



Health and Wellbeing Research

How does research benefit our Mob?

Research is important for improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people and our community. It can help to find:

- new or cheaper medicines and other treatments
- better access to health care
- better ways of delivering health care
- ways to reduce the burden of disease.



SAWCAN will work with researchers to make sure there are safeguards in place to protect our Mob and their interests.

Health and wellbeing research on Aboriginal people in our region

The local Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) have asked their network organisation – South Australian West Coast ACCHO Network (SAWCAN) – to manage research requests and projects on their behalf. This benefits community and researchers.

Aboriginal people are the most researched people in Australia. We want to make sure that our Mob are participating in research that:

- does not burden local ACCHOs, people or communities
- meets the priority health and wellbeing needs of our communities
- involves Aboriginal people in the design of the research, as well as the interpretation and evaluation of data
- shares ownership of the data with Aboriginal people
- is ethical and done in a culturally safe and respectful way to protect the dignity, rights, culture and heritage of Aboriginal people
- helps build the capacity of ACCHOs and Aboriginal communities to design and lead this work.





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What if I am asked to participate in health and wellbeing research?

You should only participate in research if you want to – it is your choice.

Make sure you understand what the research is for and what you have to do. The researcher must explain what is involved and any risks. You will be asked to sign a document to give your consent.

If you are a local community organisation and a researcher asks you to help recruit people for a health and wellbeing research project, you should ask the researcher if they are working with SAWCAN and your local ACCHO. If they are not, you should tell them to talk to SAWCAN and advise your local ACCHO.



Having one contact point for researchers reduces administrative burdens on ACCHOs so they can focus on delivering health care services to community.



More information

If you are asked to participate in research and are not sure what to do, have a yarn to the Mob at your local ACCHO. You can also email: research.data@sawcan.org.au



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