



# The Wati Pirniku Men's Hub Model of Care

Authors: Michael Whitehead<sup>1</sup>, Scott Peers<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Ngaanyatjarra Health Service

## Background

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men care about their own health and the health and wellbeing of their families. However, across almost every health index, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men have higher morbidity and mortality rates compared to any other sub-group in Australia.

The Wati Pirniku Men's Hub is located in Warburton, a remote (MM7) township in the Gibson Desert of Western Australia on the Ngaanyatjarra Lands. The intention of the Wati Pirniku Men's Hub is to deliver a one-stop-shop of clinical services to males over 15-years, in addition to a range of male psychosocial, FDV and wellbeing programs.

## Methods

Extensive community consultation in 2023 by the Ngaanyatjarra Council formulated the Ngaanyatjarra Health Service Strategic Plan 2022-2027, a key aspect of which, was the community desire for more men's specific programs to address unmet health and social needs.

The purposeful employment of men's health nurses and male Yarnangu staff supported the co-design of the Wati Pirniku Men's Hub Model of Care.

## Results

Preliminary data analysis revealed that in the 12-months following the Wati Pirniku Men's Hub Model of Care commencement, male episodes of health care improved (compared to the previous year) by 133% (342 vs 800) and total engagement by males across all health services in Warburton improved by 3.70%.



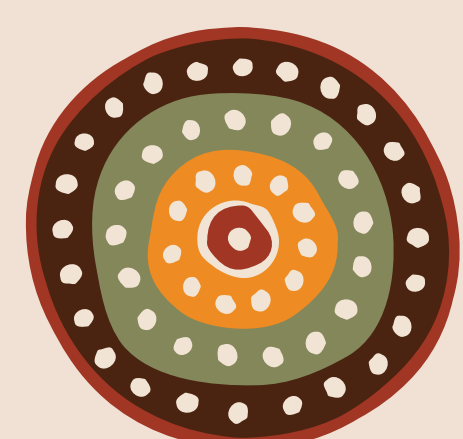
Male episodes  
of health care  
at the Hub



Total engagement  
by males across all  
health services in  
Warburton

## Conclusion

- The Wati Pirniku Men's Hub Model of Care is the first of its kind across the Ngaanyatjarra Lands and provides a strong framework for how male gender-responsive healthcare is delivered.
- The marked increase in episodes of care and health assessments over the course of only 12 months, would speak to future opportunities within the Ngaanyatjarra men's health space.



Ngaanyatjarra  
Health Service

[ngaanyatjarra.org.au](http://ngaanyatjarra.org.au)