



Northern Queensland Primary Health Network

Activity Work Plan

Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services

2022/23–2026/27



NQPHN acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia's First Nation Peoples and the Traditional Custodians of this land. We respect their continued connection to land and sea, country, kin, and community. We also pay our respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging as the custodians of knowledge and lore.



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Disclaimer





All activities captured in this Activity Work Plan are identified in the Health Needs Assessment conducted by Northern Queensland Primary Health Network and have been approved by the Department of Health and Aged Care.





AOD – 1 – NIAS Operational and Mainstream funding

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD).

Aim of activity

The purpose of this activity is to improve access to community-based alcohol and other drug treatment interventions by commissioning a range of treatment services aligned with the National Ice Action Strategy (NIAS).

Description of activity

Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN) commissions a number of service providers to deliver AOD treatment services across the NQPHN region. These services align with the final report of the National Ice Taskforce and its recommended actions.

NQPHN will continue its involvement with key stakeholder groups to maintain awareness of sector gaps and support integration of the AOD service system. These include but are not limited to:

- Queensland Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (QNADA) regional network meetings
- local AOD provider networks
- Joint Regional Wellbeing Plan for Northern Queensland Steering Committee.

Key activities in 2022-24

- Undertake a review of current AOD service delivery across the NQPHN region, to better understand all AOD investments including state investment, and consider the existing gaps and needs to inform ongoing investment and codesign opportunities.
- Develop an approach to implementing recommendations from the review, including an approach to codesign and recommissioning.



AOD – 2 – NIAS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD).

Aim of activity

The purpose of this activity is to improve access in community-based alcohol and other drug treatment interventions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders by commissioning a range of treatment services aligned with the National Ice Action Strategy (NIAS).

Description of activity

Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN) commissions a number of service providers to deliver culturally appropriate AOD treatment services across the NQPHN region. These services align with the final report of the National Ice Taskforce and its recommended actions.

NQPHN also commissions place-based AOD services to address the needs of remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders communities in the Cape and Torres Strait Islands to build the local capacity of these communities.

NQPHN will continue to be involved in key stakeholder groups to maintain awareness of sector gaps and to support integration of the AOD service system. These include but are not limited to:

- Queensland Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (QNADA) regional network meetings
- local AOD provider networks
- Joint Regional Wellbeing Plan for Northern Queensland Steering Committee.

Key activities in 2024

- Undertake a review of current AOD service delivery across the NQPHN region and consider the existing gaps and needs to inform ongoing investment and codesign opportunities.
- Develop an approach to implementing recommendations from the review, including an approach to codesign and recommissioning.

AOD – 3 – Core AOD and Operational

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD).

Aim of activity

The purpose of this activity is to address identified service gaps and challenges in accessing community-based alcohol and other drug treatment interventions by commissioning a range of treatment services across the NQPHN region.

Description of activity

Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN) commissions a number of service providers to deliver AOD treatment services across the NQPHN region with a focus on improving access to services across the community for vulnerable populations and those living in regional, rural, and remote areas.

NQPHN's focus areas include:

- ongoing stakeholder engagement to increase access and reduce stigma related impacts on access
- integration of referral pathways and programs
- improving AOD service delivery capacity within primary health care services
- education to enhance capacity within primary health care
- delivery of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander treatment services, often through Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs), to ensure culturally appropriate AOD services
- increasing service access for young people—participation and implementation of the Joint Regional Wellbeing Plan for Northern Queensland as it articulates AOD as a key priority
- working with Queensland Health's Mental Health and AOD branch to trial use of the QDAPSM across Hospital and Health Services (HHSs) and primary health services to inform the review of northern Queensland AOD service delivery funding to and future commissioning.

NQPHN will ensure activity objectives are met by engaging with providers on a minimum quarterly basis to monitor service deliverables, outcomes, and compliance. These meetings will provide an opportunity to:

- obtain updates
- understand service uptake, access issues, and opportunities for further service improvement.

Additionally, NQPHN will continue to be involved in key stakeholder groups to maintain awareness of sector gaps and to support integration of the AOD service system. These include but are not limited to:

- Queensland Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (QNADA) regional network meetings, where relevant



- local AOD provider networks, where these are active
- Joint Regional Wellbeing Plan for Northern Queensland Steering Committee.





AOD – 4 – Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service Maintenance

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD).

Aim of activity

This activity provides eligible commissioned services with supplementary payments to replace SACS payments as a transition phase.

Description of activity

NQPHN commission services to deliver AOD services who require Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service Maintenance (DATSM) supplementary payments following the cessation of SACs.

NQPHN has worked with service providers to prepare for the cessation of these payments and incorporation of costs into contract budgets.

