Background

Embedded within Indigenous social and health concerns are the issues of gambling and problem gambling. However, the impacts of gambling and problem gambling and the ripple effects this has on Indigenous Australians, their families and the communities in which they live, is not well understood. Risk and protective factors for gambling amongst Indigenous Australians are yet to be investigated.

Aims

To 1) examine Indigenous gambling behaviour, risk factors, community consequences and potential interventions in several Indigenous communities in Bundjalung Country; 2) compare these to results from a similar CGER study in Queensland; 3) refine a conceptual model of different types of Indigenous gambling to better understand Indigenous gambling behaviour; and 4) utilise this model to analyse risk factors, community consequences and potential interventions for each type of Indigenous gambling to inform gambling policy development.

Methods

A qualitative study based on interviews with about 170 Indigenous people, 20 non-Indigenous gaming venue managers and 10 non-Indigenous gambling counsellors.

Outcomes

This research is the first to examine Indigenous gambling in Bundjalung Country, one of the few qualitative studies on Indigenous gambling, and one of the few to compare Indigenous gambling amongst different communities and jurisdictions, whilst also advancing theory construction and validation.