

Systemic barriers to smoking relapse prevention in pregnancy and postpartum periods among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women: A qualitative study with smoking cessation support providers

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Background

While the prevalence of adult daily smoking among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (hereafter respectfully Aboriginal) declined, (1) the decline in the prevalence of smoking during pregnancy among Aboriginal women has not been consistent. (2) Sustaining quit attempts during pregnancy and postpartum can potentially improve the quitting rate and reduce tobacco-related morbidity among Aboriginal people across generations.

Results

Table 1: Participant characteristics (N=26)

Age		Sex	
≤44	13	Female	21
45-60	12	Male	5
Chose not to answer	1		
Aboriginality		Roles	
Aboriginal	13	Service/Health Promotion	22
Non-Aboriginal	13	Research/Policy	4

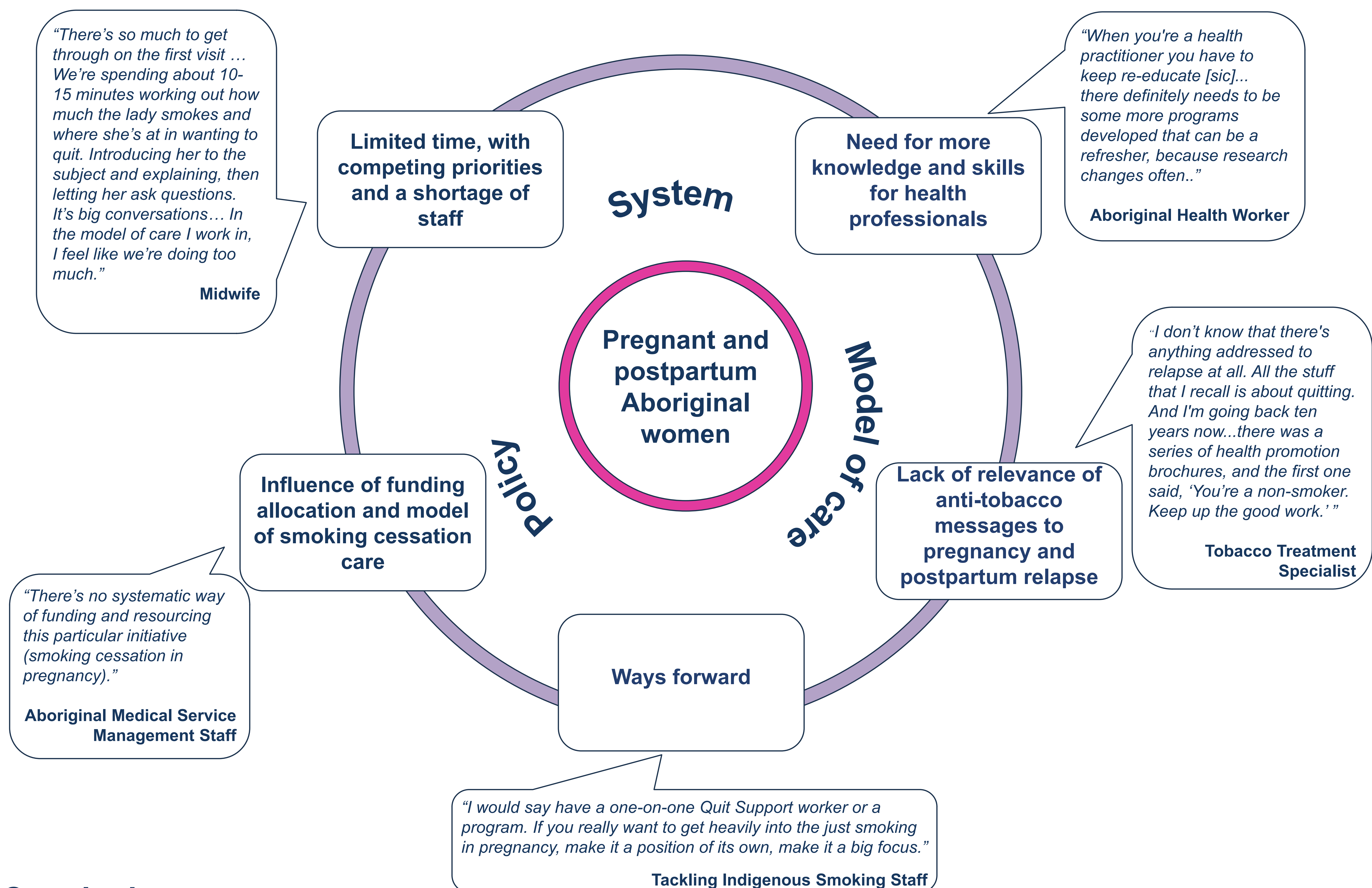
Methods

Data

Twenty-six interviews were conducted between October 2020 and July 2021 with health professionals, health promotion workers and managers working on Aboriginal smoking cessation across six Australian states and territories. Data were thematically analysed employing an inductive approach.

Ethics approvals

Ethics approval was sought from the Human Research Ethics Committee of the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of New South Wales, Australia (ID: 1618/19). Subsequently, the study was registered with the Human Research Ethics Committee of the University of Newcastle (H-2020-0107).



Conclusion

Addressing systemic barriers to the provisions of smoking cessation care among pregnant and postpartum Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women is a health priority. Dedicated funding is warranted to support individual-level smoking cessation care for Aboriginal women.

References:

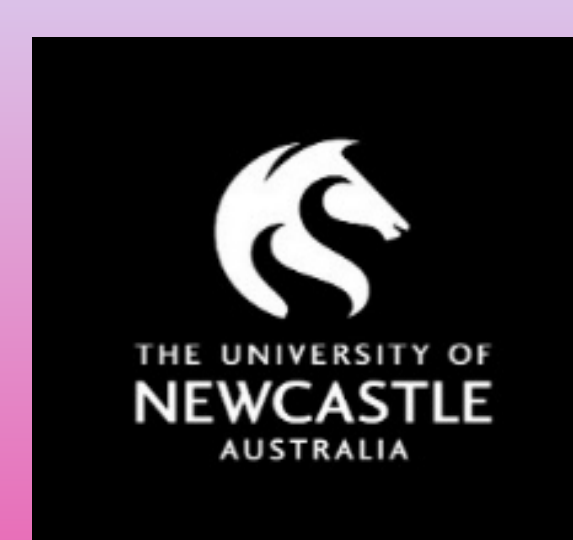
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