# Video Transcript: 2023-24 Premier Awards for Health and Medical Research Ms Joanne Luke

## Ms Joanne Luke

My name’s Jo Luke. I’m currently working at the University of Melbourne as a Post Graduate Researcher, and I also have another role at Victorian Aboriginal Childcare Agency whereas I’m working as a Senior Project Officer across a few different projects.

Text: 2023-24 Premier’s Awards for Health and Medical Research. Ms Joanne Luke, Aboriginal Researcher undertaking research in any field of health and medical research Award.

Text: Why did you become a health or medical researcher?

## Ms Joanne Luke

Probably the reason that a lot of people do is to improve the health of people and particularly Aboriginal people.

Vision: View of Joanne leaving the office and working at a desk.

## Ms Joanne Luke

So I guess having the personal experience of having a grandmother with kidney end stage renal failure it really made me want to do, initially, cardiovascular based research and then I sort of moved more to policy research later on.

Text: What problem is your project addressing?

## Ms Joanne Luke

It broadly looked at research evidence, looking at research and evaluation as evidence, and looking how it’s used in Aboriginal settings and how it can be used better.

Vision: View of Joanne working at computer.

## Ms Joanne Luke

So part of it is looking at who makes research, who makes evaluations, and then also what’s valued as good research and what’s valued as a good evaluation.

So this work was initiated by the Victorian Aboriginal Childcare Agency and it responded to their concerns that current research and evaluation wasn’t really meeting their needs, it wasn’t including Aboriginal voices.

It wasn’t valuing Aboriginal knowledge, and so part of that was unpacking western research and evaluation, looking at past research, looking at current practice, and looking at how we can do things better.

Text: What have the project results been?

Vision: View of Joanne working.

## Ms Joanne Luke

Looking at the past research it found that a lot of research was researched about us and also it showed that research has changed over time, but in looking at current practice there’s still sort of ethics that need to be improved, particularly around Aboriginal people participation and control of research.

Text: How could this project make a difference to people’s lives?

## Ms Joanne Luke

So what this research calls for is greater self-determination around research, so greater control and participation by Aboriginal people in research.

Vision: View of Joanne working.

## Ms Joanne Luke

Through that there can be better outcomes for Aboriginal people as the research that we’re drawing on is more culturally appropriate and can lead to better outcomes.

Text: 2023-24 Premier’s Awards for Health and Medical Research. Celebrating the achievements of Victoria’s early career health and medical researchers.

Text: Victoria State Government. Authorised by the Victorian Government, Melbourne.