

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Aboriginal communities and rural health researchers 'walking side-by-side'

The Australian Journal of Rural Health (the Journal), which is a leading publisher of research involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, is honoured to share research featured in a special NAIDOC Week content collection.

Published by Wiley, the collection '[NAIDOC 2021](#)' features more than 50 articles from across the publisher's stable of journals to "acknowledge this important week and celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples".

The collection includes a [video feature of an AJRH paper](#) exploring community-based participatory research (CBPR) partnerships with university-based researchers and rural Aboriginal communities in NSW.

The paper, '[We walked side by side through the whole thing': A mixed-methods study of key elements of community-based participatory research partnerships between rural Aboriginal communities and researchers](#)', focused on the communities' priorities around reducing alcohol harm.

"The study found that complementary expertise of stakeholders, an openness to learning, trust, and community leadership are key to a successful community-based participatory research partnership," said the authors Mieke Snijder; Annemarie Wagemakers; Bianca Calabria; Bonita Byrne; Jamie O'Neill; Ronald Bamblett; Alice Munro; Anthony Shakeshaft.

AJRH Editor-in-Chief Russell Roberts says, "This study reflects the Journal's commitment to authentic and collaborative rural health research involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander authors, research partners and participants.

"In the past five years the Journal has published more than 150 papers – including original research, reports, systematic reviews, commentary and letters – that go towards advancing our knowledge and clinical services for rural and remote communities," Professor Roberts said.

As the owner and steward of the Journal, the National Rural Health Alliance (the Alliance) is working with the Editorial Board to further strengthen the governance of rural Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research in Australia through formal recognition of the 'cultural identity' of those engaged in the research process.

"We acknowledge and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers and rural researchers engaged with remote communities, and we take great pride in appropriately fostering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research in Australia," said Alliance CEO Gabrielle O'Kane.

**Ends.**

NRHA CEO Dr Gabrielle O'Kane is available for comment on 0437 445 201.

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