

# Co-designing Accessible Health Messages: Local Activities Support Global Goals

Recent work in remote areas describes the requirements for co-creation of health education resources in an appropriate cultural context – achieving inclusive and equitable quality education for all in the prevention of rheumatic heart disease (RHD).

The process below can be applied in communities where Aboriginal languages are strong and health messages need development for better understanding.

- Language workers brainstorm mainstream educational materials in local languages
- Emerging story using local language metaphors reworked by Aboriginal participants



Draft story in Aboriginal language discussed with local community development workers



Identify unclear messages by 'testing' story on community members



- Linguists check meaning of words across Aboriginal languages
- Key gaps in accurate messaging identified by facilitators
- Draft storyline reworked and reviewed



- Language workers tell the RHD story in local languages using media available, activities and games
- Lessons and activities for children and community are culturally appropriate



Artwork: Children's interpretation of RHD and strep germ    Video: Children learn about RHD in their own language



Reference: Rheumatic Heart Disease Australia, 2018. Guidelines for producing rheumatic fever educational resources for remote settings in northern Australia: the Lurra Framework, Darwin. Author: Alice Mitchell  
Acknowledgement: video courtesy of Mason Scholes, Lurra Language and Cultural Unit

