

Exploring Cultural Safety for Individuals from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds Participating in Breast Screening

Authors : Philippa Sambevski

Abstract : Breast cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed in Australian women. The incidence of breast cancer for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) women is lower than for non-indigenous women. However, the mortality rate for ATSI women is higher. The participation rate of ATSI women in BreastScreen Australia is below the general population. In this thematic literature review, the author collates viable strategies to increase breast screening rates among culturally and linguistically diverse individuals and provide culturally competent care. Barriers to accessing BreastScreen for ATSI women include language or communication limits, isolation, and a lack of culturally sensitive information. Culturally competent strategies require healthcare workers with an appropriate cultural and social background, clear messages, and the embedding of cultural respect within healthcare organisations. Cultural safety is determined by partnering with local indigenous groups, recognising the consumer experience, and allowing people to raise their concerns. The corresponding academic poster identifies strategies for healthcare workers to provide culturally competent care in a BreastScreen setting.

Keywords : breast screen, closing the gap, Australia, cultural safety, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Conference Title : ICBCCS 2023 : International Conference on Breast Cancer and Cancer Science

Conference Location : Melbourne, Australia

Conference Dates : February 06-07, 2023