



Evaluation of Otitis Media Clinical Support Systems Project

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Project Partners

- Office of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH)
- State Dept Health
- Royal Australian College of Physicians
- Country Health SA
- Northern Paediatric Unit
- Eight Aboriginal Controlled Health Services

Early
2005

Launch /
Implementation

Nov 2005

Training and Information

June
2007

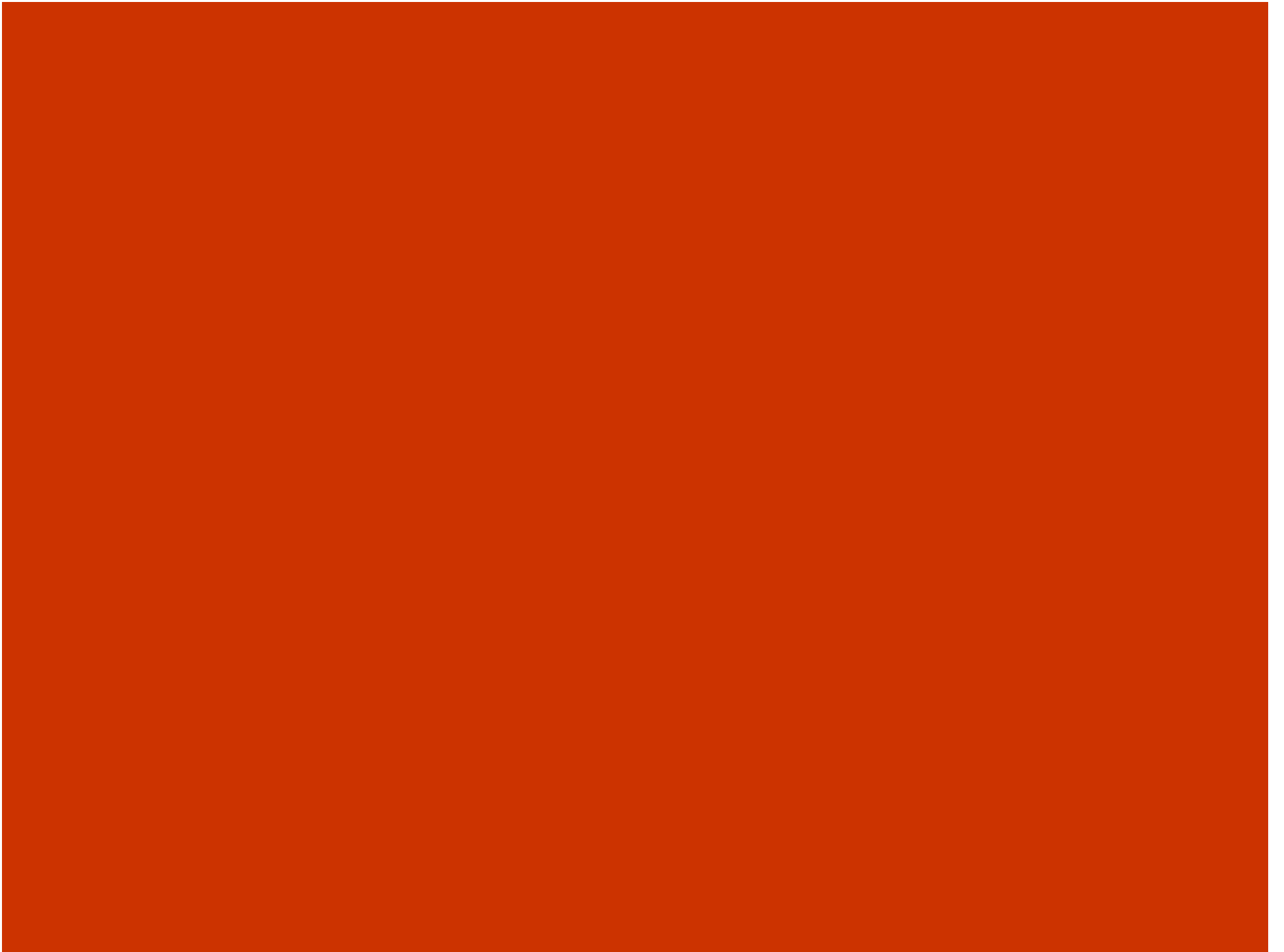
2006



Formative
Evaluation

Summative
Evaluation

Planning & Consultation



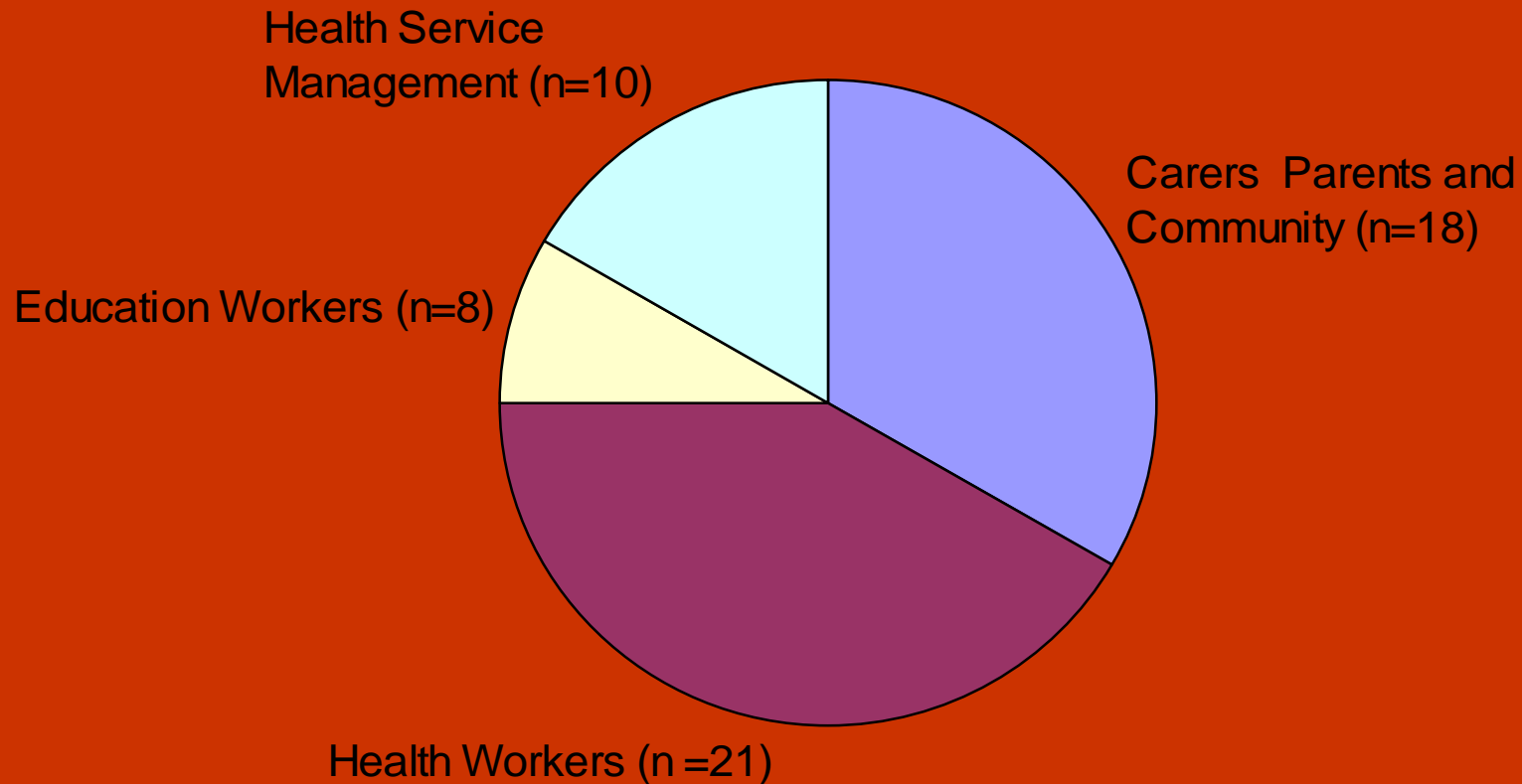
Post Project Evaluation

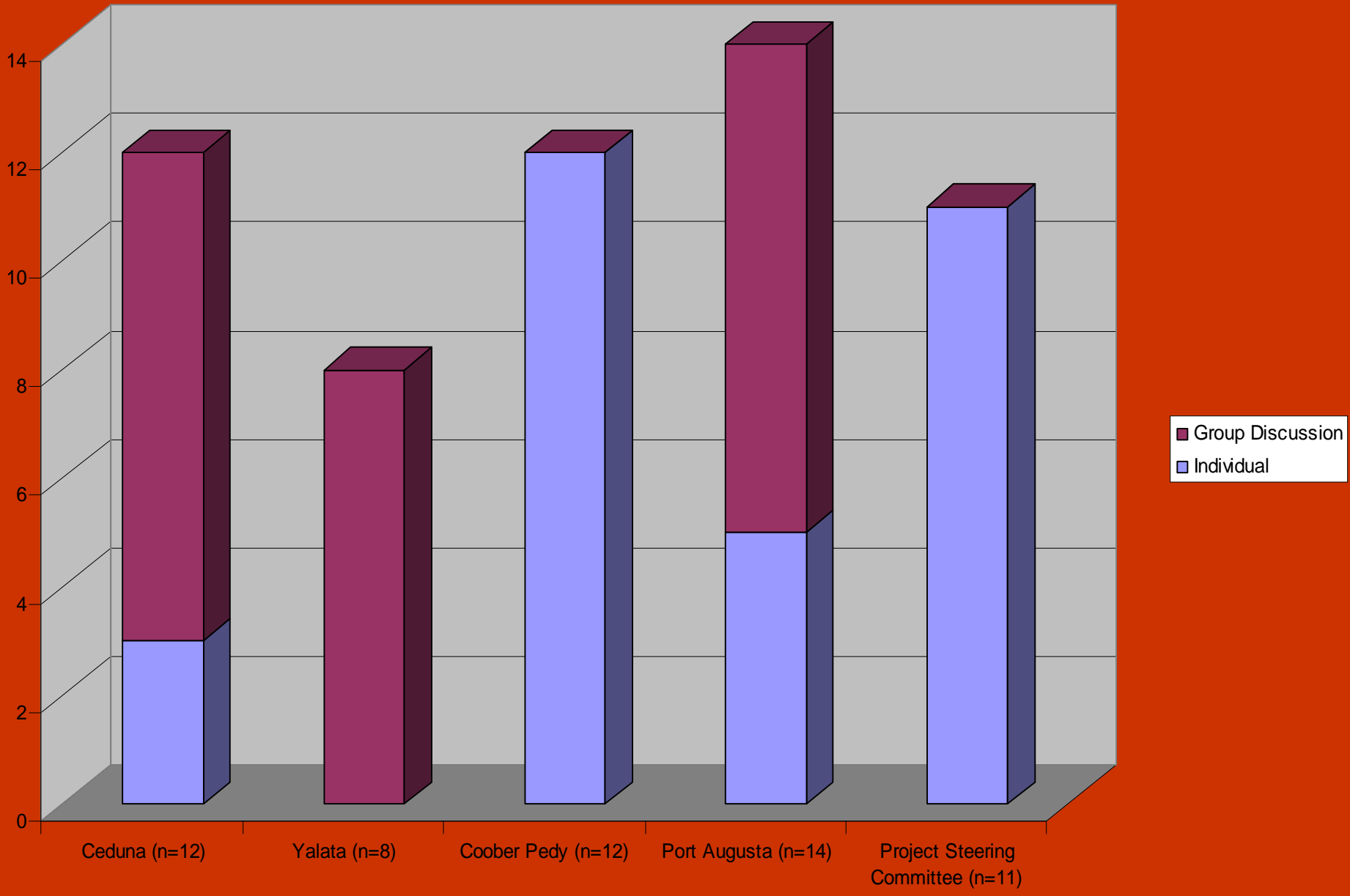
- Evaluation Objectives established in the planning phase
- 6 Evaluation Objectives
- Evaluation Team: Included four consultants with connections with local communities
- Ceduna, Yalata, Coober Pedy, Port Augusta

Key Features

- Negotiated community consultations
- Flexibility – focus on obtaining information
- Local
- Group
- Individuals
- Questionnaires
- Food

Participation (n=56)







Objective One

Training and reference material were developed in accordance with National Guidelines

18 Training Sessions were conducted

Staff turnover a problem when trying to ensure all trained in national guidelines

More collaboration of training providers interstate to build on work being done nationally in ear health

Recommendations

- 1. Help communities develop their own educational resource.**
- 2. Collaborate with Registered Training Providers to promote best practice ear infection management information to Aboriginal Health Worker Trainees.**

3. Support Aboriginal Health Services to develop an Annual Ear Health Promotion Plan.

4. Provide Health Services with a copy of the TV advertisement to be played in waiting rooms and health promotion events organized in each community.

Ear Health focused Aboriginal Health Care Workers.

**Provide Health Services and
Hospitals with the option of
continuing using the OMCSS
Database**

Further investigations into the nomination of a Lead Agency to manage Ear Health including AHW training, hearing assessments, Otitis Media treatment and management and health promotion.

Further opportunities for collaborative programs to include education, primary, secondary and tertiary health services.

Aboriginal Health Services be encouraged and supported to develop Ear Health Strategies and record information about Otitis Media treatment plans and education activities.

Encourage research to further explore issues related to Ear Health and Ear Infection in Aboriginal Communities.



Objective Two

Project Officer centrally recorded information about Children diagnosed with OM



Data base developed and treatment information recorded

Tracking of children between communities



Reminders for treatment sent to Health Services





Objective Three

Project fostered and strengthened connections between education and health; ear health days, training education workers



Unable to determine affect of intervention on school performance as no permission obtained to release childrens names or school records with school.





Objective Four

Small signs of communities discussing their own strategies for managing ear infection

Centralised system of information collection

Reminders and tracking

More time; In 18 months people were becoming familiar with the project, ear health terminology, things were just getting started

A system needs to be consistent, long term, use local people, local ideas,





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