

Title: Development of Aotearoa (New Zealand) diagnostic guidelines for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)

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Background:

This presentation will outline the process and progress of the Development of FASD diagnostic guidelines for Aotearoa. The guidelines aim to enable clinicians to follow best practice in FASD assessment and diagnosis reflecting on both the latest international research and within the cultural and health context of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Description of Model of Care/Intervention: This project is grounded in Te Tiriti o Waitangi and is led by Tangata whenua (people of the land) and Tangata Tiriti (people of the treaty). The project team and Hāpai te Hauora are committed to Kaupapa Māori methodology and exploring Te Ao Māori (the Māori world) models through the development of these clinical guidelines for FASD. Kaupapa Māori theory goes beyond a set of principles; it creates a space where Māori are able to work in ways that are free of cultural constraints.

Effectiveness/Acceptability/Implementation:

Using this methodology assumes the existence and validity of Māori knowledge, language and culture throughout all areas. This approach is important if we are going to meet commitments to improve outcomes for Māori, health equity, and child health and wellbeing.

Conclusion and Next Steps:

This project has been progressing alongside the review of the Australian Guidelines and this mutual reciprocal relationship will be highlighted. Consideration will also be given to guidelines and literature from other international jurisdictions, however differences in the health, education, justice, and child welfare systems will be taken into account.

Disclosure of Interest Statement:

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