

A review of Australian-based sexual health research and practice with culturally and linguistically diverse migrant and mobile populations

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Background:

The Western Australian (WA) Sexual Health and Blood-borne Virus Applied Research and Evaluation Network (SiREN) was established in 2012 and supports collaboration between a network of more than 650 members across Australia working in prevention and control of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and blood-borne viruses (BBVs), including policymakers; service providers; and researchers. As part of its work, SiREN provides practice-focused, contemporary evidence updates to its members across a range of STI and BBV topics.

Methods:

SiREN conducted a review of Australian-based projects and research with culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) migrant and mobile populations in relation to sexual health. Research was mapped to the domains of advocacy and partnerships; peer-led responses; practice and evaluation; and research and surveillance.

Results:

This evidence update presents a synthesis of current Australian-based research (2021-2025) and practice with CaLD populations in relation to sexual health. Early results indicate a gap in research and practice work with women and with people who travel. There appears to be a promising increase in the focus on Asian-born men who have sex with men in the context of PrEP and HIV testing opportunities. Evidence of what initiatives work with CaLD populations, and why, is still limited. This presentation will discuss implications for practice, research and policy, and present several case studies.

Conclusion:

SiREN continues to play a key role in disseminating research and project findings. Given the proportion of HIV and STI notifications among people born overseas and other underserved populations, a strong understanding of the current research and practice is necessary to inform future work.

Disclosure of Interest Statement:

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