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Chronic disease self-management and rehabilitation for Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with chronic disease: Is it related to wider service use?

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With a strong interest in innovative, evidence based, complex interventions that address individual and systemic health issues, occupational therapist and researcher **Emma Crawford** works in the fields of Indigenous health (chronic disease and pain management), infant-mother care and asylum seekers' mental wellbeing (with adults and children). Additionally, she carries out research regarding allied health student placements in culturally diverse settings including developing countries and Indigenous contexts. She works as a Lecturer at the University of Queensland, Australia after having worked in a range of occupational therapy roles including with children with autism, with asylum seekers, with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders with chronic disease and completing her PhD in Political Science and International Studies in 2015.

This presentation outlines the Work It Out program, the Australian cultural and demographic context for the program, and recent research regarding the links between program participation and use of other health services outside the program.

Background: Work It Out is part of an integrated, comprehensive approach to primary health care targeting chronic disease management and rehabilitation in Queensland, Australia. It is a chronic disease self-management and rehabilitation program for urban Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with a range of conditions including diabetes, cardiac disease, traumatic brain injury, intellectual impairment, mental illness, and respiratory disease. This study aimed to identify any differences in health care services use between Work It Out participants and non-participants.

Methods: In this retrospective (January 2012 to December 2017) observational study of services use, general practitioner and allied health service use was compared among Work It Out participants and non-participants. Data was sourced from clinical medical records system (MME_x) and Work It Out program assessments. Analysis used logistic regression models and zero-truncated Poisson / negative binomial regression models.

Results: Compared to non-participants, Work It Out participants were more likely to use GP and allied health services. Among those who used primary health services more than once, Work It Out participants had higher service use rates than non-participants for a range of health services.

Conclusion: Integrated health care such as that of Work It Out facilitates primary health care services use for Indigenous Australians, enhancing chronic disease management and rehabilitation.



Le lundi 18 juin 2018

12h00 à 13h00

CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal — IURDPM

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