

## **Nursing students yarning with Aboriginal people to understand patient experiences**

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Understanding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's previous experiences of care can assist nurses and other health professionals to respond better to their needs. Clinical yarning has shown to improve communication in Aboriginal health care, a critical part of culturally capable care. Students enrolled in a graduate entry nursing degree participated in a learning activity at a local Aboriginal Health Service Heart Health group. Through social and clinical yarning students explored individual experiences of health care. The learning activity allowed students to link theory-based learning to the practical experience of culturally capable care through communication and relationship building skills. The learning activity was based on the Managing Two Worlds Together research from the Lowitja Institute and supported by the health service. The development of the individual narrative and visual picture of the experiences and through reflection on future practice supported learning.

The interaction with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people sharing their stories provided a powerful learning experience that allowed students to learn in a new way and they will take the experience with them in their nursing career. Learning activities acknowledging patient experiences of care is an important part of improving healthcare for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and providing culturally safe health services.