



LOMIPEAU

Tongan rheumatic fever co-design initiative

**Tool for Non-Tongan
Clinicians**



Introduction

We worked with Tongan clinicians to develop and test an easy to use tool for non-Tongan clinicians to provide care that is affirming to kāinga. The tool has its foundations in the stories from kāinga, was developed with Tongan clinicians, and was tested with GPs, nurses and other health professionals.

The tool is centred around the concept of Haohaoā (see definition, right) and how this contributes to short-term and longer-term outcomes for kāinga.

We heard from kāinga about the trauma they experienced in their healthcare journeys. We also heard how clinicians have a critical role to play, but often don't understand Tongan culture and practices. And we heard how the healthcare journey is siloed, with different clinicians creating different experiences.

During our prototyping phase, we set out to reduce the emotional labour for kāinga engaging with the health system and to develop and deliver a family-centred model of care.

Haohaoā is inspired by traditional Tongan maritime navigation practices. 'Hao' refers to the act of navigating safely across dangerous seas while 'haoā' is the state of safety that is achieved by reaching the destination harbour. This was used as a metaphor for kāinga who experience rheumatic fever; the necessity to navigate the uncertainty and complexity of rheumatic fever (short term) in order for their kāinga to reach tau'ataina, a settled, safe and thriving future (long term).



Tool for non-Tongan Clinicians about providing Haohaoā in practice



