

# BREAST SCREEN AWARENESS IN MIGRANT COMMUNITIES.

Funded by the Cancer Institute  
NSW



# Prevalence

- ▣ 30% of non-English speakers are aged 50+years.
- ▣ 27% of all cancers and 15% of cancer-related deaths.
- ▣ Information on breast cancer does not reach the targeted group
- ▣ Barrier : cultural sensitivity

# Target population

- ❑ CALD women generally, and older women who are at higher risk.
- ❑ Women age 50-74
- ❑ Women from South Asian, Southeast Asian, Arabic and African community



# Program goal

- ▣ Reduce health disparities among migrant women
- ▣ Increase awareness and participation rate through direct engagement with women.
- ▣ Education campaigns that focus on providing basic information
- ▣ Enhancing community awareness and knowledge about breast and cervical cancer risks and prevention strategies

# Strategies

- ▣ Collaboration
- ▣ Utilising existing community women's group
- ▣ Engaging ethnic media
- ▣ Community networking



# Findings

- ▣ General embarrassment and discomfort.
- ▣ Language barrier
- ▣ A lack of knowledge regarding screening.
- ▣ A lack of knowledge of signs and symptoms
- ▣ Peer support
- ▣ Bilingual support

# Conclusion:

- ▣ Cultural barrier identified
- ▣ Important factor:
  - ▣ Country of birth
  - ▣ Level of literacy
  - ▣ Exposure to local health system
- ▣ Adopting culturally appropriate approach

# Thanks

