

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee



Reporting directly to the Board of Practice and Partnerships, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee is an active working arm of the Board.

The Committee's overarching functions are to:

- Assist with the development of policy and provide advice in the area of the College relationship with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community groups.
- Determine the principles and priorities in promoting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health within College activities including training, research and professional development, including development of cultural competencies.
- Promote the views and aspirations of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples and assist the College in advocating with and on behalf of these groups to promote mental health to the community and to reduce the impact of mental illness
- Support Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander psychiatric trainees as well as non Indigenous psychiatry trainees who have an interest in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health.
- Provide leadership, support, direction and advice to other college committees that support and strengthen Indigenous developments

Membership

Dr Lawrence Dadd Chair

Lawrence is Consultant Psychiatrist with the Mental Health and Substance Use Service at the Mater Mental Health Unit in Newcastle.

Lawrence has a significant interest in psychiatric mental health care of Indigenous Australians and has a great deal of experience in this area, having worked for the last five years in the Northern Territory looking after primarily Australian Aboriginal patients. He has worked with an inpatient unit, and in remote communities and consulting with families, community members and local health services.

Currently residing in Newcastle, Lawrence continues to consult in remote NT communities on a regular basis. He is a member of a "Building Networks with Aboriginal Communities" group in the Hunter Area and is involved in the local education program for registrars teaching on mental health assessments of Indigenous Australians.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee

Member	Position
Dr Lawrence Dadd	Chair
Dr Emma Adams	Fellow member
Ms Joan Djamalaka Dhamarrandji	Community member
Ms Ivy Trevallion	Community member
Ms Kath Ryan	Community member
Dr Marshall Watson	Trainee Representative
A/Prof Geoff Smith	Chair, Board of Practice and Partnerships
Dr Margaret Aimer	Deputy Chair, Partnerships and External Relations Portfolio
Professor Ernest Hunter	Co-opted member
Dr David Hartman	Co-opted member
Dr Susan Weigall	Co-opted member
Mr Charlie Yebarrarr Dhamarrandji	Observer
Dr David Cutts	Observer
Dr Sally Lambert	Observer
Ms Dorothy Devlin	Community member
Dr Jason Lee	Independent Fellow member
Dr Brendan O'Sullivan	Observer

