

Kimberley Ear Health Coordinating Panel Action Plan 2023 – 2025

Summary:

Each Kimberley Aboriginal Health Planning Forum (KAHPF) Sub-committee and Working Group is responsible for developing a three-year action plan for endorsement by KAHPF. These Action Plans align with the key priorities of the [KAHPF Strategic Plan 2018-2028](#) and consider a life-course approach:

Key priorities of the KAHPF Strategic Plan 2018-2028

1. Promoting circumstances where individuals, families and communities can be healthy
2. Strengthening prevention, early identification and management of chronic disease
3. Improving the patient journey through the health system by ensuring seamless continuity of comprehensive, culturally responsive primary health care
4. Supporting, developing and growing a strong Aboriginal health workforce
5. Ensuring health research, evaluation and evidence transfer is designed, collected and utilised in a culturally secure manner
6. Planning, coordinating and advocating for positive change for Aboriginal people in the Kimberley



Figure 1: Life-course approach of the KAHPF Strategic Plan 2018-2028

Reporting:

Each Sub-committee will provide a regular progress update to KAHPF by submitting an updated copy of their Action Plan to the [KAHPF Secretariat](#) prior to each KAHPF meeting. In addition, sub-committee chairs will meet annually with the KAHPF to discuss key achievements and identify areas requiring further focus and support.

Purpose:

Members of the Kimberley Ear Health Co-ordinating Panel provide oversight and delivery of the Kimberley Regional Ear Health Strategic Plan (the 'Plan'). The Panel will review and support operational progress in the key components of the Plan, solving problems and designing systems to support services.

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Strategies	Key Priority	Stage of the life-course approach	Sub-committee collaboration	Timeframe	Progress report
Conduct Planning Day to develop Kimberley Ear Health Coordinating Panel Action Plan	1-6	All		March 2023	Completed
Review and update Kimberley Ear Health Strategic plan and KPIs to align with state and national ear health strategies	1,3,6	All	Maternal, Child and Family Health, KAHPF Data and Evidence Sub-Committee	June 2023	<p>Actions completed: Review completed and discussed at KEHCP Planning day; KEHCP members agreed the 7 key priorities identified in WA Child Ear Health Strategy align with the Kimberley strategies if extended beyond children;</p> <p>Actions required: Currently drafting updated Kimberley Ear Health Strategic plan for KAHPF endorsement</p> <p>Update KPIs once updated Kimberley Strategic Plan endorsed</p> <p>Collaborate with KAHPF Data and Evidence Sub-Committee to develop simple, easily collected KPIs (use WA Child Ear Health Strategy KPIs, nKPIs as starting point)</p>
Ensure Kimberley Ear and Hearing Health Services align	1-6	All	Maternal, Child and Family Health; Environmental	Ongoing	Actions required: All Kimberley ear and hearing health providers review services

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with Kimberley Ear Health Strategic plan			Health; Chronic Disease; Health Promotion		to ensure alignment with updated Kimberley Strategic Plan
Update KEHCP TOR to align with Kimberley Ear Health Strategic plan	1,3,6	All	Maternal, Child and Family Health	1 month after Strategic Plan approved	Actions required: KEHCP to update TOR once updated Kimberley Strategic Plan approved
Identify and develop data sharing solution for Kimberley Ear Health data as an interim solution whilst the Kimberley Health Evidence Data Platform (KHEDP) is under development (likely be available in 2025).	1-6	All	Maternal, Child and Family Health, KAHPF Data and Evidence		In the absence of a shared data storage platform, KEHCP needs to provide a recommendation to the KAHPF as to who (KAMS or WACHS) should store ear health data and how this will be achieved.
Advocate for and establish Clinical ENT Coordinator in the Kimberley	2,3,4,6	All	Maternal, Child and Family Health; Environmental Health; Chronic Disease; Health Promotion	December 2023	<p>Actions required:</p> <p>Define the different levels of coordination – primary health care, clinical care</p> <p>Develop brief/business case and submit to KAHPF to advocate for 1-2 FTE to coordinate clinical care of ENT patients</p> <p>Positions need to sit across WACHS and KAMS/AMSs so they have access to data and systems required for coordination</p>

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Increase ear and hearing health promotion activities including increasing collaboration with relevant KAHPF subcommittees	1,2,6	All	Maternal, Child and Family Health; Environmental Health; Chronic Disease; Health Promotion	December 2023	<p>Actions required:</p> <p>Health promotion needs assessment. Development (if required) and promotion of Kimberley appropriate prevention resources and programs</p> <p>Three action areas identified for 2023 are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue increasing ear health awareness through World Hearing Day and other regulated community events 2. Develop education materials to support correct use of Tissue spears 3. Increase awareness and use of HAT and Plums resources to promote and identify early detection of hearing loss (0-5 age group)
Develop and advocate for clear referral pathways, and implement processes for	2,3,4	All	Maternal, Child and Family Health; Chronic Disease	June 2024	<p>Actions required:</p> <p>Track and monitor referrals sent to Central Referral System to</p>

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tracking and monitoring referrals					ensure no patients fall through gaps – 3 key sites will be identified and monitored
Increase opportunities for upskilling and support in ear/hearing health prevention, early detection and treatment	2, 3, 4	All, with a specific focus on 0-5 year olds'	Maternal, Child and Family Health; Chronic Disease Subcommittee	June 2023	Action required: Develop and deliver annual calendar of training and support for primary health. Focus areas include tympanometry, telehealth, enhanced prevention, and upskilling and support for AHWs
Review and promote the Kimberley Ear and Hearing Health Protocols	2	Supporting a strong start to life Growing up resilient, healthy children	Environmental Health Maternal, Child and Family Health	Annual review, quarterly promotion	Following protocols currently under review: Ear Problems in Children (last reviewed 22/10/2020; Hearing Health (last reviewed 11/10/2020)

Date: 27 March 2023; updated 5 May 2023