

ABIOS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program Research and Development

The Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service (ABIOS) leads and participates in research that is relevant to people with acquired brain injury, their families and communities.

ABIOS has partnered with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities since 2006 to look at the best community rehabilitation model for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples with brain injury.

A Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) model for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities has been developed out of this work and has subsequently been endorsed by key stakeholders in Indigenous health and disability agencies.

The aims of this CBR approach are to:

- work at the community level
- learn from local people
- foster community awareness and activity
- achieve community change.

CBR also aims to:

- increase capacity of communities to support community members with acquired brain injury and their families
- increase access to medical, rehabilitation and disability support services, and
- increase ABI preventative strategies

One of the major findings of ABIOS research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities has been the need for culturally appropriate and relevant resources. As part of this research, ABIOS worked with communities to develop relevant resources, e.g. posters and DVDs.

One of the DVDs includes stories of and by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with brain injury and their families.



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