



National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC)

“The leading voice in Indigenous drug and alcohol policy”

**Community Consultation Forum
Tamworth 2008**

Background

1998 - the Prime Minister established the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD). ANCD provides independent advice to the Australian Government on alcohol and drug policy and issues.

2004 - ANCD established the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC) to support the ANCD in providing advice on addressing Indigenous drug and alcohol issues in Australia.

Vision

To reduce alcohol and drug problems and associated harms in Indigenous communities

Role

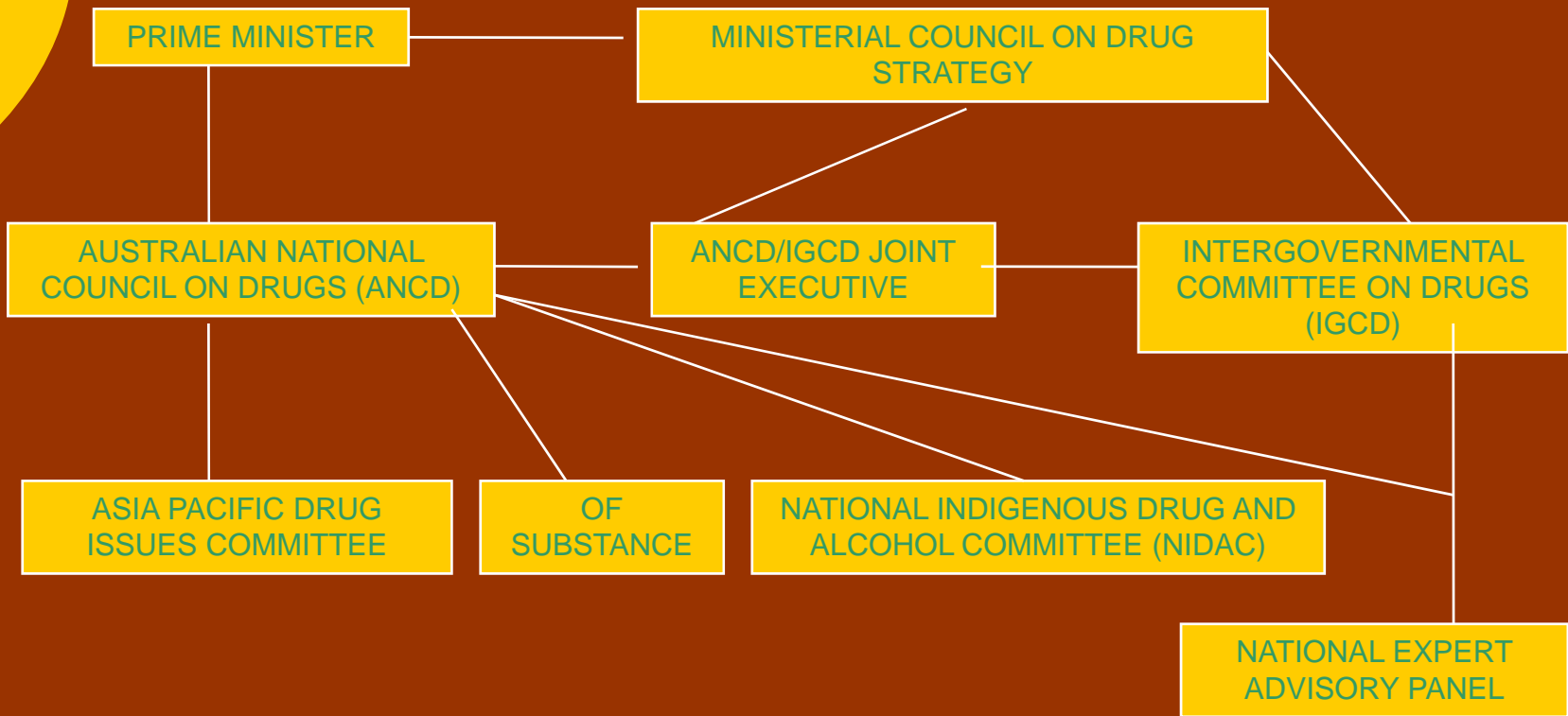
A voice for non-government and community sectors in the development of relevant policies and programs

Provide expert policy and program advice to governments on Indigenous alcohol and other drug use and related harms.

Monitor the implementation of the National Drug Strategy Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Complementary Action Plan 2003-2009.

Ensure policies, strategies and directions in the drug and alcohol field are consistent with the National Drug Strategy

Advisory Structures for the Australian Government National Drug Strategy



NIDAC Membership

Associate Professor Ted Wilkes (Chair)

Curtin University

Ms Coralie Ober (Co-Deputy Chair)

Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP); University of Queensland

Mr Scott Wilson (Co-Deputy Chair)

Aboriginal Drug & Alcohol Council (SA)

Dr Noel Hayman (Executive Member) - University of Queensland

**Ms Dea Delaney Thiele (Executive Member) - National Aboriginal
Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO)**

Ms Wendy Casey - WA Drug and Alcohol Office

Mr Colin Dillon – Qld University of Technology

Supt Frank Hansen – IGCD Chair, NSW Police

Mr Bradley Freeburn – Aboriginal Medical Service Redfern

Professor Dennis Gray - National Drug Research Institute WA

NIDAC Membership

Ms Marion Green – *Ngwala Willumbong Co-operative Ltd*

Dr John Herron – *Australian National Council on Drugs Chairman*

Mr Romlie Mokak – *Australian Indigenous Doctors Association*

Advisors

Mr Gino Vumbaca - *Australian National Council on Drugs*

Mr John Walker- *Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health*

Ms Kerry Howard- *Department of Health & Ageing*

Mr Barry Johnson – *Department of Families , Community Services and Indigenous Affairs*

Mr Daryl Smeaton – *Australian Education and Research Foundation*

Secretariat

Ms Sue Morley - *Australian National Council on Drugs*

NIDAC PRIORITIES 2007- 2010

Addressing Alcohol, Tobacco, Illicit and Licit drug use

Partnership Approach with Police / Law Enforcement

Workforce Development

Consistent quality data on Indigenous alcohol and other drug use

Key outcomes 2007 - 2008

Expert advice to government included :

- The NT emergency response intervention, improvements in child care sexual health checks
- Need for increased Indigenous community consultation, AOD workforce development
- NT Govt review on the use of Kava in the NT
- The expansion of OPAL unleaded fuel
- Reinstatement of an Indigenous community patrol (Broome)
- Expanding the AOD measures for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey 2008

Key activities 2008 - 2009

Includes high level advice into:

- The NT emergency response intervention review
- COAG Working Group on Indigenous Reform subgroup – protective security, alcohol & substance abuse
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People's Complementary Action Plan 2003-2009 evaluation
- Various Australian government , State / Territory policies and frameworks
- Various AOD specific forums eg Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, Comorbidity, prisoner health, tobacco
- Improving the AOD measures for the national collection of data on Indigenous alcohol and other drug use.

Community Consultation

Common themes across Australia

Need for after care services and support

Importance of family when treating alcohol and drug use

Increasing the Indigenous workforce

Need for quality Indigenous specific alcohol, drug and tobacco research and data

Knowledge transfer of latest practices, resources, funding

Accessible tobacco therapies

Hep C awareness

Need local community based and developed solutions

Prison alcohol and drug issues

Community Consultation

Information from consultations go to:

**Relevant Health, Justice, Indigenous Affairs
Ministers in State / Territory and Australian
Governments**

Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD)

Inter-governmental Department on Drugs (IGCD)

COAG Working Group on Indigenous Reform

Published online www.ancd.org.au/nidac

For input and information

- NIDAC community consultation
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Conference for 2009
- National online website survey for community feedback on Indigenous AOD issues
- NIDAC weekly news
- Of Substance Magazine ofsubstance.org.au
- New website under construction
www.nidac.org.au

DRUG USE 2004

**Summary of drug use in last 12 months
by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
and other Australians aged 12 years and over.**

Substance	ATSI	Other Australians
Alcohol	71%	82%
Tobacco/cigarettes	35%	20%
Marijuana/cannabis	19%	11%
Any illicit drug	24%	15%

Alcohol

- Over 60% of Indigenous people drink at either short or long term harmful levels compared to 30% for other Australians
- 21% of Indigenous people abstain from alcohol compared to 16% of other Australians.
- 46% of treatment episodes for Indigenous people involve alcohol compared to 37% of other Australians

Tobacco

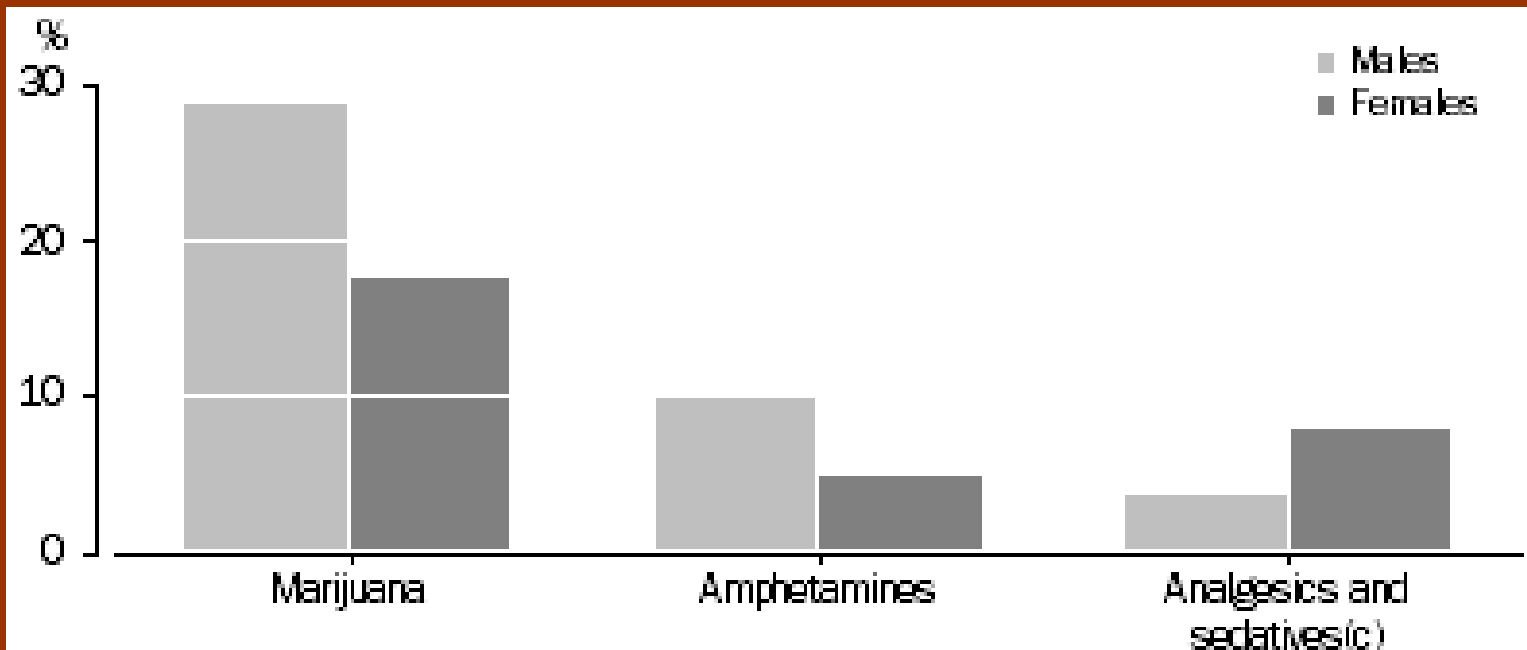
% Daily smokers aged 18 years and over

Indigenous persons (SA)	Indigenous persons (Australia)	Other Australians
53	50	21

Tobacco use amongst Indigenous people is double that of other Australians

Sources: National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey 2004-05
National Health Survey 2004-05

Main Illicit Substances 2004 - 2005



(a) Used in the 12 months prior to the survey. People may have reported more than one substance.

(b) People who accepted the substance use form.

(c) Used for non-medical purposes.

(a) Indigenous persons aged 18yrs and over in non-remote areas (b)

Source: National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey 2004-05

ADAC Report, 2003

In a study of 307 Indigenous persons who inject drugs from metropolitan Adelaide

- 82% had injected heroin
- 70% had injected speed
- Around 64% had shared needles
- Around 14% had shared in previous 2–3 months

BLOOD BORNE VIRUSES and INJECTING DRUG USE

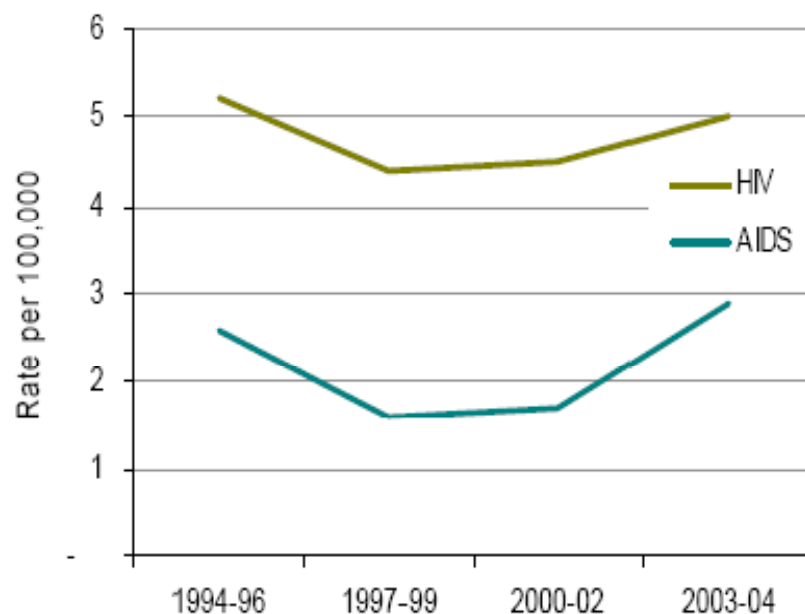
Hepatitis C is increasing amongst Indigenous Australians

Injecting drug use is also increasing

From 1998 to 2002 injecting drug use accounted for 20% of all new HIV notifications among Indigenous Australians.

Source: NDRI, NCHECR & MACASHH

Indigenous HIV and AIDS rates



Source: AIHW analysis of National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

Indigenous Offenders


Rate of imprisonment was approx 13 times more per 100,000 than non-Indigenous people.

Indigenous prisoners make up approx 22% of Australia's prison population.

Indigenous male offenders were more likely to report:

- Had used alcohol prior to committing an offence
- Recent and intravenous use of amphetamines in urban locations
- Higher rates of dependency on alcohol and cannabis

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework 2006 Report



NIDAC is interested in feedback on what are the drug and alcohol issues and good practices for Indigenous communities in NSW?

Contact us

NIDAC Secretariat

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suem@ancd.org.au

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