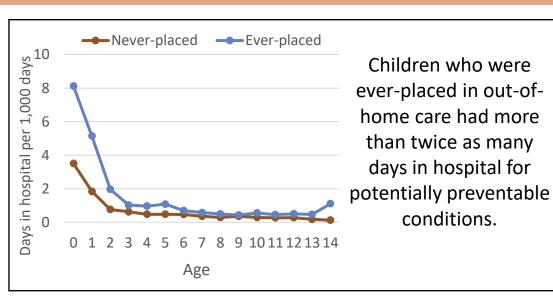
Rates of potentially preventable hospitalisations for Western Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in out-of-home care



■ Before placement ■ After placement ■ Never-placed Days in hospital per 1,000 days

Days in hospital were lower after children were placed in out-ofhome care for the first time, but were still higher compared to never-placed children.

Potentially preventable hospitalisations are hospitalisations for illnesses that might not have happened if:

- There was good, safe, and timely access to doctors in primary care setting, like general practitioners at an Aboriginal Medical Service.
- Children lived in healthy environments, like houses with enough room for the family and access to healthy food.
- Children were supported to have healthy habits, like brushing their teeth every day or washing their hands regularly.

To help reduce rates of potentially preventable hospitalisations, we suggest:

- Increase resourcing for Aboriginal community-controlled organisations to meet the needs of their communities.
- Grow the primary healthcare workforce to meet the demand on the healthcare system and lower wait times.
- Support to families at risk of child removals to access healthcare they need for their children.
- Improve the quality of housing that families at risk of child removals are living in, whether through building new homes or improving maintenance of existing ones.









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