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ABC Rural

BUSH TUCKER FOR DIALYSIS PATIENTS

By Emma Haskin from Alice Springs , NT

Saturday, 26/07/2008

A bush food and medicine garden has been established in Alice Springs to bring a touch of home to Aboriginal patients attending the Western Desert Dialysis Unit. Kidney disease is a major problem amongst the Aboriginal population, with many having to travel long distances from their communities for treatment. Gary Dinham from the Alice Springs Desert Park is one of the team responsible for planting out the garden.

"A lot of people have to come from country, and they get stuck in town and they're attached to these machines; and this was just a way of bringing the outback here and using medicine plants to try and sort of relieve some of the pain of people being away from home for so long."

Reporter Emma Haskin joins patients and staff at a bush barbecue to celebrate the opening of the garden.

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AUDIO

A bush tucker and bush medicine garden has been planted in Alice Springs to bring a "little bit of home" to Aboriginal patients undergoing dialysis treatment.

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