

Cultural Safety Evidence Review: Search Strategy

This document outlines the search strategy that will be enacted to identify documentation for inclusion in the Cultural Safety Evidence Review.

As a starting point, the project team will adopt Eckermann and colleagues (1994) definition of cultural safety as:

An environment which is safe for people: where there is no assault, challenge or denial of their identity, of who they are and what they need. It is about shared respect, shared meaning, shared knowledge and experience, of learning together with dignity, and truly listening (Eckermann et al, quoted in Williams 1999).

This definition is commonly accepted (including being cited in DCJ RFT) and provides clear boundaries for guidance for how organisations can provide safe services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients. Further, and for the purposes of this project, cultural safety will be viewed as a basic right (Williams, 1999); a strategy for equitable service access (Sherwood & Mohamed, 2020); and an outcome of critical, reflective education (Ramsden, 2002).

This definition of cultural safety will be critically examined during the analysis stage of the Evidence Review.

Evidence for Inclusion

The evidence included in the review will derive from the following four distinct categories:

1. Frameworks: Cultural safety and wellbeing frameworks;
2. Programs, practices, or activities: Social service and/or health programs, practices or activities developed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to promote culturally safe environments. This category of documentation may include program specification documents, evaluation reports or commentary/descriptions of programs;
3. Guides and tip sheets: Practice guides, tip sheets and related materials developed to provide guidance on how human service organisations can create a culturally safe environment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients; and
4. Peer and non-peer reviewed literature: Academic literature examining issues associated with cultural safety and wellbeing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Two Phase Search Strategy:

Phase 1: Online database searches for evidence

Evidence for inclusion in the review will first be sought via searching multiple online databases. The key words/phrases for the search are specified in Table 2.1 below.

Table Error! No text of specified style in document..1: Literature review search terms

Search term 1	Search term 2: related terms	Search term 3: service context	Search term 4: document types
Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander	Cultural safety	Child protection	Framework
Indigenous	Cultural competence	Early intervention (in relation to CP)	Practice / practice guide / tip sheet / activity/activities
First Nations	Cultural responsiveness	Family and community services	Program
	Cultural capability		Program/service specification/description
	Cultural wellbeing		Program evaluation

The search terms will be used in multiple variations with combinations of 2, 3 and 4 key terms (e.g. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander + Cultural Safety; and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander + Cultural Safety + Child Protection + Framework. The identified key words will be used to search the following specialist libraries and information sites:

- The University of Sydney’s National Centre for Cultural Competence; and
- Australian Institute of Family Studies’ CFCA Information Exchange.

In addition, the following social sciences databases with a focus on Australian content will be searched:

- INFORMIT Abstract and Indexing Collections
- INFORMIT Full Text Collections

Finally, we will also search

- Google and Google Scholar

The inclusion and exclusion criteria for all categories of evidence are:

- Documents produced between 2000 and 2021¹.
- Documents in English language only.
- Documents relate specifically to the cultural safety and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia.

¹ Dates specified within RfX DCJ.21.10

- Documents used and produced for a variety of purposes such as peer review journal articles; published frameworks; reports; program specifications; ebooks; and practice guides. Newspaper articles will be excluded.

The Cultural Safety and Wellbeing Frameworks included in the review will have been developed for use in health and human service contexts within Australia only. This criteria has been established because cultural safety is a concept that originated in relation to healthcare services (nursing in New Zealand); and this project seeks to identify principles and activities that ensure the cultural safety of Aboriginal families, children, young people and communities within the context of child protection and early intervention service delivery. Child protection and early intervention in child protection will be prioritised as the service context of the TEI program, however, as the researchers have yet to identify a cultural safety framework developed specifically for application in this context, we will broaden the framework searching to include health and human services. Finally, frameworks developed for use in education service contexts (e.g. cultural learning and training) will be excluded. Frameworks developed to define and promote inclusion and cultural wellbeing within culturally and linguistically diverse populations will also be excluded.

Phase 2: Information gathering from services and organisations

Phase 2 will involve team members making direct contact with representatives from Aboriginal service organisations and peak bodies to source framework documents, programs and/or practices that focus on establishing a culturally safe environment that are not publicly available.

Team members will make direct contact with representatives of Aboriginal service provider organisations and peak bodies (method to be confirmed, likely to be via email and follow up phone calls). These contacts will focus solely on identifying any programs, practices or activities that are successful in promoting cultural safety and wellbeing, but may not be accessible via online databases.

Any documentation sourced in this manner – and not available via public databases – will only be included in the Evidence Review when it is clear that the primary data was collected in an ethical manner whereby Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients were informed of possible future uses of data for research purposes.

Search Results

Results from the search strategy will be listed and described in the DCJ analysis template. Documents will be saved by name rather than author as a strategy to ensure that duplicates are quickly identified and excluded from the analysis

References

Ramsden, I.M. (2002). Cultural safety and nursing education in Aotearoa and Te Waipounamu. PhD Thesis, Victoria University of Wellington.

Sherwood, J. and Mohamed, J. (2020). Racism a social determinant of Indigenous health: Yarning about cultural safety and cultural competence strategies to improve Indigenous

health. In Cultural competence and the higher education sector. (pp. 159-174).
https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007%2F978-981-15-5362-2_9.pdf

Williams, R. (1999). Cultural safety – what does it mean for our work practice? *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*. 23, 2, 213-214.