TB control in the PNG-Australia cross-border region: What’s needed and why

Wednesday 23 May 2 - 4pm, followed by refreshments

Acton Theatre, Level 1, JG Crawford Building 132, Lennox Crossing, ANU

Australia and Papua New Guinea’s relationship is unique: sharing a common border and a history. Recently, the two countries have also come to share a concern for the rising prevalence and potential for transmission of tuberculosis (TB), including a multi-drug-resistant strain in the Torres Strait cross-border region. Both the Australian and PNG governments want to ensure the availability of health services that provide appropriate care for sufferers of TB without exacerbating the emergence of drug resistance. How to best achieve this aim is not always clear and has been controversial. An initial step is to understand where and why individuals look for health care, and what services result in the best outcomes. The key stakeholders in ensuring this is integrated into policy are those directly involved in the uptake and delivery of TB services.

This public forum will bring together the views of community members, clinicians and policy makers directly impacted by this issue, along with researchers working to develop effective strategies for control of TB in the region.

Panel Members include:
> Dr Kamalini Lokuge, Medical Epidemiologist, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, ANU
> Professor Tom Kompas, Professor of Economics and Director, Crawford School of Public Policy, ANU
> Dr Paul Aia, Director National TB Program, National Department of Health, PNG
> Cr Kebei Salee Koeget, Local-level Government Ward Member for Sigabaduru, PNG
> Dr Tom Konstantinos, Director, Queensland Tuberculosis Control Centre
> Mr Benedict David, Principal Health Specialist, AusAID
> A representative of Saibai Island Council - TBC

The forum is hosted by the Development Policy Centre at the Crawford School of Public Policy and the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health (NCEPH), ANU, and is supported by the Australian National Institute of Public Policy and the HC Coombs Policy Forum with funding from the Australian Government under the ‘Enhancing Public Policy Initiative.

Presented by

National Centre for Epidemiology, Population and Health

Development Policy Centre

Crawford School of Public Policy

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Registration essential

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