



Aunty Linda Boney, Gamilaroi Elder and AHLO

## How do I contact the Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Officers?

There are a few ways to contact the Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Officers:

- You can ask hospital staff to call or page them.
- You can call them on (02) 9382 2332 or (02) 9382 2561.
- You can call your hospital switchboard and ask them to page the Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Officers: Prince of Wales Hospital (02) 9382 2222. Sydney and Sydney Eye Hospital (02) 9382 7111.



Jeremy Davison, Dharawal AHLO

## Barmbli Place at Prince of Wales Hospital

Barmbli Place is a room where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people can come for a cuppa, yarn or just sit while a family member is in hospital.

Barmbli Place is on Level 2 at the High St entrance of Prince of Wales Hospital. It is open from 8am to 8pm, seven days a week. If you need help to find us please ask the person at the High St Information Desk. If the room is locked, please call Security to open it on: (02) 9382 2847.

Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Service  
(Social Work Department)



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Cover artwork is titled: *Walk with Me* by Dharawal artist Amanda Longbottom, 2022. It was commissioned by the Prince of Wales Hospital Foundation.



Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Officer  
Supporting Aboriginal patients and their families



Prince of Wales Hospital

Sydney and Sydney Eye Hospital



## Welcome

We welcome all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their families, carers and friends to our hospitals.

Prince of Wales Hospital is on the land of Bidjigal/Bidiagal people. Sydney & Sydney Eye Hospital is on the land of Gadigal people. We pay our respect to all Aboriginal Elders and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of these lands.

Coming to Hospital can be a difficult time, we have a female and male Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Officer who can help you with your stay.

## Why are there so many questions?

In hospital we ask you many questions. We ask you whether you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. This helps us to care for you and offer you support services. We keep all your information private and confidential.

## What can the Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Officer help me with?

We will have a yarn with you and your family to understand what you need.

We can help you:

- Understand what is happening in the hospital.
- Communicate with hospital staff about your stay and treatment. We can advocate for your needs or concerns.
- Find support services both in hospital and when you leave hospital.
- Work with Social Workers to help with Centrelink payments, accommodation, residential aged care, Housing NSW, Aged Care packages, ComPacks etc.
- Manage your anxiety about your illness or treatment.
- With emotional and cultural support when you are separated from family and community.
- With Sorry Business, grief or loss issues.
- With Women's or Men's business.
- Undertake cultural protocols or traditions.
- Maintain connection with mob.
- Plan for when you leave hospital so you get home safely and have further health care.

We work with our hospital staff to try to create an environment in which Aboriginal people feel safe and supported.

## Your Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Officer can provide information on:

- Patients' rights and responsibilities
- Legal Services
- Child protection services
- Aged care services.

## What do I need to bring with me to Hospital?

- Family or friend contact details
- Any medications you are taking
- Medicare card
- Pension card or concession card
- Small amount of cash
- Key card or bank books
- Clothing: night wear, dressing gown and non-slip slippers or shoes
- Toiletries
- Contact lenses or glasses
- Dentures
- Forms to claim financial assistance if you have to travel into our hospital from the bush. This is called the Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme.