

# Think About The Choices You Make: evaluating an Aboriginal youth sexual health DVD

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## Background

Aboriginal young people experience a high rate of sexually transmissible infections (STIs). Hunter New England (HNE) Population Health developed the *Think About The Choices You Make* DVD as part of a youth sexual health education program conducted in a rural NSW community with a high percentage of Aboriginal people. The script was developed by an Aboriginal advisory group and focus tested with Aboriginal young people.

## Aim

To measure whether the DVD improved the sexual health knowledge and attitudes of Aboriginal young people.



## Method

The DVD was evaluated with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students from secondary schools in rural locations in HNE. Pre and post surveys were completed by students to measure whether sexual health knowledge and attitudes changed after watching the DVD.

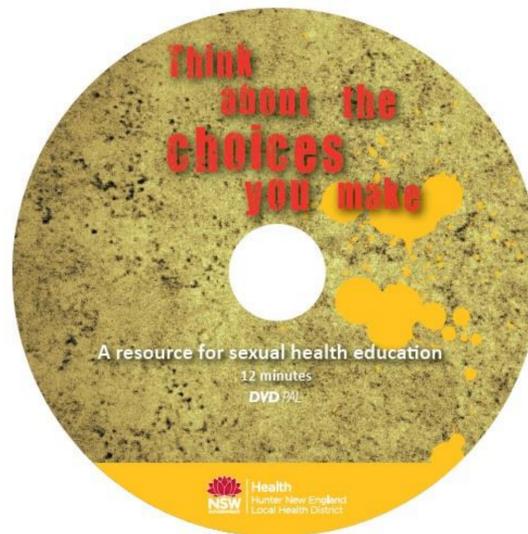
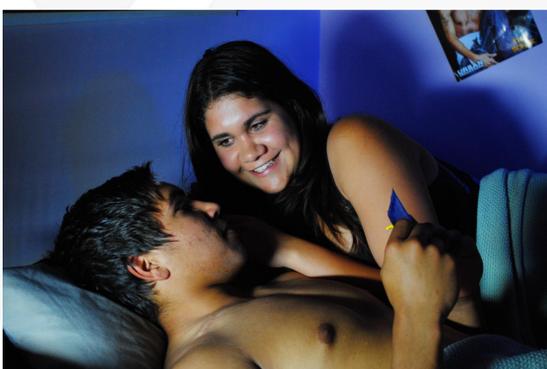


Table 1: Demographics

Sex	n (%)
Male	84 (63.2%)
Female	49 (36.8%)
Age	
Range	12-18 years
Mean	14.6 years
Aboriginal	n(%)
Yes	53 (40.5%)
No	78 (59.5%)

Table 2: Knowledge & attitude measures

	PRE n (%) correct	POST n (%) correct	Significant difference?*
<b>Knowledge</b>			
Does chlamydia affect only women? [NO]	34 (25.6)	120 (90.2)	
Will you always get symptoms if you get chlamydia? [NO]	22 (16.5)	104 (78.2)	
Do people <18 need a parent when talking to the doctor about sexual health? [NO]	37 (27.8)	104 (78.2)	
<i>Average total knowledge score:</i>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>2.5</b>	YES
<b>Attitude</b>			
If someone I was dating had chlamydia, I would know it*	77 (67.0)	97 (76.4)	
You don't need to use condoms if you only have one sexual partner*	99 (79.2)	113 (86.3)	
<i>Average total attitude score:</i>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>6.0</b>	YES

\*A 'correct' answer for the attitude measures was to disagree or strongly disagree

\*\* Significant at p<0.05

## Results

A total of 133 students completed the DVD evaluation (Table 1). Paired t-tests showed there were significant differences in both average total knowledge score and average total attitude score from pre to post (Table 2). Also, students listed an average of **2.1** places they could get condoms in the pre and **3.5** in the post. A paired t-test showed this difference was significant (p<0.01, df=132).

## Conclusion

The DVD significantly improved the sexual health knowledge and attitudes of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students.

## Acknowledgements

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## Contact details

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