



MIGRANT & REFUGEE WOMEN'S HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

Communiqué

Sixth Meeting, Working Group, Migrant and Refugee Women's Health Partnership

23 February 2018

The Working Group, Migrant and Refugee Women's Health Partnership, held its sixth meeting in Melbourne on 23 February 2018.

The group discussed progress in pursuing specific projects under the Partnership's workplan, including:

- The development of the draft competency standards framework for clinicians—*Culturally responsive clinical practice: Working with people from migrant and refugee backgrounds* (the meeting provided an opportunity to consider and finalise the public consultation draft of the framework);
- The collaboration with the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care to use the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards (2nd ed.) to improve the health care provided to migrants and refugees through the development of a user guide for health service organisations; and
- A series of consultations, in partnership with Access Community Services, with migrant and refugee women to inform the Partnership's work to inform enhanced health literacy and health system literacy strategies in the settlement of migrant and refugee women.

Members discussed strategies for effective outreach to relevant stakeholders and recognised the importance of developing simple and effective products related to the issues promoted by the Partnership, which can be easily distributed to relevant target audiences.

The Working Group met with Professor Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Professor of Intercultural Psychiatry, Head of Research Group on Migration and Mental Health Care, Social Psychiatry at the Charité-Universitätsmedizin Berlin, and Chair of Transcultural Section at the World Psychiatric Association. Professor Schouler-Ocak presented on the findings of a multi-region cross-sectional gender-sensitive study of female refugees and asylum seekers undertaken in Germany in 2016.

The group also received a briefing from the Partnership's Secretariat on the issue of housing and homelessness as a social determinant of health and discussed the opportunities provide a focus on this issue as part of the Partnership's work, including engagement with relevant decision-makers.

The Working Group will hold its next meeting in May 2018.

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