



Condobolin Argus

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Enjoying the valuable SmokeCheck training session are: Luciana Massi Senior Project Officer (Workforce Development & Capacity Building), Otis Williams, Mark Mitchell Project Manager (Health Services Integration), Angie Phinn, Gillian Keed, Sandra Ritchie, Kathy Nagle, Jennifer Doecke, Amanda Coe, Anne Bosma and Sharon Daley Project Officer (Information, Communication and Research).

A team of three from Sydney based SmokeCheck held an educational program developed for Aboriginal Health Workers (AHW) and other health professionals at the Condobolin Aboriginal Health Service.

Designed for people with a primary responsibility for the health care of Aboriginal people in NSW, the NSW SmokeCheck Project is funded and managed by the NSW Department of Health and the Cancer Institute (NSW). The Project is administered through the School of Public Health at the University of Sydney and the team travels around the state delivering training.

The smoking rate among Aboriginal Australians is more than double that of non-Aboriginal people and the prevalence of smoking among Aboriginal people has not reduced over the past decade.

“The high rate of smoking in our Aboriginal communities is alarming” says Luciana Massi, SmokeCheck’s senior trainer.

“The SmokeCheck program aims to train all NSW Aboriginal health workers and other health professionals who provide care for Aboriginal people to encourage their clients who smoke to quit,” Ms Massi said.