

# ARC Linkage Update: August 2019

Reducing STI and BBV-related health disparities in overseas-born CaLD populations



On 31 May 2019, Curtin University Human Research Ethics Committee gave approval for data collection to commence in Western Australia, Victoria and South Australia.



Data collection for Stage One (qualitative interviews and focus group discussions) commenced in July 2019. A grounded theory approach is being used to answer the following question:

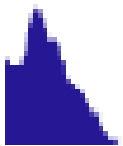
*In relation to migrants born in South-East Asia, North-East Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, what factors influence access to, and experiences of, sexual health and blood-borne virus services in Australia?*



A survey instrument has been drafted in preparation for Stage Two. The instrument builds on previously tested surveys and is designed to measure knowledge, attitudes, behaviours and practices in relation to STIs and BBVs. The survey will be tested with participants in Stage One prior to dissemination in 2020.



Curtin University is working with local project partners (Ethnic Communities Council of WA, Relationships Australia SA and Centre for Culture, Ethnicity and Health) to facilitate the employment of peer researchers to assist with data collection.



A Sexual Health Research Fund Grant was recently awarded to Curtin University and Queensland University of Technology (partnering with University of Southern Queensland, Ethnic Communities Council Queensland and True Relationships) to extend the study to Queensland.



Curtin University will present a poster at the ASHM Conference in September. The poster will summarise findings from a scoping review around modes of administering STI and BBV surveys to migrant populations.



A meeting of the partner group is scheduled to coincide with the ASHM Conference. Please join us at the Perth Convention Centre on Monday 16 September 2019 at 5.15pm if you are in town.