

Rheumatic Heart Disease Program

Acute Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease

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SHSAC Region

Communities to the East of Katherine

Top road Central Arnhem Highway	Bottom Road Stuart Highway & Roper Highway
Barunga 87Kms	Mataranka 100 Kms
Manyallaluk 100 Kms	Jilkminggan 150 Kms
Beswick 110 Kms	Minyerri 267 Kms
Bulman 310 Kms	Ngukurr 320 Kms
	Urapunga 290 Kms

SHSAC Region



The Data

	Total
SHSAC Population	3,685 People
ARF Clients	89 People
RHD Clients	149 People
Clients on Bicillins	110 People

The Story

The Story Begins in April 2023 where there has been a focus on Care planning.

We completed a communicate chart review of all clients.

which included:

- Reviewing when a client last had an Echo completed ensuring they are reviewed by a cardiologist or a paediatric cardiologist.
- Reviewing to ensure clients are recorded on the RHD Register, NT Cardiac site and MEHR.
- Reviews of the LA Bicillin compliance, When clients last had a health check (715), When they last where reviewed by a Doctor, physician, paediatrician or had a dental review.
- Ensuring referrals are completed for the Cardiac Educator.
- Review immunisation records



The Story

Clinical Outcomes from review and ongoing Care Coordination

- We are monitoring skin infections and sore throats (Step A)
- We have planned screenings and echocardiograms for at risk age groups.
- Ongoing chart reviews
- Providing clinics with the LA Bicillin list each week
- Regular scheduled visits to all communities with the Sunrise service area.
- A goal of completing at least three 715 health checks each visit.
- Utilising the communicate recall lists to monitor client progress.
- Conducting home visits with appointments and recalls with the assistance of our Aboriginal Health Practitioner to improve attendance.
- Following up on reported scabies infections, with home visits attended to by our environmental officer who completes a home review, provides and implements education and prevention strategies to reduce the incidents of Strep A.
- Education has been provided to all SHSAC staff, Schools and within the community.

In one Community we completed checks of 16 houses, we checked 125 people, 5 people were treated and one house had 25 people living at the residence.



Primordial Prevention, Healthy Skin

The aim is to reduce new cases of Acute Rheumatic Heart Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease.

Sunrise Health Service have more recently planned and started a working group to develop a healthy skin education program targeting Strep A infections.

This will be a multi disciplinary team initiative allowing the group to develop and deliver an education program that is culturally appropriate and suited for all age groups as each program will be age specific for example early childhood 0-3yrs, school age 4-18yrs, Adults 19yrs and above.



Echocardiogram Screening

NACCHO has introduced a training program for Aboriginal Health Practitioners to learn how to complete Echocardiograms.

This program includes online training modules and practical sessions.

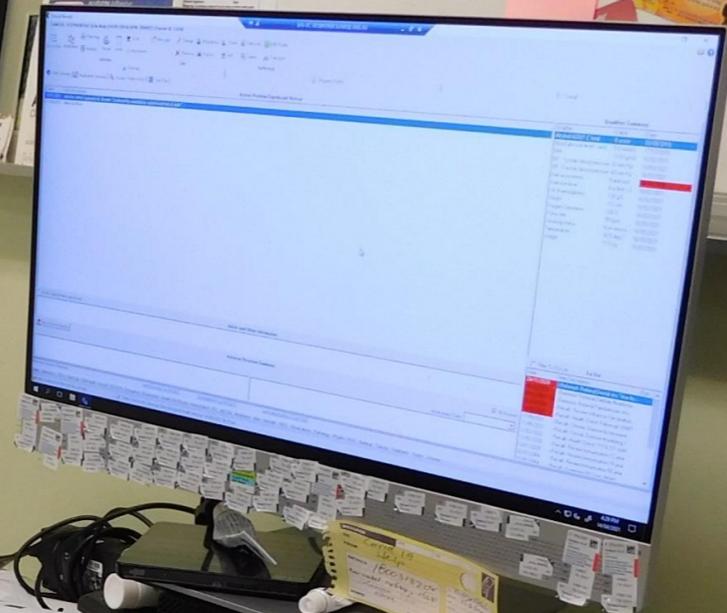
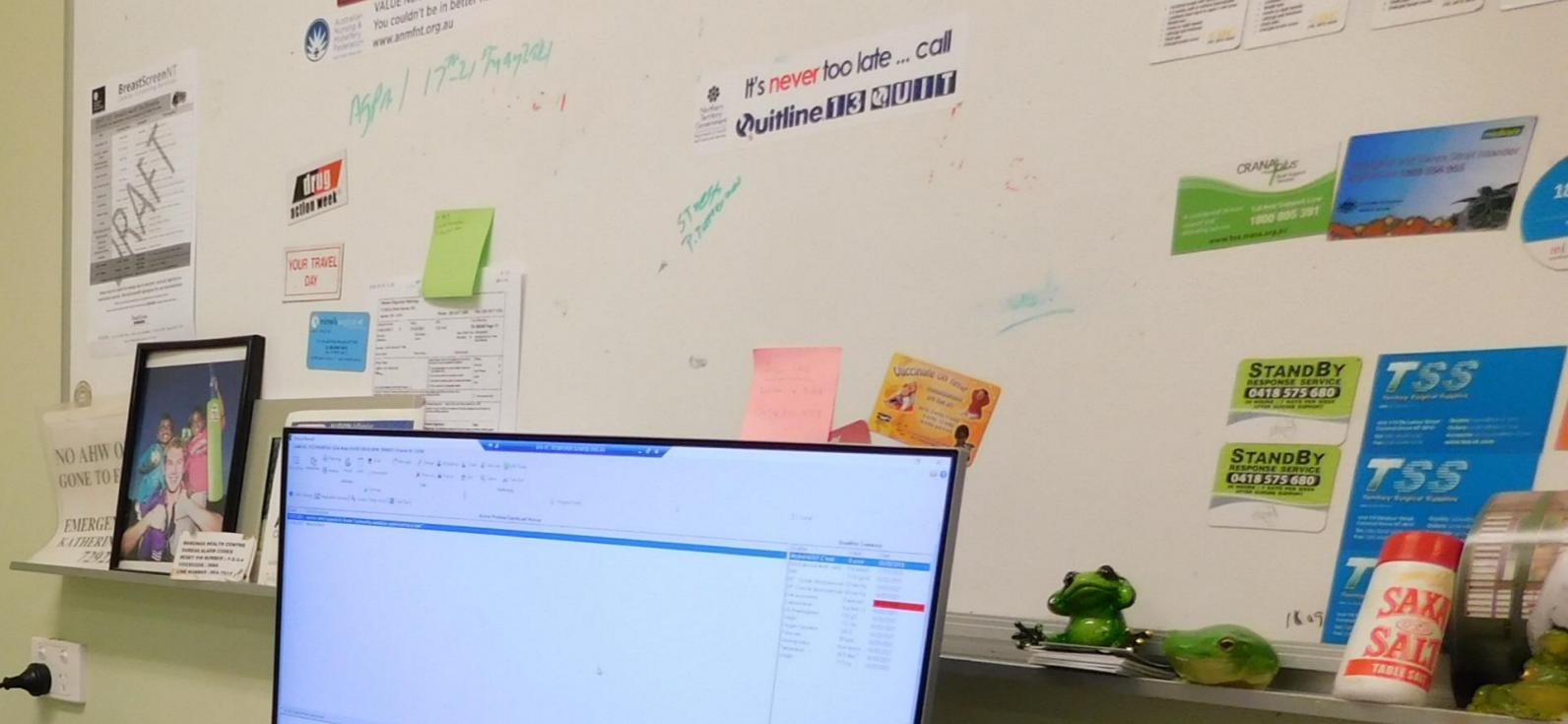
The aim is to complete screening on all School age children and to have all results reviewed by a paediatric cardiologist.



Outcomes

- Increased compliance with LA Bicillins since completing the initial review, SHSAC has seen the compliance of LA Bicillin go from 50% to 89% with all prescriptions being up to date.
- We have seen an improvement of 715 health checks and doctor reviews.
- Improved access to medical services and cardiac services.
- Follow ups are being completed for clients identified with skin infections and sore throats.
- Education is being completed for clients and families about Rheumatic Heart Disease.
- Education is being completed with all SHSAC staff.
- Education within the community for community members.





Thank You

