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**Scaling up Group Pregnancy Care for refugee women**

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**Objectives/aims**

Refugee women are at risk of poor maternal and perinatal outcomes, have complex health needs, and face multiple barriers accessing pregnancy and early childhood health care. A collaborative model of Group Pregnancy Care has been co-designed in response to these issues. The aim of Group Pregnancy Care is to promote health, wellbeing and resilience in refugee background families around the time of having a baby by ensuring children and families are afforded an equitable, healthy start to life in Australia.

**Methods**

Together with the community, a partnership co-designed and tested an innovative approach to antenatal and postnatal care that involves inter-agency collaboration between public maternity hospitals, settlement services and maternal and child health (MCH) services. The new model of care provides multidisciplinary, culturally appropriate preventative health care in a community-based group setting.

Feasibility and acceptability of the model was demonstrated by a successful pilot study. The success generated interest from health services and a partnership of 14 agencies was established to scale-up the program at four sites with four different communities.

**Main findings**

Globally, this is the first model of Group Pregnancy Care designed with and for resettled refugee families. Evidence for sustainability and replication of the model will be presented. Preliminary findings from scaling-up the model include: importance of ongoing community engagement, flexibility and adaptation to meet service context, communication, feedback, reflection and evaluation for ongoing staff and service commitment. Finally, collaborative partnerships involving communities is critical for tackling disparities, preventing averse outcomes, and achieving health care quality and safety.