



Access to Contraception for Aboriginal Women

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University of Sydney Masters (Sexual and Reproductive Health) Project - End of 2022

Completed while working at the Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service

Project completed for the Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service branch of sexual health

Similar healthcare models service other regions in WA.

Many thanks to Dr Eleanor Hudson for revising this presentation

Background

Project



Need for information on contraceptive and cervical screening access.

High rates of adolescent pregnancy in areas that have limited access to healthcare.

Method: Surveyed health professionals at all 51 sites via phone.

17 question survey developed with local GP and O&G Doctors working in the Kimberley.



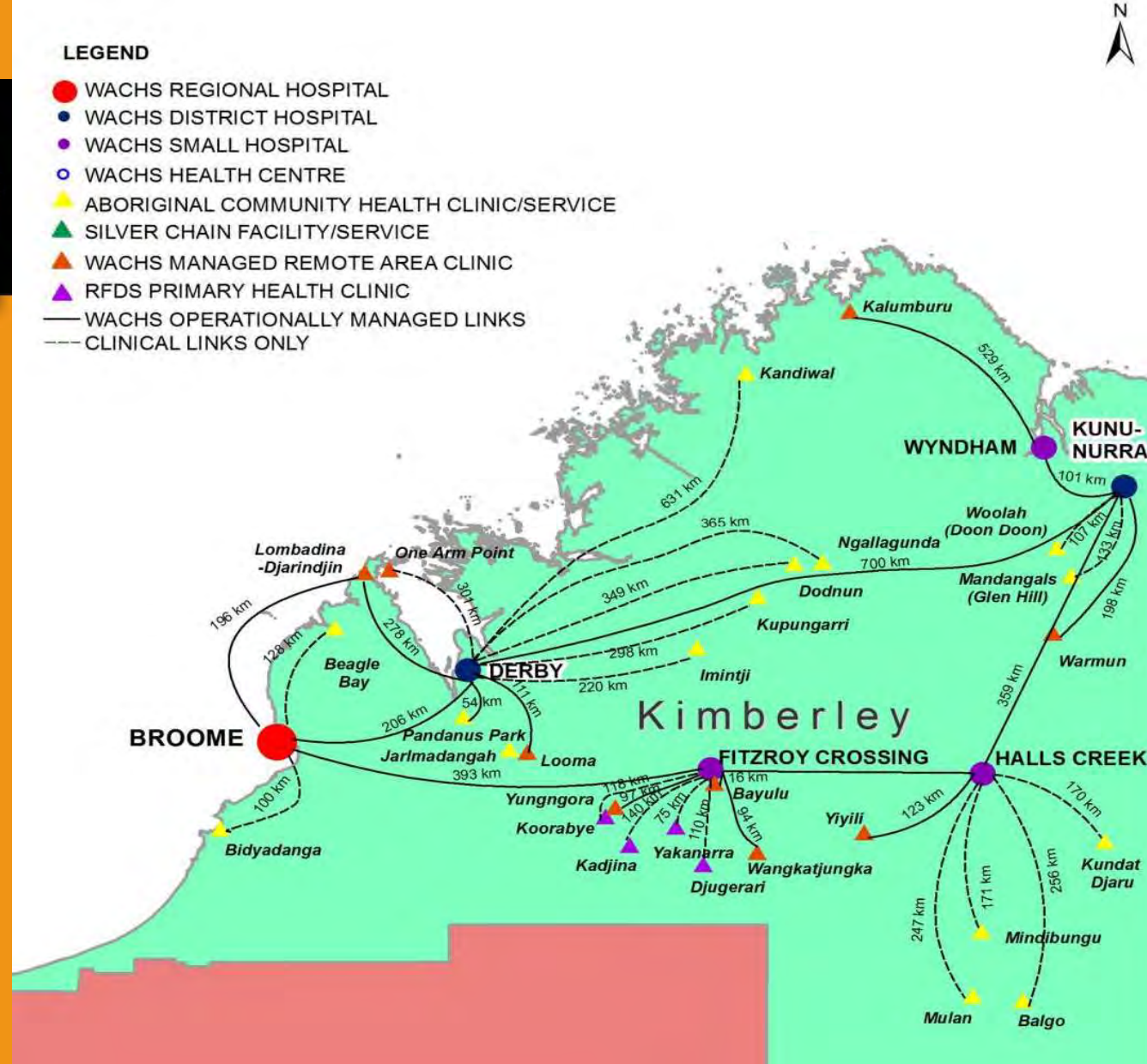
Services

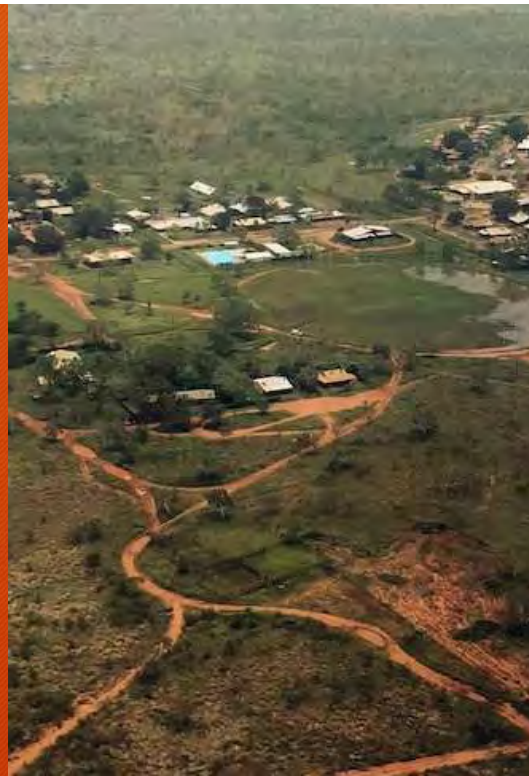


- 6 WACHS Hospitals
- 8 Remote WACHS clinics
- 5 WACHS community health
- 4 Aboriginal health services
- 15 remote Aboriginal health sites
- 8 Royal Flying Doctors sites
- 5 GP sites
 - 1 x NGO Broome (Headspace)
 - 3 x private Broome
 - 1 x urgent care Broome
 - 1 x private Kunununurra

LEGEND

- WACHS REGIONAL HOSPITAL
- WACHS DISTRICT HOSPITAL
- WACHS SMALL HOSPITAL
- WACHS HEALTH CENTRE
- ▲ ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC/SERVICE
- ▲ SILVER CHAIN FACILITY/SERVICE
- ▲ WACHS MANAGED REMOTE AREA CLINIC
- ▲ RFDS PRIMARY HEALTH CLINIC
- WACHS OPERATIONALLY MANAGED LINKS
- - - CLINICAL LINKS ONLY





Context

Results per question

Is a Doctor/Nurse present at the site? If so, how often? (Daily, on call, weekly, monthly etc.)

Can the nurse/midwife prescribe contraception?

What contraception available at this site? (e.g., if someone prescribed it could it be picked up at the pharmacy)

Can the Doctor/Nurse put in an Implanon/IUD and remove it?

How many hours drive is the nearest site for OCP/Implanon/IUD/other?

Any social resistance/hesitance to a particular kind of contraception currently?

How often can a clinician counsel and conduct CST collection?

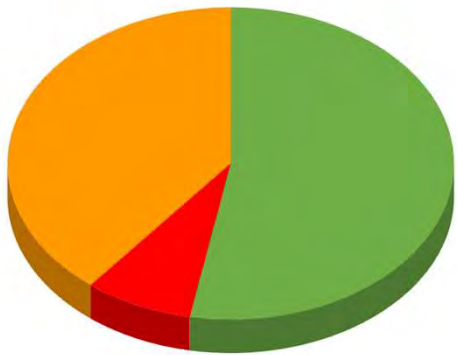
Has your clinic been short staffed in the last 12 months? Has it had to close or decrease services due to this?

Is it your opinion, that your community has unmet fertility/contraception needs?

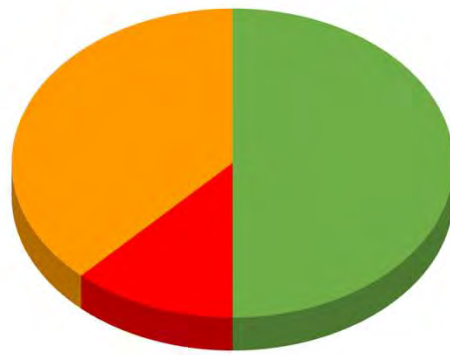
Availability per method

- Accessible
- Not accessible
- Circumstantial

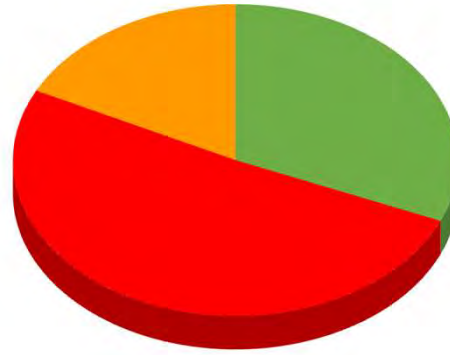
OCP



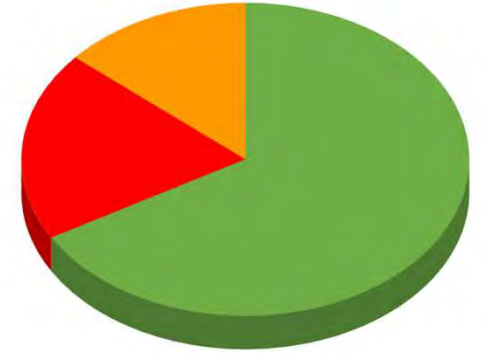
Implanon



IUD



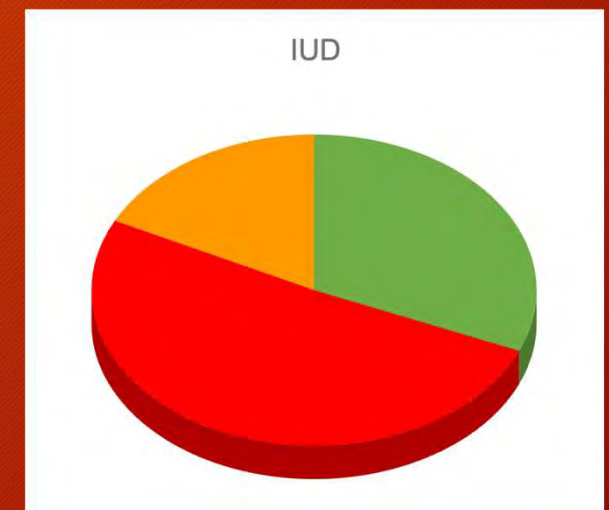
Depot, emergency contraception, condoms



Availability per method

- Accessible
- Not accessible
- Circumstantial

IUD by site



SITE	Doctor on site	Nursing on site	OCP on site?	Implanon on site?	IUD on site?	Depo, emergency, co	Skill to insert implanon?	Skill to insert IUD?
HOSPITAL								
Broome	Daily	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dr usually, nurse under supervision	Doctor
Derby + connected GP	Daily	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dr usually, nurse under supervision	Doctor
Kununurra	Daily	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dr usually, nurse under supervision	Doctor
Fitzroy	Dr daily/gynae 10 days/year	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dr usually, nurse under supervision	GPO/gynae
Halls Creek	Dr daily/gynae 10 days/year	24 hours	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dr usually, nurse under supervision	GPO/gynae insertion, Dr removal
Wyndham	Week days	24 hours	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	GPO/gynae
REMOTE CLINIC WACHS								
One arm point (WACHS)	Twice weekly	24 hours	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	No or Dr if skilled
Looma (WACHS)	Weekly but male	24 hours	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	No or Dr if skilled
Bayulu (Fitzroy community health) (WACHS)	Once weekly	Daily	Yes	No	No	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	No or Dr if skilled
Wangkatjungka (WACHS)	Twice weekly	24 hours	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	no or Dr if skilled
Warman (WACHS)	Once weekly	24 hours	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	No or Dr if skilled
Yunggora (Noonkanbah station clinic)	Once week	24 hours	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	No or Dr if skilled
Lombadina	Twice weekly	24 hours	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	No or Dr if skilled
Kalumburu (WACHS)	1.5 days weekly/GPO once a month	24 hours	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	No or Dr if skilled
AMS/AHS								
BRAMS	Week days	Week days	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
DAHS	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Not currently
YYMS (Yura Yungi Medical Service - Halls Creek)	Daily	Daily	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Dr and nurse	Yes but have to order kit in
OVAHS	Week days	Week days	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes if Dr/nurse skilled	No
REMOTE Clinics (ACCHO's)								
Beagle Bay (KAMS)	Twice weekly	24 hours	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	No or Dr if skilled
Bidayadanga (KAMS)	4 times weekly	24 hours	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	No or Dr if skilled
Balgo (Kutjungka) (KAMS)	Daily	24 hours	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	No or Dr if skilled
Bilibuna/Mindibungu (Kutjungka) (KAMS)	Once weekly	24 hours	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	No or Dr if skilled
Mulan (Kutjungka) (KAMS)	Once weekly	24 hours	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No or Dr if skilled	No or Dr if skilled
Pandanus Park (DAHS)	Fortnightly	Weekly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	Yes both when there	No
Jarlmadangah (DAHS)	Fortnightly	Fortnightly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	Yes both when there	No
Irintji (DAHS) - only one family	Fortnightly (only if needed)	Fortnightly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	Yes both when there	No
Kupungarri (DAHS)	Fortnightly	24 hours	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes both when there	No
Dodnun (DAHS)	Fortnightly	Twice weekly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	Yes both when there	No
Ngallagunda (Gibb River) (DAHS) - No children there	No clinic there - come to Kupungarri	No clinic there - come to Kupungarri	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	Yes both when there	No
Kandiwal (DAHS)	Every 6-8 weeks in the dry	Every 6-8 weeks in the dry	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	Yes both when there	No
Ringer Soak/Kundat Djaru (YYMS)	Fortnightly	24 hours	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Doctor when visiting	No or Dr if skilled
Woolah (Doon Doon) (OVAHS)	Quarterly	Fortnightly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No	No only in Dr bag	Yes both when there	No
Mandangals (Glen Hill) (OVAHS)	Quarterly	Fortnightly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No	No only in Dr bag	Yes both when there	No
RFDs PRIMARY CLINIC								
Koorabye	3 weekly	3 weekly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No	Yes	Yes	No
Kadjina	2 weekly	2 weekly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No	Yes	Yes	No
Yakanarra	Weekly	Weekly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No	Yes	Yes	No
Djugerari	2 weekly	2 weekly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No	Yes	Yes	No
Mornington wilderness camp	2 monthly	2 monthly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No	Yes	Yes	No
Mount House station	2 monthly	2 monthly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No	Yes	Yes	No
Doongan station	2 monthly	2 monthly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No	Yes	Yes	No
Drysdale station	2 monthly	2 monthly	No only in Dr bag	No only in Dr bag	No	Yes	Yes	No
PRIVATE/ALTERNATE GP								
Broome Doctors	Week days	Yes	Give script	Give script to obtain and return	Give script to obtain and return	Give script	Yes	Yes
Broome Medical	Week days	Yes	Give script	Give script to obtain and return	Give script to obtain and return	Give script	Yes	Yes
Kimberley Medical (Broome)	Week days	Yes	Give script	Give script to obtain and return	Give script to obtain and return	Give script	Yes	Yes
Headspace (Broome)	3 days a week	None	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Depends on Dr skill	Depends on Dr skill
Wunan GP (Kununurra)	Week days	Week days	Give script	Yes	Yes	Give script	Dr and womens health nurse	Some Dr/womens health nurse
COMMUNITY HEALTH (WACHS)								
Broome	None	Weekdays	No	No	No	Condoms	No	No
Fitzroy	None	Daily but visit other sites	No	No	No	Condoms	No	No
Derby	None	Weekdays	No	No	No	Condoms	No	No
Kununurra/Wyndham	None	Weekdays	No	No	No	No	No	No
Yilli (Halls Creek) (WACHS)	None	Daily but visit other sites weekly	Yes	No	No	No	No	No



Discussion

Barriers and recommendations

Barriers

- Inaccessibility due to **distance / weather events / wet season**
- On site practitioner **skill level**
- On site access to **male/female clinicians**
- Ability of **nurses** to deliver treatments
- Lack of private **space** for procedures
- **Non-attendance**

Recommendations

Enhancing culturally appropriate care:

- Consider limitations of **male** clinicians in relation to **female** sexual healthcare
- Patient access to female clinicians
- Patient access to **ALOs**
- Adequate private **space** for procedures
- Delivery of care **outside** of clinic setting (to address non-attendance)

Enhancing opportunities and removing barriers for sexual healthcare:

- **upskilling** rural nurses and doctors in healthcare education and delivery
- **Broadening scope** of who can perform sexual health education
- Broadening scope of who can deliver sexual health prevention strategies e.g. allowing **nurses** to insert implanons
- Providing **discreet** access in cases of sexual assault or coercive control

Integrating systems

- Enhance **communication** between rural sites

An aerial photograph of a coastal landscape. On the left, the ocean is a vibrant turquoise color, with white waves breaking onto a narrow, light-colored sandy beach. To the right of the beach is a prominent, reddish-brown dirt road or path that runs parallel to the shore. Further inland, the terrain is covered in dense, dark green vegetation. A small white vehicle is visible on the dirt road. The entire image is overlaid with a black horizontal bar in the center, which contains the text 'Questions?' in white. A solid orange square is positioned in the bottom right corner of the image.

Questions?