Australia’s First Nation Children’s need for Culturally Appropriate Burn After Care

Julieann Coombes, PhD Candidate
Dr Kate Hunter
Professor Elizabeth Sullivan
Dr Tamara Mackean
Professor Rebecca Ivers
Background

There is very limited published research on burns in Australia’s First Nation children.

Participants

Eighteen First Nation parents:

- South Australia (n=3)
- Northern Territory (n=1)
- Queensland (n=8) Includes Townsville and Torres Strait Island
- New South Wales (n=6)
Methods

Family

Connections
Knowing, Being and Doing
Yarning
“Across Australia, Aboriginal people constantly refer to and use yarning in the telling and sharing of stories and information” 3. Bessarab D, 4 Walker

Dadirri
“To know me is to breathe with me, to breathe with me is to listen deeply, to listen deeply is to connect. It is a sound, the sound of deep calling to deep, down the deep inner springs inside us, we call on it and it calls on us”

5. A reflection by Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr Baumann.” (Ungunmerr-Baumann, 2002)
We found that the journey to recovery is unique to each child depending on distance to health services, family dynamics and the experiences received from health care providers.
Walking together
Interconnectedness

Phone call or visit to families to yarn about what themes were most important to their family

Introduction by First Nation researchers to family

Phone call to families to make a time to visit

Meeting up with family and community

Yarning and consent and sharing of food and connecting

Dadirri, deeply listening while recorder was on in the background

More yarning, looking at photos and art work before leaving the family and their community

Transcripts re-read by JC and emerging themes highlighted

Transcripts and an informal letter send to families before calling back
Preliminary findings

➢ Communication
Preliminary findings

➢ Communication
➢ Child support
➢ Communication
➢ Child support
➢ First Nation Workers
➢ Communication
➢ Child support
➢ First nation Workers
➢ Parking Fees
➢ Communication
➢ Child support
➢ First nation Workers
➢ Parking Fees
➢ Dislocation
➢ Communication
➢ Child support
➢ First nation Workers
➢ Parking Fees
➢ Dislocation
➢ Family Support
➢ Communication
➢ Child support
➢ First nation Workers
➢ Parking Fees
➢ Dislocation
➢ Family Support
➢ Transport
➢ Communication
➢ Child support
➢ First nation Workers
➢ Parking Fees
➢ Dislocation
➢ Family Support
➢ Transport
➢ Racism
The possibility of change
Acknowledgements

All First Nation families involved in the study
References


