

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Yan to the Minister for Health:

**Alcohol and Drug Treatment**

1. **How many people have undertaken alcohol and drug treatment assessments in 2021/22 financial year?**

3,553.

2. **Does the Department of Health use a standardised assessment tool? What is the tool?**

Yes. NT Health uses the Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Comprehensive Assessment Tool.

3. **Does the Department of Health keep records of the outcome of the assessment? For example, do you know how many individuals were referred to a specialist, a program, etc.?**

Assessments lead to treatment plans and take place in both community and government services. There is no routine reporting on individual pathways.

4. **How many of the people who have had an alcohol and drug treatment assessment were recommended to attend residential rehabilitation in the 2021/22 financial year?**

NT Health assessments led to 2,476 referrals for residential rehabilitation treatment services.

5. **Of the people who were recommended to attend a residential rehabilitation in the 2021/22 financial year, how many attended? How many completed a rehabilitation program?**

People are not required to have a referral to attend residential treatment, and the numbers collected therefore relate to numbers attending treatment, not outcomes of referrals.

In 2021/22 financial year, 2,476 episodes of rehabilitation were commenced; 708 of these were still open as of 1 July 2022. Of 3,638 exit reasons completed for episodes, 2,249 have recorded a reason for cessation as being 'treatment completed'.

This equates to 62% completion rate of rehabilitation programs within the AOD sector. The 'ceased to participate' (non-compliance / without notice/ against advice) rate was 30%. This is supported by evidence that shows people with problem drinking will require multiple treatment episodes to address their addiction.

**6. What alcohol treatment programs are available in remote communities? What is their funding? Can you please break it down by region or community?**

Alcohol treatment can be accessed through General Practitioners, Primary Care Clinics run by Aboriginal Community Control Health Organisations and by NT Health and through Allied Health programs funded by the NT Primary Health Network.

Residential rehabilitation services funded by NT Government operate in the major centres of Greater Darwin, Katherine (Big Rivers region), Tennant Creek (Barkly Region), Alice Springs (Central Region) that service the people of the surrounding regions and communities.

The breakdown by location and value is as follows:

External Service Provider	Service Description	Service Location	Value of Grant	Grant Start	Grant Expiry
Barkly Region Alcohol and Drug Abuse Advisory Group (BRADAAG)	Residential Rehabilitation	Tennant Creek	\$982,821	1/07/2018	30/06/2023
BushMob Aboriginal Corporation	Volatile Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation for youth	Alice Springs	\$1,329,345	1/07/2019	30/06/2024
Central Australian Aboriginal Alcohol Programmes Unit (CAAAPU)	Residential Rehabilitation - Men	Alice Springs	\$840,464	1/07/2019	30/06/2023
Central Australian Aboriginal Alcohol Programmes Unit (CAAAPU)	Residential Rehabilitation - Women	Alice Springs	\$350,000	1/07/2019	30/06/2023
Drug and Alcohol Services Australia (DASA)	Residential Rehabilitation	Alice Springs	\$1,191,939	1/06/2020	30/06/2025
Forster Foundation (Banyan House)	Residential Rehabilitation	Darwin	\$1,110,475	1/07/2021	30/06/2026
Foundation of Rehabilitation with Aboriginal Alcohol Related Difficulties Aboriginal Corporation (FORWAARD)	Residential Rehabilitation	Darwin	\$1,106,246	1/07/2020	30/06/2025
Kalano Community Association Aboriginal Corporation	Residential Rehabilitation	Katherine	\$567,095	1/07/2019	30/06/2024
Mission Australia	Residential Rehabilitation	Darwin	\$2,590,736	1/07/2020	30/06/2025
The Trustee for the Salvation Army (NT) Property Trust	Residential Rehabilitation	Darwin	\$1,215,899	1/07/2021	30/06/2026

**7. A recommendation of the Riley Review was to trial a managed alcohol program. When and where will the trial take place?**

The recommendation from the Riley Review was supported in principle and Aboriginal Peak Organisations NT was engaged to commission a feasibility study in to a Managed Alcohol Program in 2019.

In 2021, Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation was supported to extend stakeholder engagement and discussions about a Managed Alcohol Facility.

Territory Families Housing and Communities is currently leading the scoping work to determine best model and location.