Background

The project will examine the catchments of EGM gambling venues in several case-study regions across northern Australia. This region was chosen because its characteristics are likely to produce unique relationships between venues and communities, the exploration of which will necessitate practical, methodological, and theoretical innovations.

Aims

The primary aim of the project is to examine the local-level spatial relationships between electronic gaming machine (EGM) gambling venues, the communities that support them, and levels of associated social harm across northern Australia.

Methods

We will investigate, using Geographic Information Systems (GIS), the catchments of a range of venue types, the social characteristics of those catchments, and the level of social vulnerability within them. To do this we develop predictive spatial models, calibrated through geocoded household surveys of venue visitation patterns and problem gambling harm.

Outcomes

The development of a predictive spatial model of gambling harm will provide an evidence-base for EGM licensing in northern Australia, one that has been lacking to date, yet explicitly required by government.