

Cracks in the Ice Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Online Toolkit Development and Beta-testing: Summary of Results

Developing the Cracks in the Ice Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Online Toolkit

The aim of the Cracks in the Ice Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples toolkit is to provide culturally appropriate, and community led resources about crystal methamphetamine ('ice') to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia.



The Cracks in the Ice team first conducted 15 focus groups with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples around Australia between **2016** and **2018**, to identify questions Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people had about crystal methamphetamine. Feedback from the focus groups showed that participants were concerned about the supply and harms of crystal methamphetamine, impact on families and access to support services. For more information, see the Phase 1 Summary Report [here](#).

The final phase was developing a **beta version** of the online toolkit (website).

Feedback from the community on the website

The process of beta-testing in website development is essential to determine the applicability, functionality, usability, and compatibility of an online resource. By beta-testing the toolkit, the Cracks in the Ice team could ensure that the website was best aligned with the needs of the community.

Unfortunately, due to time constraints, beta-testing the resources in every state and territory was not possible. Three states were selected with advice from the Expert Advisory Group to include feedback across metropolitan, regional, and remote areas. Ethics approval was obtained from South Australia, Western Australia and New South Wales state-based Aboriginal Health Research Ethics Committees.

Feedback was provided through an online survey and telephone interviews. The online survey was open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples residing in South Australia, Western Australia, and New South Wales, aged 18 years or over, and took between 15-25 minutes to complete.



The beta testing survey sought feedback on the toolkit's:

- Design and cultural artwork
- Accessibility and usefulness of content
- Ease of understanding content



The website resources shown to the beta-testing survey participants were targeted to community members, families and friends, health workers and people who use crystal methamphetamine. People who identified themselves as being part of these groups were asked to give feedback on these specific resources.

The telephone interviews were optional and provided participants the opportunity to share their personal stories of how they or their loved ones had been impacted by crystal methamphetamine.



Who participated in the survey?

In total, 116 participants completed the online survey, with 73 participants identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. This report presents the data of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander participants only.



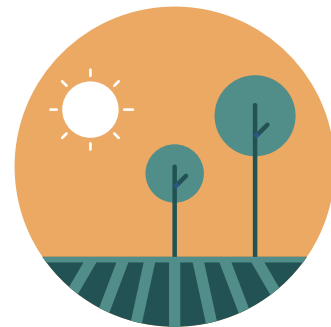
The mean age of participants was
47 years



68%
identified as female



23%
from metropolitan areas



29% from regional areas
21% from rural/remote areas



What did the beta testing survey find?

Feedback on the toolkit was overall positive.

92%

of participants indicated that it was clear what information was available from the website

74%

of participants indicated they would be 'very likely' to recommend the website to someone.

58%

of participants selected they were more likely to use this website because of the cultural artwork

When searching for information about crystal methamphetamine, participants rated the following as most important:

- The information is evidence-based
- The information is up to date.
- The information comes from an organisation you trust.

On the homepage...

- Participants were given the opportunity to choose their preferred homepage from three options. The current homepage design of the website was the most preferred option, with just under half of participants selecting this.

On the artwork...

- Participants were able to give feedback on artwork developed by Jenna Lee - a Larrakia, Wardaman and Karajarri designer from creative agency Galimbaa. Participants gave feedback on the main design elements, shown on the right:
- 66% of participants voted "a little bit" or "very much so" when asked if the artwork proposed was culturally appropriate.





Feedback from *health workers*

57%

of health workers said that the information on the health workers page was relevant to their day-to-day work

Feedback from *family and friends*

52%

of participants thought that the page would be “very” helpful for someone who is looking for information to help a family member or friend who uses crystal methamphetamine

Feedback from *people who use ice*

93%

of people said they would share the brochure “information for staying safe” with others, saying it was “easy to understand”

Areas for improvement suggested by participants included:

- Reducing the length of fact pages for health workers
- Including page summaries for major fact pages, for example **“Stages of Change”**
- Including stories from people with lived experience
- Including a story behind the artwork, available as a video on the **home page**.

Future directions:

- Additional resources will be developed in the next six to 12 months to respond to feedback from this beta-testing and the community.
- A focus on connecting the resources with Aboriginal Community Controlled Health and AOD services. If you would like to connect with us, get in touch **here**
- An in-depth evaluation of the toolkit is also planned 12 months following its public release.



We would like to thank the many community members from around the country who provided their input and feedback during the evaluation of this resource, and who so generously shared their experiences and stories.



Crystal Methamphetamine
*Trusted, evidence-based
information for the community*

To subscribe for more information and access evidence-based resources, please visit us at:

www.cracksintheice.org.au

or connect with us on



cracksintheice/



@cracksintheice

Cracks in the Ice is supported by funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and was developed by the Matilda Centre for Research in Mental Health and Substance Use at the University of Sydney.



Australian Government
Department of Health



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY
—
Matilda Centre