

International Group for Indigenous Health Measurement

Terms of Reference

The International Group for Indigenous Health Measurement (IGIHM) brings together a diverse group of people, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, concerned about the quality and utility of data and information relevant to the health of Indigenous peoples, and dedicated to sharing information and effective strategies for collaboration, improved methods, and policy development that contribute to the improvement of Indigenous health.

Vision: To collaborate internationally to improve, in our home communities and nations, the availability, quality, depth, and utility of health knowledge and data for Indigenous populations

Commitment: To promote effective dialog across countries, populations, and agencies in order to ensure that Indigenous populations participate effectively in the governance and management of indigenous health data, can expect accurate data, and be actively involved in strengthening data collection, analysis, and interpretation at all levels.

IGIHM Goals:

- 1) **Build multi-national partnerships.** The IGIHM will undertake the development of coordinated and collaborative efforts across countries, between Indigenous populations, and among agencies and entities concerned with health data, health information, and health research.
 - a. The IGIHM will facilitate dialog on issues of Indigenous measurement across countries and will address cross-cutting issues of interest to all countries with sensitivity to each country's perspectives.
 - b. The IGIHM will include community and tribal organizations at the top levels of dialog.
 - c. The IGIHM will, through the exchange of ideas and information, develop consensus recommendations that will lead to improvements in the collection and use of Indigenous health data and information.
 - d. The IGIHM will identify opportunities for building agency and community capacity for meaningful data collection, use, and dissemination.
 - e. The IGIHM will maintain open communication with other organizations having parallel missions and/or related projects.

- 2) **Develop and promote/increase improved methods.** The IGIHM will promote the use of improved methods for collection, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination of information useful for improving the health of Indigenous populations and transform current Indigenous health knowledge and data.
- a. The IGIHM will develop criteria for data quality to ensure health data and information is both useful and meaningful for Indigenous lives and Indigenous communities.
 - b. The IGIHM will identify strategies to promote the inclusion of culture and history, community perspectives, and Indigenous world views in the collection, interpretation, use, and dissemination of health data.
 - c. The IGIHM will develop collaborative projects that can guide policy development, locally and globally.
 - d. The IGIHM will establish a process for information sharing and mutual learning.

IGIHM Participation:

The IGIHM is a technical advisory group working in both formal and informal capacities, with voluntary participation and responsibility to be determined by each country, and leadership determined by group consensus. Participants shall include:

- a. Indigenous statistical and health experts, decision-makers, researchers, and health professionals
- b. Non-Indigenous statistical and health experts, decision-makers, researchers, and health professionals
- c. Representatives of national and world health and statistical agencies and statistical experts
- d. Other persons identified as contributing to Indigenous health measurement including funding agencies

The Measurement Group was established with participants from four countries with Indigenous populations and well-developed statistical systems – Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United States. As the group grows additional countries will be invited to participate.

Current Projects:

- Workforce Development
- Child Health
- Mapping Indigenous Health Systems
- Urban Indigenous Health Data

This document shall be revisited annually