



# TSANZ

The Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand

## ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER, AND MĀORI HEALTH STATEMENT – February 2026

The Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ) acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia, and the Māori peoples of Aotearoa New Zealand (hereafter respectfully referred to, collectively, as Indigenous Peoples) as the traditional custodians and First Peoples of the land on which TSANZ works and operates.

TSANZ acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia. We recognise their unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters, and seas, and honour their connection to Country. We pay our respects to Ancestors and Elders, past and present. TSANZ is dedicated to supporting the broad intent and key strategies outlined in the Uluru Statement from the Heart for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

TSANZ acknowledges and respects iwi and hapū as the tangata whenua of Aotearoa. We are committed to upholding the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi (the Treaty of Waitangi). TSANZ strives to actively foster effective relationships with Māori people, support Māori members, and improve the health of Māori patients and their whānau, as outlined by the New Zealand Ministry of Health and *Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Act 2022*.

TSANZ recognises that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the Māori peoples experience greater health inequities than non-Indigenous people. TSANZ shares a vision to improve access to, and outcomes of, transplantation for all peoples, but especially those disadvantaged by colonisation and Western systems. This statement affirms the commitment of the TSANZ to improve health outcomes for Indigenous Peoples and outlines strategies to achieve this.

TSANZ acknowledges the trauma and inequities faced by Indigenous Peoples, leading to disproportionate health burdens and outcomes. We recognise their diverse and deeply felt lived experiences, often spanning generations. TSANZ is committed to patient-centred transplant care, promoting culturally safe, recognising that actions taken now can impact future generations.

TSANZ supports Indigenous Peoples' leadership, empowerment, self-determination, and equity. Through advocacy, education, research, and with respect for and in partnership with Indigenous Peoples and communities TSANZ aims to address health inequities and create a more equitable, respectful, and empowering experience for Indigenous Peoples in pre- and post-transplant care.

TSANZ supports and endorses the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) strategies (through their Indigenous Statements) to develop and implement initiatives that improve health outcomes for Indigenous Peoples. These include a commitment to:

- Address Indigenous health equity differences
- Grow the Indigenous physician workforce



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- Educate the broader physician workforce to improve Indigenous health
- Foster a culturally safe and competent College
- Meet new regulatory standards and requirements of the AMC and MCNZ

The TSANZ has identified the following priorities to guide our work in improving all organ transplant related health outcomes for Indigenous Peoples.

## Education

1. Increase provision of culturally safe transplant services through education and support.
2. Advocate for an increased number of Indigenous transplant healthcare providers.
3. Mentor and support current and future Indigenous leaders of the profession.
4. Partner with Indigenous Peoples to collate and make accessible educational resources to inform communities about organ donation and transplantation.

## Research

1. Promote partnerships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers and organisations.
2. Develop research collaborations with Indigenous research methodologies.
3. Actively support and promote research into the causes of, and solutions to, inequities in the access to and the outcomes of transplantation care in Indigenous Peoples and promulgate the findings of such research.

## Advocacy

1. Support the work of healthcare advocacy groups addressing disparity and aiming to improve transplant outcomes for Indigenous People.
2. Prominently acknowledge Indigenous peoples on the TSANZ website, and in documentation and communications relating to Indigenous peoples.
3. Ensure Indigenous perspective is considered in the development of all TSANZ policies, documents and committee work.
4. Collaborate with and advocate on behalf of other organisations on issues relating to Indigenous health care.
5. Actively identify barriers to equitable access to care and to equitable health outcomes and advocate for improvement within the design and delivery of pre- and post-transplant care services and/or wider policy settings that are expected to address these barriers.