workers and the role of art centres for people with dementia.





