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**Do alcohol and other drug prevention programs work for Indigenous youth? A systematic review.**

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**Objectives/aims**

Harms related to alcohol, cannabis and tobacco are twice as common among Indigenous Australians compared to non-Indigenous Australians. This highlights the need for culturally appropriate and effective prevention approaches for Indigenous youth in Australia. The results of a systematic review on substance use prevention programs for Indigenous youth are presented. The findings will inform the development of a culturally-appropriate alcohol and other drug prevention program for Indigenous youth in Australia.

**Methods**

Eight peer-reviewed databases were systematically searched and identified 20 evaluations of substance use prevention programs for Indigenous youth in Australia, New Zealand, United States of America and Canada. Standardised tools were used to assess the quality of quantitative and qualitative evaluation methods.

**Main findings**

The review identified mainstream programs that are culturally adapted as more effective than cultural-based programs (developed for cultural group to reflect values and beliefs) and unadapted programs (mainstream programs that have not been modified for cultural group). Community programs reported consistent effectiveness, but poor quality of the evaluation methods. School-based programs and multi-setting programs found mixed results and had moderate to poor quality of the evaluation methods. Cultural knowledge enhancement, substance use education, skill development and partnerships between Indigenous members and researchers were identified as key elements for successful outcomes.