

Northern Territory PHN – Integrated Team Care

ACTIVITY WORK PLAN

phn NORTHERN TERRITORY
An Australian Government Initiative

RURAL Workforce AGENCY NT

CONTENTS

Care coordination and supplementary services 3

1. Aim of Activity 3
2. Description of Activity 3
3. Needs Assessment Priorities 4
4. Demographics 4
5. Collaboration 5

Care coordination and supplementary services

1. Aim of Activity

The aim of this activity is to contribute to improving health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with chronic health conditions through better access to care coordination, multidisciplinary care and support for self-management.

2. Description of Activity

The Integrated Team Care (ITC) operating model in the Northern Territory (NT) aims to enhance health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals with chronic health conditions. The primary focus is on improving access to care coordination, multidisciplinary care and supporting self-management.

Service Delivery Model
ITC and Supplementary Services are delivered through collaboration between Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHS) and mainstream primary healthcare providers. Northern Territory Primary Health Network (Northern Territory PHN) predominantly contracts ACCHS in line with its Commissioning Policy. Care Coordinators and Outreach Workers are employed across NT locations to carry out tasks consistent with NT Health ITC Activity Implementation Guidelines.

Partnerships and Support
Northern Territory PHN partners with the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory (AMSANT), the peak body for ACCHS in the NT. AMSANT collaborates with Northern Territory PHN to provide workforce support and capacity building for ACCHS and mainstream ITC providers. Indigenous Health Project Officers (IHPOs), employed through this partnership, play a crucial role in supporting all ITC commissioned workforce and care coordination service providers.

Culturally Competent Care Coordination
NT PHN emphasises the importance of culturally competent care coordination. This is achieved through the employment of Indigenous Health Project Officers who implement the ITC Workforce Development Plan 2022. The plan focuses on enhancing cultural competency among care coordinators and service providers.

Northern Territory PHN will work with the Commonwealth Government to support the future transition of chronic disease management funds for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

3. Needs Assessment Priorities

Northern Territory PHN Needs Assessment Priorities 2024/25 – 2026/27

Priority	Page reference
Population Health - Support screening and early intervention for eye, ear and oral health.	7,13
Population Health - Food security and healthy eating, particularly among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.	17
Population Health - Improve health literacy through approaches that are culturally responsive, trauma informed, community-led and place-based.	23
Population Health - Smoking and vaping, particularly among young people, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.	10
Population Health - Support multidisciplinary team care models of service.	60
Population Health - Physical activity and active living, particularly among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.	13
Population Health - Equitable access to health care and social services, especially for those living in rural and remote areas.	52
Health Workforce - Develop and grow the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce – clinical and non-clinical with a particular focus on remote and ACCHOs.	71
Population Health - Address the impact of social and cultural determinants and system issues that affect health, including housing, food security, education, employment, historical and cultural factors.	18

4. Demographics

To be eligible for care coordination under the ITC Program, all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients in the NT must be enrolled for chronic disease management in a general

practice or an Aboriginal Medical Service, have a GP Management Plan and be referred by their GP.

5. Collaboration

Collaboration
All IHPO positions are contracted to AMSANT.