

MEDICAL OUTREACH INDIGENOUS CHRONIC DISEASE PROGRAM (MOICDP)

APRIL 2021

MOICDP increases access to a range of health services, including expanded primary care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples for the prevention, diagnosis and management of chronic disease, where chronic disease is defined as 'a condition that has been (or is likely to be) present for six months or longer'. MM1 – MM7 locations are eligible for MOICDP services.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY & INDIGENOUS AREA (IARE) NEEDS LOCATION 2021-22

The Strategy and Health Workforce Planning Team conducted a needs analysis between February and April 2021. This needs assessment used data from:

i. The RWAV 2020 GP survey where GPs indicated a need for Audiologists, Chiropractors, Diabetes Educators, Dietitians, Exercise Physiologists, Mental Health Workers, Occupational Therapists, Optometrists, Orthoptists, Osteopaths, Physiotherapists, Podiatrists, Psychologists, Psychiatrists, Speech Therapists, and Ear,

Nose and Throat specialists (ENTs) in their local communities.

ii. The number of health practitioners by location as we had access to confidential aggregated counts of health practitioners by sa2 location (e.g., 10-20 Dermatologists in Bendigo – this is just an example, this data is confidential therefore the example is fictional) from the Department of Health (National Health Workforce Dataset – Medical, 2019). This included aggregated counts of allied health practitioners as well as Dermatologists, Obstetrics/Gynecologists, Paediatricians, and Palliative Medicine Specialists.

iii. Additionally, exactly what health services are available in specific towns was utilised (via the National Health Service Directory) for all professions in the MOICDP needs assessment.
Determining the priority areas

A need was identified for MOICDP services for that IARE where,



1. Number of specialist health Practitioners by location (ii) and optometry service availability (iii) was low, and/or
2. A need was indicated via the 2020 GP survey results (i), and
3. There was a local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in the IARE.

Priority areas for MOICDP program

Based on the needs assessment, MOICDP needs for primary care and specialists services are listed as below:

Table 1 presents the needs for Audiologists, Chiropractors, Diabetes Educators, Dietitians, Exercise Physiologists, Mental Health Workers, Occupational Therapists, Optometrists, Orthoptists, Osteopaths, Physiotherapists, Podiatrists, Psychologists, and Speech Therapists by IARE.

Table 2 presents the needs for Dermatologists, Obstetricians/ Gynaecologists, Paediatricians, Palliative medicine specialists, Ophthalmologists, ENTs and Psychiatrists by IARE.

Table 1: Need for Allied Health Services by Indigenous Area

Indigenous Areas	ACCHO within IARE	Aboriginal Population 2016	Audiologist	Chiropractor	Diabetes Educator	Dietician	Exercise Physiologist	Mental Health Worker	Occupational Therapist	Optometrist	Orthoptist	Osteopath	Physiotherapist	Podiatrist	Psychologist	Speech Therapist
Ballarat	Yes	1,843														
Baw Baw	No	581														
Bendigo	Yes	2,231														
Campaspe - Shepparton - Moira	Yes	4,345														
Castlemaine - Kerang	No	1,013														
Geelong - Queenscliff	Yes	2,884														
Gippsland	Yes	2,338														
Latrobe	Yes	1,429														
Macedon Ranges - Moorabool	No	809														
Mildura	Yes	2,536														
South Gippsland - Bass Coast	No	687														
South-West Central Victoria	Yes	1,539														
Southern Grampians - Glenelg	Yes	853														
Swan Hill	Yes	1,072														
Upper Goulburn Valley	No	690														
Wallan - Seymour	No	797														
Warrnambool	Yes	674														
Wimmera	Yes	773														
Wodonga	Yes	2,089														
Yarra Ranges	No	1,618														

Table 2: Need for Specialist Services by Indigenous Area

Indigenous Areas	ACCHO within IARE	Aboriginal Population 2016	Dermatology	Obstetrics and gynaecology	Paediatrics and child health	Palliative medicine	Ophthalmologist	ENT	Psychiatrist
Ballarat	Yes	1,843							
Baw Baw	No	581							
Bendigo	Yes	2,231							
Campaspe - Shepparton - Moira	Yes	4,345							
Castlemaine - Kerang	No	1,013							
Geelong - Queenscliff	Yes	2,884							
Gippsland	Yes	2,338							
Latrobe	Yes	1,429							
Macedon Ranges - Moorabool	No	809							
Mildura	Yes	2,536							
South Gippsland - Bass Coast	No	687							
South-West Central Victoria	Yes	1,539							
Southern Grampians - Glenelg	Yes	853							
Swan Hill	Yes	1,072							
Upper Goulburn Valley	No	690							
Wallan - Seymour	No	797							
Warrnambool	Yes	674							
Wimmera	Yes	773							
Wodonga	Yes	2,089							
Yarra Ranges	No	1,618							

Please note:

Indigenous Areas (IARE): are medium sized geographical areas designed to facilitate the release of more detailed statistics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples whilst maintaining the confidentiality of individuals. IAREs provide a balance between spatial resolution and population size, providing the ability to release more detailed data. There are 41 IAREs in Victoria for reference.

References

Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2016, July 12). Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas. ABS.

Rural Workforce Agency Victoria Limited. (2021). RWAV 2020 Regional Victoria GP Workforce Survey.

Department of Health and Human Services (2021), Specialty Workforce Counts, Australian Government (confidential aggregated counts for limited specialties).

Healthdirect (2021), Healthmap. Retrieved from: <https://studio.healthmap.com.au/>

PHIDU (2021), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Health Atlas of Australia, Data by Indigenous Area