**New free Yolŋu Matha - Plain English Dictionary of Anatomy App launches**

A new multi-lingual Yolŋu Matha-Plain English Dictionary of Anatomy app will help Yolŋu and Balanda (non-Indigenous people) work together to improve health for Yolŋu.

Developed by ARDS Aboriginal Corporation, the Rumbalpuy Dhäwu Dictionary of Anatomy app contains audio and text definitions, pictures of anatomical parts, and associated pathologies and procedures in four different languages; Dhuwal, Dhaŋu, Dhuwala and Plain English.

The app can be used by medical professionals, interpreters, patients, and friends of those trying to understand and access mainstream health care. The audio content will enable health professionals to play entries to their patients in their patients' first languages, and make the content accessible to those Yolŋu-matha speakers who don't read in their languages. The app is designed to include new and revised entries as they are completed, and expanded following user feedback.

The app, which runs on Apple iOS and Android mobile phones, as well as on Mac and PC via an internet browser, is based on ARDS' 2009 print publication "Dictionary of Anatomy: Dhäruk Mala ga Mayali' Rumbalpuy" and extends it to include two additional languages and some revisions.

It will have a browsable picture-search capability, in addition to predictive text search, alphabetical text browser and category search capability.

The Plain English content will also make this information accessible to people from other non-English-speaking backgrounds.

ARDS Project linguist Salome Harris says that the app is an exciting development.

“Yolŋu and medical professionals have been asking for something like this for years,” Salome said.

“While it is not a substitute for a qualified interpreter, it will be a tool to help address communication barriers as Yolŋu and Balanda (non-Indigenous people) work together to improve health for Yolŋu."

Medical consultant Dr Jamie Mapleson knows from experience that the app will be a great help for medical professionals.

"While some medical professionals are skilled at explaining health concepts to their patients, the reality is many struggle to explain health concepts in plain terms,” Jamie said.

“This dictionary addresses that need by providing an additional resource for health communication."

Funded through the Australian Government’s Indigenous Languages and Arts program, the Rumbalpuy Dhäwu Dictionary of Anatomy is available from app stores (search for “Rumbalpuy Dhäwu”) or at api.ards.com.au/app/ now.

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