

FECCA-NARI Roundtable aims to improve the healthy ageing experience of older CALD Australians

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) and the National Ageing Research Institute (NARI) are holding a National Roundtable to examine the gaps in research around ageing and aged care for older culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) Australians, on Thursday 10 March 2016 at Parliament House in Canberra.

FECCA Chairperson Joe Caputo said, "Our aim is to improve the healthy ageing experience for older CALD Australians."

With developments in this area fragmented and sporadic, FECCA commissioned a review and in March 2015 released its seminal report: [A Review of Australian Research on People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds](#) which identified a range of gaps in research.

It also launched its [2020 Vision for Older CALD Australians](#), recognising research opportunities as a support mechanism for this vision.

The collaboration of FECCA and NARI is an innovative approach between industry and research, to develop a research agenda and plan of action to further advance our understanding of the needs of older CALD Australians, in line with the Government's reform agenda.

Over recent years, NARI has also undertaken research into service access and gaps for older CALD Australians, and the issues faced for community workers and health professionals about strategies to improve services.

"Better policy and practice must be informed by a robust evidence-base that is gained through research, which goes to the grassroots, and can then be translated into action", said Mr Caputo.

NARI Director Associate Professor Briony Dow said, "Of particular importance is the need for research to better understand the experiences of older CALD Australians and how they differ from those of older Anglo-Australians.

"At present they are often excluded from research due to language barriers. It is time that this changed – we need better knowledge of approaches to aged care for older CALD Australians so that aged care services are accessible, culturally appropriate and timely."

Contributing their expertise to the Roundtable are policy makers, government officials, leading academics and stakeholders with an interest in the health and ageing of older CALD Australians.

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