

## Improving the hospital experience for inpatients with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A co-design project

### Background:

The 2017 Parliament of Victoria Inquiry into Services for People with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) revealed key issues during inpatient admissions due to limited staff awareness and support of unique sensory, communication, social and behavioural needs.

### Aims and Objectives:

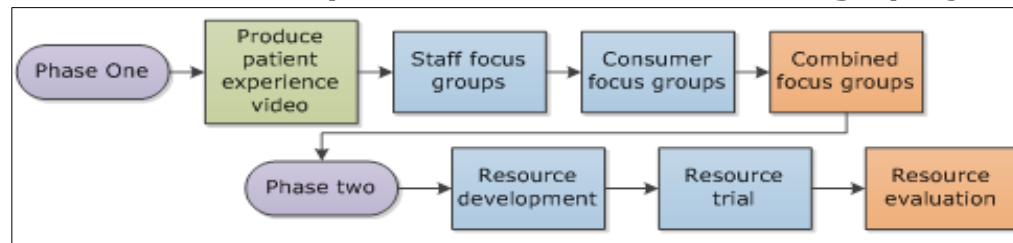
Using Experienced Based Co-design (EBCD) methodology to:

- To investigate the lived experience of people with Autism whilst an inpatient
- To identify and develop resources to support an improved inpatient experience of people with Autism
- To trial and evaluate developed resources

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### Method:

Experience Based Co-design



### Phase one results:

Following 5 focus groups a thematic analysis was conducted identifying the following priorities:

- Sensitive *patient identification*
- *Communication*
  - Between patients and staff
  - Between the treating team
- *Staff knowledge*
- *Actively meeting care needs*
- *The physical hospital environment*

These priorities will be used to guide phase 2 resource development.

### Discussion:

- EBCD allows for meaningful staff and consumer involvement in redesign and improvement.
- Phase two is currently underway, concluding in December 2019

