

ANNUAL  
REPORT

2006

Preventing harmful drug use in Australia



## **Tier 1 Research Centre**

**WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse**

**Funded by the National Drug Strategy**

**[www.ndri.curtin.edu.au](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au)**

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# About NDRI

The National Drug Research Institute (NDRI) is based within the Division of Health Sciences at Curtin University of Technology in Perth, Western Australia. NDRI was established in 1986 as one of two centres of excellence in drug research by the National Campaign Against Drug Abuse, now known as the National Drug Strategy.

NDRI aims to conduct research that contributes to the formation of more effective policy and practice in Australia in relation to the prevention and reduction of harmful alcohol and other drug use. The Institute's research complements the work of its sister organisations: the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) in Sydney, which focuses primarily on treatment research; and the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction (NCETA) in Adelaide, which is concerned with workforce development in the field.

NDRI receives core funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, under the National Drug Strategy, with additional research funds being sought from a variety of national and international funding bodies. The Institute also receives support from Curtin University of Technology.

## Mission

To conduct and disseminate high quality research that contributes to the primary prevention of harmful drug use and the reduction of drug related harm.

## Values

The work of NDRI is guided by the following values:

- Encouragement of academic excellence and productivity;
- Academic independence;
- Service to the community;
- Social equity and justice;
- Ethical conduct;
- Relevance to efforts to combat major health and social problems;
- The need for rigour and evidence in policy and practice development and implementation;
- Openness to other views from internal and external peer review;
- Fairness and equity for staff of all levels.

## Key Result Areas

In striving to achieve its mission, NDRI has identified three 'key result areas':

- Conduct high quality research that will contribute to the primary prevention of harmful drug use and the reduction of drug related harm.
- Contribute to the building of national capacity for research in the primary prevention of drug related harm.
- Disseminate research findings to policy makers, practitioners, public health professionals, other researchers, community interest groups and the general public in order to increase awareness of drug related harm and effective prevention strategies.

# Director's Report

This has been a busy and exciting year. Of particular note, the Institute celebrated its 20th anniversary. To mark the occasion a research symposium brought together many friends and colleagues from around Australia and overseas. With support from the Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Office, the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation and the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, we were able to bring key research staff from around the world to review past and present research endeavours and to consider the lessons for future challenges. This underlined the fact that, in general, alcohol and other drug research has been well funded over the last two decades and it was noted that this has resulted in research outputs that have had impacts on policy and practice not only in Australia, but also overseas. In the near future we intend to publish a number of the papers presented at the symposium in a peer reviewed journal. One comment made at the symposium had particular resonance for me. A number of overseas visitors were impressed that we had such collaborative relationships between Australian law enforcement and public health staff. It is easy to take our alliances for granted, but I agree that they have been critical to NDRI's success.

While the year has included an acknowledgment and celebration of the past, the future has been marked by a change in the corporate image and, critically, enhanced research capacity. The Institute was confirmed as a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Prevention and Control of Alcohol and Drug Abuse. Also, Curtin University of Technology established a small number of Tier 1 and Tier 2 research centres. NDRI was one of only six research centres across the University to achieve Tier 1 status. Being recognised as a university centre of research excellence has symbolic and practical importance and we will receive significant infrastructure support. As well as attesting to the quality and impact of research conducted by the Institute, the process allied NDRI with other researchers who were engaged in drug research. Consequently, as a Tier 1 research institute, NDRI has been joined by a number of eminent researchers from across the University. Additional funds enhance the security of our research infrastructure and our research team and expertise has been expanded. Thus, the research capacity of the Institute has been greatly enhanced.

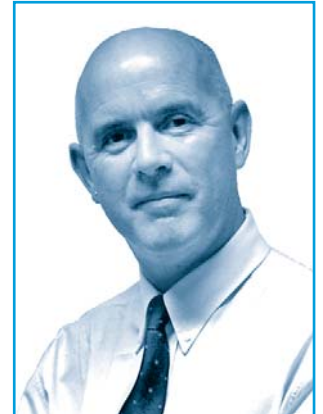
It is pleasing that the efforts of the Indigenous Research Team have been recognised. The Team won the National Drug and Alcohol Award for "Excellence in Research" and the Curtin Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence for its work with Indigenous communities. The Australian Government has now funded NDRI, in collaboration with colleagues from Edith Cowan University and the University of Queensland, to enhance the capacity of Indigenous communities to respond effectively to alcohol problems. There is no doubt that our ability to contribute to this work will be advanced by the addition of Associate Professor Ted Wilkes to the Team.

The excellent work of the Alcohol Team has also achieved formal recognition. Dr Tanya Chikritzhs was awarded the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs 'Early Career Award', and the Alcohol Team was a finalist in the National Drug and Alcohol Award for 'Excellence in Research'.

I have to acknowledge that all NDRI research staff have contributed to a highly productive year. From key texts on school drug education, informed debate about benzodiazepine misuse, drugs and driving, and alcohol policy, NDRI has been involved in over 80 projects, many of which have relied on establishing new collaborations and maintaining existing partnerships. As a national centre, we rely on our collaborative relationships with law enforcement, public health and other colleagues from all eight jurisdictions and overseas and the quality of our work, and its impact, would be much reduced without them.

Finally, the work of the research staff is described in the project outputs of publications, policy documents and presentations at national and international conferences. Less visible is the critical support provided by the business services staff. Our high level collaborations and research outputs simply would not be possible without the administrative, financial, computer, communication and library support provided by our business services team. They are the engine room of the organisation and deserve much of the credit for our successful year.

**Professor Steve Allsop**  
**Director**



Steve Allsop

During 2006, NDRI researchers were involved in over 80 projects, many of which are expected to result in positive outcomes for policy, practice and the community, as previous work has done. Much of NDRI's research is conducted in partnership with other organisations, and 2006 was an important year for building new, and maintaining existing, relationships. 2006 was also significant for the Institute in the dissemination of research, with NDRI's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary symposium being the major event for the year.

## 2006 achievements included the following:

- NDRI hosted a two-day international research symposium in September to mark the 20th year of the Institute's operation (see page opposite).
- NDRI achieved Tier 1 research centre status (see box below).
- NDRI's Indigenous Research Team won the Award for Excellence in Research at the National Drug and Alcohol Awards in Sydney, for work on the prevention of substance misuse among Indigenous Australians (see page 12).
- The Indigenous Team also won the Curtin Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence for its work with Indigenous communities.
- Tanya Chikritzhs won the APSAD Early Career Award for producing research that has had a significant influence on alcohol policy and practice, in particular the NAIP project (see page 10).
- David Moore spent 5 weeks visiting the Centre for Research on Drugs and Health Behaviour in London on a trip funded by a peer-reviewed Award from the Western Australian Health Department.
- Researchers completed a collaborative project to enhance understanding within the law enforcement sector of the extent and nature of volatile substance misuse by Indigenous Australians (see page 13).
- At the request of the World Health Organization, Wendy Loxley prepared a review of "alcohol and harm reduction" to serve as background material for a report to the World Health Assembly.
- NDRI was part of an international study which found the health benefits of alcohol for moderate drinkers have been exaggerated (see page 18).
- NDRI conducted a review of the National Competition Policy in relation to alcohol, and provided recommendations for 'a way forward' for operation of the policy.
- Richard Midford co-edited and launched a book on school drug education providing practical guidance for teachers and others involved in school drug programs (see page 16).
- Dennis Gray and Sherry Saggars co-edited a special Indigenous section of the journal *Drug and Alcohol Review* bringing together topical papers on substance misuse among Indigenous people (see page 25).
- Susan Carruthers continued her involvement in the development and implementation of WA's Hepatitis C strategy (see page 14).

- NDRI's research influenced liquor licensing decisions, including significant changes to the Western Australian Government's policy announced in March.
- Previous research by Simon Lenton and James Fetherston influenced the development of new repeat drink driving legislation which is soon to be tabled in the Western Australian Parliament (see page opposite).
- Work commenced on an innovative 3.5 year, whole-of-community, evidence-driven initiative in partnership with the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder to reduce alcohol related harm in that community (see page 17).
- A National Drug Research Institute logo was developed and launched.

## NDRI achieves Tier 1 status

In 2006, NDRI achieved Tier 1 research centre status as part of a review of research within Curtin University of Technology. Curtin's Review of the Structure, Funding and Management of Research was aimed at improving the University's research profile within a highly dynamic and competitive higher education system, and at ensuring the University delivers internationally-recognised research leadership, maintains diversity, and builds research capacity.

The Review recommended that the University make a strategic investment in a small number of Tier 1 and 2 areas of research excellence to build the scale and focus required for internationally competitive research.

NDRI was one of six centres at the University to achieve Tier 1 status, which required "an ability to demonstrate excellence in relation to the quality of research output, outcomes and impact along with effective research and project management."

A number of colleagues from within Curtin's Division of Health Sciences formally joined NDRI's application for Tier 1 status, bringing skills in such areas as medicine, public health and biostatistics to strengthen the bid. NDRI staff look forward to working with 'new' colleagues - Professors Colin Binns, Andy Lee, Rob Donovan and Peter Howat; Associate Professor Bruce Maycock; Doctors Andrew Joyce and Owen Carter; and Mr Geoffrey Jalleh – on alcohol and other drug projects in the future.

## Marking a milestone - NDRI's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary research symposium

In 2006, the National Drug Research Institute reached a significant milestone: 20 years since it commenced operations. To mark the achievement, on 25-26 September the Institute hosted an international research symposium, *Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities*.

While the event provided an opportunity for old friends to meet, the aim of the symposium was to bring together international and Australian experts on drug and alcohol policy, prevention and harm minimisation, to reflect on the aims of the National Drug Strategy and the achievements of the drug and alcohol research sector in Australia.

The symposium asked what lessons could be learnt from the past two decades, and promoted discussion about current issues facing the field and the challenges and responsibilities ahead. Speakers reflected the diverse research interests of the Institute, collaborative networks, and the extensive expertise that addresses alcohol and other drug related harm.

The symposium brought together 150 participants from a range of sectors including health and law enforcement researchers and people involved in policy and service planning and delivery, in both government and non-government organisations throughout Australia. A third of delegates were from interstate and another ten delegates travelled from Canada, New Zealand, Philippines and the USA.

The format of the event was specifically designed to allow for extensive debate and discussion following presentations. Speakers in each session were asked to sit on a panel to expand issues raised by their presentations. In addition, a panel of 'research consumers' – comprised of Jill Rundle from WANADA; the Australian Drug Foundation's Bill Stronarch; Coralie Ober from the Queensland Alcohol & Drug Research and Education Centre; Gary Kirby from the Western Australia Drug and Alcohol Office; and Jo Townsend from the Northern Territory Department of Health and Community Services – was brought together to discuss how research by the prevention and harm reduction field is put to use 'on the ground'.



Day 1 speakers (from left): Tim Stockwell (Past NDRI Director), Margaret Hamilton, Sally Casswell, Neal Blewett (Health Minister when National Drug Strategy was established), Kate Graham and Eric Single

## NDRI has played a central role in the development of new repeat drink driving legislation, soon to be tabled in the Western Australian Parliament

In August 2002, Simon Lenton and James Fetherston submitted their report of the Repeat Drink Drivers Study to the WA Road Safety Council (RSC). The report made a number of specific recommendations for improving responses to repeat drink drivers and suggested that ways should be sought to keep offenders within the system that consists of formal laws and informal social controls, rather than apply penalties in ways that undermine adherence to the law and reinforce further drink driving. Among other strategies, the adoption of alcohol interlock devices was seen as worthy of consideration.

The report also recommended that the RSC establish an expert working group to review the report and advise it regarding policy implications and implementation of specific recommendations. Such a group was established in January 2003, and included representation from NDRI by Simon Lenton. The group submitted its report, including a recommended model for dealing with repeat drink drivers, to the RSC in October 2003. The model has since been lauded by experts in the field as international best practice.

It is anticipated that the new legislation will enact many of the key components to come out of this work, including a statewide alcohol interlock program, a strategy to reduce the incidence of unlicensed driving, targeted public education, and a rehabilitation program.

The format, combined with the quality of speakers, made it a lively and stimulating event, with overall feedback being very positive. Participants indicated the symposium addressed a number of key issues relevant to their work, such as the relationship between policy, research and practitioners; tensions between research and the political context; Indigenous and policing relevant research; ethics, the alcohol industry and research; and collaboration between research and practice for more effective outcomes.

Participants were also asked what the key messages from the symposium were for NDRI and the alcohol and other drugs field. Responses included: the importance of research, policy and practice; the need for more research into Indigenous communities in each State; clearer information to the public on alcohol and the associated health effects; and that research to practice needs attention as one size does not fit all.

Following interest from participants and those unable to attend, symposium presentations have been put on NDRI's website ([www.curtin.ndri.edu.au](http://www.curtin.ndri.edu.au)), and a number of keynote speakers have committed to publishing their symposium papers in a special section of *Drug and Alcohol Review*.

The symposium was sponsored by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, the Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Office, and the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation.

# Board of Management



**Prof Mike Garlepp** (Chair)

Acting Executive Dean, Division of Health Sciences  
Curtin University of Technology



**Ms Virginia Hart** (from July 2006)

Assistant Secretary  
Population Health Division - Drug Strategy Branch  
Australian Government Dept of Health & Ageing



**Prof Steve Allsop**

Director  
National Drug Research Institute



**Mr Mick Burnby** (from September 2006)

Assistant Commissioner, South Metropolitan Region,  
Western Australian Police Service



**Prof Barney Glover** (until February 2006)

Pro Vice-Chancellor, Research & Development  
Curtin University of Technology



**Ms Jenny Hefford** (until February 2006)

Assistant Secretary  
Population Health Division - Drug Strategy Branch  
Australian Government Dept of Health & Ageing



**Prof Linda Kristjanson** (from April 2006)

Pro Vice-Chancellor, Research & Development  
Curtin University of Technology



**Ms Pam McKenna**

Chief Executive Officer  
Palmerston Association Inc



**Mr David Menarry** (until November 2006)

Chief Financial Officer  
Curtin University of Technology



**Mr Terry Murphy**

Executive Director  
Drug and Alcohol Office



**Ms Coralie Ober**

Research Fellow, Queensland Alcohol and Drug  
Research and Education Centre,  
University of Queensland



**Mr Mal Shervill** (until July 2006)

Assistant Commissioner (Crime Support)  
Western Australian Police Service



# Partnerships

**In 2006, NDRI worked in collaboration with a number of relevant agencies and research centres locally, nationally and internationally. The Institute is also a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse.**

## NDRI Collaborating Centres

- Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council of South Australia
- Australian Institute of Criminology
- Centre for Youth Drug Studies at the Australian Drug Foundation
- Drug and Alcohol Services Council of South Australia
- National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction
- National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre
- New South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
- Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre

## Other Project Partners

- Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service
- Alcohol and Drug Council of Australia
- Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley, USA
- Australian Drug Foundation
- Australian Intravenous League
- Bawrunga Aboriginal Medical Service
- Centre for Addictions Research of BC, University of Victoria, Canada
- Centre for Adolescent Health, Murdoch Children's Research Institute
- Centre for Mental Health Studies, University of Newcastle
- Centre for Remote Health, Flinders & Charles Darwin Universities
- Centre for Research into Drugs and Health Behaviour, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK
- Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University
- Chemistry Centre of Western Australia
- City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Community Alcohol Action Network, Australian Drug Foundation
- Curtin University of Technology
- Dandaloo Gayngil Aboriginal Corporation
- Drug and Alcohol Office of Western Australia
- Drug and Alcohol Services Association, Alice Springs
- Faculty of Community Services, Edith Cowan University
- Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Queensland
- Fitzroy Work Project
- Foundation for Young Australians
- Gascoyne Public Health Unit
- Health Department of Western Australia
- Institute for International Research on Youth at Risk, National Development and Research Institutes
- Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation

- Kimberley Community Drug Service Team
- Massey University, NZ
- Menzies School of Health Research
- Mt Theo Youth Substance Misuse Program
- National Centre in Epidemiology and Population Health
- National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research
- National Centre in HIV Social Research
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee
- NSW Attorney General's Department Drug Programs Bureau
- NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
- NSW Department of Health
- Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research Centre
- School of Health Sciences, Deakin University
- School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine, James Cook University
- School of Social Sciences, LaTrobe University
- St Bartholomew's House, Perth
- Tangentyre Council, Alice Springs
- Ted Noffs Foundation
- Telethon Institute for Child Health Research
- University of British Columbia, Canada
- University of California, San Francisco, USA
- Western Australian Police Service

## Committee/Reference Group Memberships

- Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet Reference Group
- Australian Network of Academic Public Health Institutions
- Child Death Review Committee, Dept of Community Development
- Drug and Alcohol Office of WA Expert Consultation Group – Legislative Review of *Cannabis Control Act 2003*
- Health Institute Consultative Committee, Division of Health Sciences, Curtin University of Technology
- Health Promotion Strategic Planning Tobacco Expert Advisory Group, Health Department of WA
- Indigenous Alcohol Clinical Practice Guidelines Reference Group
- National Cannabis Strategy Law Enforcement Reference Group, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee
- Public Health Consultative Committee, Public Health Department, ECU
- Research Coordination Committee, Drug and Alcohol Office of WA
- Victorian Premier's Drug Prevention Council panel to evaluate the Australian Drug Foundation's Drug Info Clearinghouse
- Web-based Alcohol and Tobacco Intervention Consultative Committee, School of Public Health, Curtin University of Technology
- Western Australian Butane Taskforce
- Western Australian Viral Hepatitis Committee

# Research Overview

NDRI is amongst the largest centres of alcohol and other drug research expertise in Australia. Recognising that problems associated with drug use are complex, a multi-disciplinary approach to research is pursued and researchers are drawn from a range of disciplines including psychology, epidemiology, public health, sociology and anthropology.

The following pages give details of selected projects undertaken by NDRI during 2006, organised by the eight key research priorities (listed below) under which research is conducted. Appendix 1 (page 36) lists all 2006 research projects, and further information can be found on NDRI's website at [www.ndri.curtin.edu.au](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au).

## Key Research Priorities

- 1. National monitoring of alcohol and other drug consumption patterns and related harm:** Research conducted under key priority 1 aims to monitor Australians' patterns of alcohol and other drug use and associated levels of harm over time, evaluate the impact of established harm minimisation strategies, and inform future policy changes.
- 2. Partnerships in the prevention of alcohol and other drug misuse among Indigenous Australians:** The focus of key priority 2 is research and evaluation that enhances the ability of Indigenous Australian communities to address alcohol and other drug misuse. Importantly, work in this area includes efforts to build Indigenous research capacity.
- 3. Prevention of the spread of blood-borne viruses and other harm among injecting drug users:** Research under key priority 3 involves investigating the social and behavioural factors associated with the transmission of hepatitis C and other blood borne viruses among injecting drug users to inform policy and the development and implementation of prevention strategies.
- 4. The impact of educational, legislative and regulatory strategies to minimise alcohol and other drug-related harm:** Key priority 4 involves the collection of data on the impact of various educational, regulatory and legislative models for drugs in Australia to inform the future implementation and modification of strategies to reduce alcohol and drug-related harm.
- 5. Development and evaluation of more effective school drug and education programs:** Projects under key priority 5 involve the development, evaluation and dissemination of school drug education programs that are most likely to be effective in the Australian cultural context.
- 6. Development and evaluation of more effective community drug prevention programs:** The aim of key priority 6 is to undertake innovative research in partnership with local communities to stimulate and inform the development of relevant, effective programs that target population level change as a way of reducing alcohol and other drug harm.
- 7. Identification of fundamental, strategic and developmental research questions in the area of primary prevention of harmful drug use:** Key priority 7 involves identifying fundamental, strategic and developmental research questions in the prevention of drug use, risk and harm across the spectrum of licit and illicit drug use.
- 8. Investigation of the influence of structural determinants and the social contexts of drug use on the implementation of strategies designed to reduce and prevent harmful drug use:** Research under key priority 8 involves investigating how educational, legislative and regulatory strategies impact on structural determinants and social contexts of alcohol and other drug use to

## Philosophy

In conducting its research, NDRI follows the philosophy of harm minimisation that has underpinned Australia's National Drug Strategy since 1985. Harm minimisation recognises that drug use, both legal and illegal, is a fact of modern society, and while use may be reduced to a degree, there will always be a need to protect people from the harmful consequences of drug use.

As harm minimisation focuses on the harms caused by drug use, it provides a framework in which a range of strategies can be legitimately used to achieve the overall goal. Strategies can be broadly classified into three areas:

- **Supply reduction** - controlling the amount of drug available;
- **Demand reduction** - encouraging people not to use, to delay use, or to use less of a drug; and
- **Harm reduction** - helping to reduce harm for those who continue to use drugs.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 1

### National monitoring of alcohol and other drug consumption patterns and related harm

#### New Projects

##### Alcohol outlet density and related harm

NDRI staff: Paul Catalano, Tanya Chikritzhs  
Project partners: HDWA; WAPS  
Funded by: NDLERF

The use of policy interventions to minimise alcohol related harm by controlling alcohol outlet density is not currently considered within legislation in Western Australia (WA). This project aims to determine whether it is feasible to develop a model of alcohol outlet density that can be used to inform such interventions. Although focusing on WA, this feasibility study will include an assessment of the practicalities of developing such models in other states and territories in Australia.

##### GENACIS

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs  
Project partners: Turning Point; Deakin University  
Funded by: NHMRC

The GENACIS study aims to develop knowledge about and measures of social problems associated with drinking, which have been less studied and are much less quantified than the health and casualty problems resulting from drinking. The research will endeavour to gain a better understanding of patterns of alcohol consumption and of the relationship of such patterns to problematic social relations, particularly within couples and the family. These patterns will initially be studied in Australia and, through participation in an international project, will later be analysed and interpreted in the context of findings from comparable studies elsewhere.

#### Ongoing Projects

##### Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)

NDRI staff: Jessica George, Simon Lenton  
Project partners: NDARC  
Funded by: AGDHA

The EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative (PDI), has been operating in Western Australia since 2003. The EDRS developed from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS) and together the projects act as complementary early warning systems designed to identify emerging trends in various illicit drug markets and in patterns of use. Like the IDRS, a triangulated approach is used for the EDRS methodology and comprises of: interviews with regular ecstasy users; interviews with "key experts" working in relevant fields such as law enforcement, health and entertainment industries; and statistical data such as drug seizures and analysis of purity. Both projects are conducted on an annual basis in the capital city of every Australian jurisdiction and coordinated nationally by NDARC in Sydney.

##### Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)

NDRI staff: James Fetherston, Simon Lenton  
Project partners: NDARC  
Funded by: AGDHA

See box below

#### IDRS – an "early warning system"

The Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS) seeks to act as an "early warning system" by timely detection of emerging trends in illicit drug markets. Operating in capital cities in all Australian jurisdictions, the IDRS has demonstrated how the illicit drug markets of each city possess features that distinguish each of them from other drug markets in Australia.

2006 was the seventh year of operation of the IDRS in Western Australia. Commencing in 1999 it initially used data collected from key experts such as drug counsellors, emergency department workers and members of the law enforcement sector combined with existing formalised data sources like phone calls to the Alcohol and Drug Information Service, police seizures and purity analysis and callouts to overdoses. The following year the project was expanded to



Simon Lenton and James Fetherston

include interviews with regular injecting drug users as a valuable sentinel population, triangulating this new information with original data.

IDRS data is used by both the health and law enforcement sectors to inform policy, funding and provision of services. It has also been utilised by detectives from

the organised crime squad for the provision of specialised evidence to court hearings. In recent years NDRI has commenced an annual seminar presentation of IDRS and EDRS findings that is open to all workers from the Perth AOD sector. 2006 also saw a number of invited guest lectures largely based upon this research provided to diverse groups including clinical staff at the Drug and Alcohol Office, trainee recruits to the Organised Crime Squad and medical students at the University of Notre Dame.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 1 (continued)

### National monitoring of alcohol and other drug consumption patterns and related harm

#### National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP)

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal  
Funded by: AGDHA

NAIP is a nationally co-ordinated project aimed at tracking and reporting on trends in alcohol related harm in Australia at national, state and local levels. A first for Australia, the development of a nationally coordinated source of data on alcohol consumption and related harm has arisen from the need for an efficient monitoring system on alcohol and increasing concern over levels of alcohol-related harm in the Australian community. One of the main objectives of the project is to produce and disseminate summary bulletins which highlight the major points from each research area. Ten statistical bulletins have been released, dealing with topics such as: alcohol-caused morbidity and mortality; serious alcohol-related road trauma; risky drinking patterns; per capita consumption; alcohol and violence; youth alcohol consumption; under-aged drinking; and alcohol and the elderly. Bulletin 11, which will address alcohol-attributable mortality among Indigenous Australians, is planned for early 2007, and progress is being made toward bulletin 12 which will provide updated economic cost estimates for alcohol-attributable mortality and morbidity for all states and territories in Australia. The project will also examine the relative impacts of apparent protective effects of alcohol against Ischaemic Heart Disease on cost estimates. All NAIP Bulletins are available on the NDRI website ([www.ndri.curtin.edu.au](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au)) and hard copies can be obtained on request.

#### Indigenous National Alcohol Indicators Project (INAIP)

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Tanya Chikritzhs, Anna Stearne, Richard Pascal, Sherry Siggers  
Project partners: CSR, ECU; NIDAC  
Funded by: AGDHA

The Indigenous National Alcohol Indicators Project (INAIP) aims to address a gap in the evidence base supporting Indigenous alcohol harm reduction initiatives, namely the need for indicators of alcohol related harm specific to Indigenous Australians. Such information would allow the timely and reliable measurement of the effectiveness of policies and interventions, thus better facilitating targeting of resources to areas of greatest need.

INAIP is a nationally coordinated project which uses the techniques of NAIP to track and report on trends in alcohol related harm specific to Indigenous populations in Australia, at national, state and local levels. INAIP brings together two NDRI research teams, one concerned with Indigenous Australian research and the other with the analysis of national alcohol indicators. The National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC) is acting as an Advisory Committee for the project. The first Indigenous NAIP bulletin (Bulletin 11), which will show trends in Indigenous alcohol-attributable mortality by ATSI zones, will be launched in early 2007.

#### NAIP researcher recognised

In November 2006, NDRI Senior Research Fellow and NAIP project leader Tanya Chikritzhs won a coveted Australasian professional award voted on by her peers. Dr Chikritzhs was awarded the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs (APSAD) Early Career Award at the APSAD conference in Cairns.



Tanya Chikritzhs with her APSAD Early Career Award

The award recognises an outstanding contribution to reducing the harm associated with alcohol and other drug use in the region. Dr Chikritzhs won the award for producing research that has had significant influence on alcohol policy and practice, in particular the National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP).

In accepting the award, Dr Chikritzhs said: "It's a great honour to have your work recognised by your peers. It's very important to me that our research makes a real difference in the community by informing the way we minimise and respond to the harm caused by our favourite drug, alcohol."

## Completed Projects

### Review of alcohol and harm reduction for the WHO

NDRI staff: Wendy Loxley, Zaza Lyons  
Funded by: WHO

This project involved preparation of a substantial background paper on "alcohol and harm reduction" for the World Health Organization, to serve as background material for a report to the World Health Assembly on "evidence-based strategies and interventions to reduce alcohol related harm", with a view to drawing up recommendations for effective policies and interventions.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 2

### Partnerships in the prevention of alcohol and other drug misuse among Indigenous Australians

#### New Projects

##### Enhancing the management of alcohol-related problems among Indigenous Australians

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Steve Allsop, Sherry Saggars, Ted Wilkes, Coralie Ober, Violet Bacon  
Project partners: CSR, ECU; QUADREC  
Funded by: AGDHA

The objective of this new multi-stage research program is to enhance the access of Indigenous Australians to quality treatment for alcohol-related problems. In Stage 1 of the project, an expert advisory committee will identify priority intervention areas and a call will be made for the submission of expressions-of-interest in conducting projects to enhance service provision in collaboration with Indigenous community-controlled organisations. On the basis of these submissions, NDRI will commission the preparation of reviews and research proposals in six priority areas which will be undertaken in Stage 2. In Stage 3 these proposals will be independently reviewed and presented at a national workshop. Depending on the balance between priorities, project costs and available resources, five or six projects will be selected for funding. In Stage 4, the commissioned projects will be undertaken over a 12 to 18 month period. In Stage 5, based on the research findings, NDRI will develop a comprehensive set of recommendations for enhancing the management of alcohol-related problems and a plan for implementation of those recommendations.

#### Ongoing Projects

##### Enhancement of the patrol monitoring and evaluation database

NDRI staff: Anna Stearne, Donna Campbell, Dennis Gray  
Project partners: Tangentyere Council; Julalikari Council; Kununurra-Waringarri Aboriginal Corp  
Funded by: AERF

The aim of this project is to research and develop a low-cost computerised database that will enable Aboriginal community controlled organisations to monitor and evaluate their night patrols and warden schemes. The first version of the Patrol Database was launched in Alice Springs in December 2001 and was subsequently distributed to various patrol and warden programs as part of a pilot program. Funding has since been provided by AERF to undertake further programming to enhance the database, and develop a computer-based training package on the use of the database. A member of NDRI's Indigenous team is currently based at Tangentyere Council in Alice Springs to develop the training package.

##### Bibliographic database on Indigenous Australian alcohol and other drug use

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne  
Project partners: CSR, ECU  
Funded by: AGDHA

This web-based bibliographic database project aims to disseminate information about publications on Indigenous Australian alcohol and other drug use. It also forms an important part of NDRI's research infrastructure. The database contains information on over 1000 publications which are keyworded by publication type, drug type, and geographic location. The bibliographic database complements NDRI's database on Indigenous Australian intervention projects.

##### Building Indigenous research workforce capacity

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray  
Project partners: Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service  
Funded by: AERF

The objectives of this project are: to create a three year research internship for an Indigenous Australian graduate; provide the person with 'on-the-job' research training in both a national research institution and an Indigenous community-controlled substance misuse agency; enable the intern to manage an intermediate size research project and to undertake two or three projects in his/her own right; and to equip him/her to embark upon a career in the alcohol and other drugs field.

##### Development of Tangentyere Council research hub

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars  
Project partners: Tangentyere Council; CSR, ECU; Centre for Remote Health

This project aims to build the capacity of Tangentyere Council to conduct its own research into the needs of Aboriginal Town Camp residents in Alice Springs. It has developed out of long standing cooperative relationships between NDRI and Tangentyere Council, the Centre for Social Research and the Centre for Remote Health – including work on 'loss, grief and alcohol', alcohol restrictions in Alice Springs and the development of a night patrol monitoring and evaluation data base. The project includes the provision of training and support for Tangentyere Council staff and collaboration on various current and proposed research projects.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 2 (continued)

### Partnerships in the prevention of alcohol and other drug misuse among Indigenous Australians

#### Indigenous Research Team recognised for excellence in research

NDRI's Indigenous Research Team received wide recognition in 2006 for outstanding work on the prevention of substance misuse among Indigenous Australians, winning the Award for Excellence in Research at the National Drug and Alcohol Awards in June, followed in October by the Curtin Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence.

The 2006 team consisted of team leader Dennis Gray, research associates Anna Stearne and Donna Campbell, research fellow Heidi Nietz, support officer Ed Garrison, and long-time collaborator Sherry Siggers of the Centre for Social Research at Edith Cowan University.

NDRI's Indigenous Australian Research Program was established in 1992 with the aim of entering into partnerships to conduct research into the prevention of substance misuse among Indigenous Australians. Since then over 30 projects in conjunction with 27 Indigenous community controlled organizations in Western Australia, South Australia, Northern Territory and Queensland have been undertaken.

Indigenous capacity building has been an important focus of activities. Identified positions have been established for Indigenous people and various provisions for training, mentoring and support have been put in place – including employment of a staff member whose sole role is Indigenous staff support. The team has also established a joint research internship with Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Services in Perth and, perhaps most importantly, has helped Tangentyere Council in Alice Springs to establish its own research unit.

Also important has been the dissemination of information about Indigenous alcohol and drug misuse and measures for its prevention. Activities include the establishment of a web-based bibliographic database on Indigenous substance misuse, the publication of several review articles, circulation of publications to agencies working in the

#### Evaluation of the 'Makin Tracks' 2 project

NDRI staff: Anna Stearne, Dennis Gray

Project partners: ADAC (SA)

Funded by: AGDHA

Phase 2 of the 'Makin Tracks' project is being conducted by the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (ADAC) of South Australia (SA). The aim of the project is to provide support to individuals and organisations working to reduce the demand for, and harms associated with, substance misuse among Aboriginal people in South Australia. NDRI is evaluating the project and providing basic evaluation training to ADAC field workers.

#### Evaluation of the DASA outreach program

NDRI staff: Anna Stearne, Dennis Gray

Project partners: DASA

Funded by: AERF

This is a collaborative project with the Drug and Alcohol Services Association (DASA), Alice Springs. NDRI is evaluating an intervention to provide support and follow-up to frequent Indigenous clients of DASA's sobering-up shelter.

#### Evaluation of "youth led futures" partnership grants with Indigenous communities

NDRI staff: Anna Stearne, Sherry Siggers

Project partners: CSR, ECU

Funded by: Foundation for Young Australians

This project aims to provide assistance to four partner organisations involved in Indigenous youth-led initiatives – Bawrunga Aboriginal Medical Service, Dandaloo Gayngil Aboriginal Corporation, Fitzroy Work Project, and Mt

area, and presentations on substance misuse to Indigenous community-controlled organizations, government agencies, policy making bodies such as NIDAC, and various committees of inquiry.

The team's research has had demonstrable positive impacts at regional, state and national levels. However the team is particularly proud of its work with local Indigenous organisations. In accepting the National Drug and Alcohol Award Dennis Gray said:

*"Our success in winning this prestigious award is largely due to the strong collaborative relationships we have developed with Indigenous community organisations... Such collaboration demonstrates that Indigenous people are taking positive action to address the problems confronting their communities, and our success is more of a tribute to their efforts than it is to ours".*



Dennis Gray and Anna Stearne accepting the Indigenous Research Team's Award for Excellence in Research at the National Drug and Alcohol Awards in Sydney in June

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 2 (continued)

### Partnerships in the prevention of alcohol and other drug misuse among Indigenous Australians

Theo Youth Substance Misuse Program – and to the Foundation for Young Australians which assists in the ongoing implementation of each initiative. The evaluation objectives are to describe and monitor the implementation and development of each initiative, and to make recommendations for change and adaptation where required.

#### Indigenous alcohol and drug staff development initiative

NDRI Staff: Ed Garrison, Dennis Gray

Funded by: AERF, AGDHA

There is a dearth of academics doing high quality research aimed at informing policy and practice in the prevention of harmful alcohol and other drug use among Indigenous Australians. This project focuses specifically on the professional development of Indigenous and non-Indigenous academic staff working in the Indigenous alcohol and other drugs area. The active participation of Indigenous academics in a collegial work environment is requisite if culturally sensitive issues are to be adequately addressed in the conduct of alcohol and drug related research. NDRI seeks to address this dilemma by providing individualised educational support for Indigenous and non-Indigenous junior staff in the early stages of their professional academic careers in the Indigenous alcohol and drugs research area, thus seeking to minimise the attrition that so often results when desire to participate fully in academic life is not supported by confidence and the requisite skills.

#### Not just scholars but leaders: Learning circles in Indigenous health research

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray

Project partners: Curtin University of Technology; CUCRH; Menzies School of Health Research; TICHR

Funded by: NHMRC

This collaborative research proposal brings together an outstanding team of population health researchers with a team of highly talented Indigenous achievers, including two medical doctors, two researchers who have completed doctorates and seven with Masters degrees. The primary aim of this capacity building grant is to develop a critical mass of Indigenous researchers undertaking high quality research into population health research priorities determined by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and to link research findings into policy and practice. Over a period of five years, Indigenous researchers will be linked with centres of excellence in research elsewhere in Australia and internationally.

## Completed Projects

### Addressing Indigenous substance misuse and related harm: Editing a special issue of *Drug and Alcohol Review*

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggors

Project partners: CSR, ECU; UNSW;

Massey University (NZ)

Funded by: AGDHA

See box page 25

### The policing implications of petrol sniffing and other inhalant misuse in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' communities

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne, Peter d'Abbs

Project partners: James Cook University; NDARC; Bowchung Health & Anthropological Services

Funded by: NDLERF, AGDHA

See box below

#### Indigenous researchers provide practical guidance for law enforcers

*The policing implications of petrol sniffing and other inhalant misuse in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' communities* was a collaborative project, conducted in communities in Western Australia, South Australia, the Northern Territory and Queensland. Commissioned by the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF), the project was completed in May 2006 and a report was published by NDLERF in August 2006. The report was widely distributed within state and territory police services, to Indigenous community-controlled organisations, and other key stakeholders.

The aim of the project was to enhance the understanding within the law enforcement sector about the extent and nature of petrol sniffing and other inhalant misuse among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in remote, rural and urban communities.

In addition to describing the social and policing context of volatile substance misuse, the report identifies the range of reactive policing strategies that are potentially (and actually) available to officers encountering intoxicated people, as well as various proactive policing activities aimed at preventing or minimising volatile substance misuse and its consequences. Practical guidance on appropriate ways for police to deal with sniffing incidents is provided in the form of a list of do's and don'ts for officers encountering volatile substance users.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 3

### The prevention of the spread of blood-borne viruses and other harm among injecting drug users

#### New Projects

##### Towards developing a model of care for injecting drug users in hepatitis C treatment: Assessing current services and identifying barriers to participation

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Funded by: Curtin Strategic Research Scheme

Despite the availability of an effective hepatitis C treatment in the form of pegylated interferon and ribavirin (referred to as combination therapy or CT) less than 1% of the estimated 185,000 Australians chronically infected with hepatitis C, of whom at least 85% are past or current injecting drug users (IDU), have taken up the option. Participation is thought to be constrained by a lack of knowledge of improved treatments and a fear of the sometimes severe side effects of treatment. Furthermore, there is a limited service infrastructure (number, capacity and location of clinical services) and staff to deliver services. Active injecting drug use was an exclusion criteria for CT until 2001, when it was recognised that, with suitable support and access to concomitant illicit drug treatment, IDU could successfully complete treatment regimes, with outcomes similar to those in non-IDU.

This project will identify the barriers and incentives which exist for current IDU in terms of accessing hepatitis C treatment in Perth. The project will also investigate the local health and medical services which are currently available to support IDU during hepatitis C treatment, identify gaps in these services and suggest future links with essential services such as drug treatment. In consultation with key stakeholders around Australia the findings from this project will be used to develop a model of care for treatment of hepatitis C among IDU.

#### Ongoing Projects

##### Future directions in the prevention of hepatitis C among injecting drug users: What are the needs of the using community?

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Project partners: AIVL

Funded by: AGDHA

This project comprises an investigation of the needs of the injecting drug user (IDU) community, in terms of hepatitis C prevention and the prevention of other drug related harm, as perceived by Community Users Groups as representatives of the wider IDU community. In collaboration with the Australian Intravenous League (AIVL), IDU community groups in all states and territories will be contacted and key personnel interviewed. Interviews will focus on current prevention activities, the perceived effect of such activities and ideas for future initiatives. The focus will be on the suitability



Susan Carruthers

#### Influencing hep C strategy

At a state level, NDRI continues to be closely associated with the development and implementation of Western Australia's hepatitis C strategy via involvement in the WA Viral Hepatitis Committee, chaired by Susan Carruthers.

In conjunction with the WA Health Department, the prevention of hepatitis C and the management of chronic hepatitis C infection is multidisciplinary and involves the Indigenous community, prisons via the Department of Corrective Services, tertiary hospitals, and drug and alcohol services. Hepatitis C and injecting drug use research conducted by NDRI, both alone and in collaboration with Turning Point and NDARC, over the past decade has been critical in this process.

and use of peer education in preventing injecting drug use harms. It is expected that information gained from the community groups will inform the future directions of prevention research at NDRI.

#### Completed Projects

##### Review of hepatitis C

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Funded by: AGDHA

The dynamics of the pandemic of hepatitis C have changed considerably since this virus was identified in 1989. In the developing world unsafe medical injections account for a large proportion of infections, while in the developed world the introduction of screening of blood donations and increased attention to infection control have reduced the risk of transmission via transfusions and medical procedures to extremely low levels. More than 85% of all hepatitis C infections in the developed world now occur among those who inject drugs and prevalence among this group ranges between 50% and 60%. A comprehensive review of the epidemiology of hepatitis C in Australia was conducted in 1998, and this review is an update which presents the 1999 to 2006 literature. The project consists of an update on the global situation with regards to the continuing transmission of hepatitis C as well as a review of the current situation in Australia, particularly among injecting drug users for whom current prevention strategies appear to be having little effect. It includes a series of recommendations regarding the future prevention of hepatitis C among injectors in Australia and areas in which further research is needed.



# Research Activities

## Key Priority 4

### The impact of legislative, regulatory and educational strategies to minimise alcohol and other drug related harm

#### New Projects

##### Assessment of the effectiveness of the regulation of alcohol in WA (WALL)

NDRI staff: Wendy Loxley, Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop, Richard Pascal  
Funded by: HDWA

Alcohol-related harm is positively correlated with the availability of alcohol, and all Australian jurisdictions control the availability of alcohol. WA has some of the highest rates of alcohol-related harm in the country, and it is therefore reasonable to ask whether alcohol regulation in WA is effective in reducing levels of alcohol-attributable harm in the community. One way to answer this is to compare WA to other Australian jurisdictions. This substantial review will explore these issues, paying attention to differences in alcohol regulation and harm between metropolitan and regional and remote areas in WA and in other states. The paper will encompass a literature review; extract of data and information sourced from public documents; extract and reanalysis of data held at NDRI; and purchase of data from sources such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics where necessary.

##### Development of a drug research action plan

NDRI staff: Wendy Loxley, Zaza Lyons  
Project partners: Centre for Adolescent Health  
Funded by: PDPC, Victoria

This project aims to develop an action plan for drug prevention research in Victoria. This will be undertaken by identifying and clarifying where the Premier's Drug Prevention Council can make the best strategic investment in research having the most significant impact on preventing alcohol and drug-related harm in the short, medium and longer term.

##### Evaluation of a best practice integrated intervention for regular methamphetamine users with co-morbid depression

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop  
Project partners: Turning Point; Centre for Mental Health Studies; University of Queensland; NDARC  
Funded by: Beyondblue

The aim of this project, which is being led by Turning Point with collaboration from NDRI, is to conduct a large, multi-site, randomised, controlled trial to assess the efficacy of an integrated psychological intervention for methamphetamine dependence, which addresses both drug use and concurrent depression.

#### Ongoing Projects

##### Review of restrictions on the sale and supply of alcohol in Australia and WA

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Dennis Gray, Zaza Lyons, Sherry Saggars  
Funded by: AERF and HDWA

This project will examine the existing body of evidence for the effectiveness of restrictions imposed on the sale and supply of alcohol in reducing alcohol related harm. The overall aims are to: evaluate the effectiveness of current and recent liquor licensing interventions to reduce alcohol-related harm through alcohol sale and supply restrictions; identify which types of alcohol sale and supply restriction strategies would be potentially effective in both metropolitan and regional and remote areas; and identify the potentially most effective restriction strategies for Western Australian communities, particularly outside the Perth metropolitan area in regional and remote centres and communities with high levels of alcohol-related harm.

##### WA CIN scheme evaluation phase 2 (sub-study 7: evaluation in schools)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Fiona Farrington  
Funded by: DAO

This sub-study comprising a survey of WA school students and a focus group study of drug education teachers is part of the post phase of a large pre-post evaluation of the WA Cannabis Infringement Notice (CIN) Scheme that came into effect in March 2004. It aims to determine whether the legal changes affected students' cannabis use, knowledge and attitudes to cannabis and the law, their experience of acquiring and supplying cannabis in the drug market, and any impacts on school drug education. It will inform revision of laws locally and consideration of similar schemes elsewhere in Australia and internationally.

#### Completed Projects

##### National competition policy and liquor regulation

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal, Vic Rechichi  
Funded by: AGDHA

The aim of this project was to review the impact of national competition policy on alcohol consumption and related harm. It consisted of a literature review and interviews with key stakeholders (including police, health, treasury, liquor licensing staff, alcohol retail industry) to identify potential and actual impacts of compliance with national competition policy on alcohol consumption and related harm. A report and recommendations resulting from the study were presented to an Inter-Governmental Committee on Drugs working party representing the various interest groups.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 5

### The development and evaluation of more effective school drug and education programs

#### New Projects

##### Editing a special edition of *Drug and Alcohol Review* on school drug education

NDRI staff: Richard Midford

Richard Midford was requested by the journal *Drug and Alcohol Review* to edit a special edition dealing with policy and practice research in the area of school and college drug education. Eleven authors from Australia, USA, Canada, UK and New Zealand have agreed to contribute to this special issue. Manuscripts will be submitted by the end of March 2007, with publication planned for late 2007.

#### Completed Projects

##### Editing *Drug Education in Schools: Searching for the Silver Bullet*

NDRI staff: Richard Midford

Project partners: Australian Drug Foundation

See box

##### *Drug Education in Schools: Searching for the Silver Bullet*

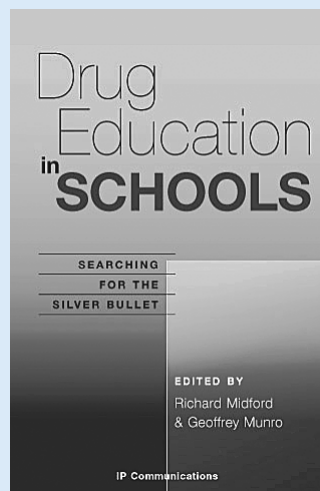
NDRI's Richard Midford believes that the development of a coherent national drug education strategy is crucial if the level and quality of drug education in schools across Australia is to improve.

In May, giving the Dame Elizabeth Murdoch Oration at the 5th International Conference on Drugs and Young People in Sydney, Associate Professor Midford said that while Australia has some good pockets of expertise such as committed drug education teachers and well conceptualised programs, it is critical to increase momentum at the national level.

He believes that although there is now considerable understanding among researchers of what constitutes an effective drug education program, and some world-class drug education research has been conducted in Australia, many programs currently in use have never been properly evaluated to see whether they actually work.



Richard Midford



“There have undoubtedly been some achievements in school drug education in recent years, including the development of new guiding principles”, said Professor Midford. “We now need to review what is currently being done against what is considered best practice. This process would be much enhanced with national leadership.”

Richard Midford's research, for example, has found that if certain 'critical components' are included in school-based drug education programs, they can be very effective in teaching students how to keep themselves and others safe from the harm arising from drug and alcohol use. The research is discussed *Drug Education in Schools: Searching for the Silver Bullet*, co-edited by Richard Midford and Geoff Munro, of the Australian Drug Foundation.

The book, which was launched at the Sydney conference, is written by an international team of authors with extensive career experience in the drugs field. It aims to provide a realistic perspective and practical guidance for teachers and others involved in developing or delivering school programs. It brings together research findings from around the world to present an up-to-date account of the achievements and limitations of contemporary drug education. Effective approaches and the circumstances in which they are most likely to succeed are identified. The book suggests that drug education is worthwhile when it is based on a practical understanding of young people, drug use and sound education methods, and is undertaken by skilled school staff, working in a supportive environment.

“Educators and anyone who works with young people should put this book on their reading list.”

*Drug and Alcohol Review*

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 6

### The development and evaluation of more effective community drug prevention programs

#### New Projects

##### Alcohol use during pregnancy: Formative intervention research

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Susan Carruthers  
Project partners: TICHR; NDARC

Qualitative research involves focus groups with pregnant women who consume alcohol. The primary aim of the focus groups is to identify potential intervention components, targets and strategies.

Quantitative research consists of a survey of approximately 400 pregnant women who consume alcohol. This will provide information about frequency and quantity of alcohol use, details of pregnancy history, and insights into potential intervention components, targets and strategies.

##### Dampier Peninsula prevention project

NDRI staff: Richard Midford  
Project partners: Kimberley Community Drug Service Team  
Funded by: AERF

The Dampier Peninsula prevention project is a two-year initiative during which time a designated project worker is placed within the Kimberley Community Drug Service Team to hold responsibility for the implementation and development of the project within the region. The main focus of the project is to work with target communities to reduce alcohol and drug related harm in the Dampier Peninsula region. The prevention of harm may include primary, secondary or tertiary prevention initiatives.

#### Ongoing Projects

##### Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP)

NDRI staff: Richard Midford, Fredrik Welander, Lianne Auld  
Project partners: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder  
Funded by: AERF

See box below

#### Completed Projects

##### Evaluation of the WA Responsible Parenting Initiative

NDRI staff: Richard Midford, Denise Cail  
Project partners: Australian Institute of Criminology

The Responsible Parenting Initiative was introduced by the Western Australian Government to promote the responsibility of parents in ensuring that their children do not engage in anti-social, truanting or offending behaviour and to provide appropriate assistance and support to enable them to meet this responsibility. The Australian Institute of Criminology had overall responsibility for evaluating the program, with NDRI undertaking data collection and analysis.

#### KAAP - An example of an innovative, whole-of-community project

The Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP) is a 3.5 year, whole-of-community, evidence driven initiative that aims to reduce the high rate of alcohol related harm in the Kalgoorlie-Boulder community. The project, which was initiated through a partnership between the Western Australian City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and NDRI, is based on the idea that most alcohol related harm, such as road crashes and assaults, is not caused by alcoholics, but by moderate drinkers who sometimes drink in a high-risk way.

KAAP will involve NDRI project staff working with the Kalgoorlie-Boulder community over several years. The first stage of the project is underway, in which research is being conducted to gain a fuller understanding of the current situation in relation to alcohol related harm.

The Kalgoorlie-Boulder community will then help choose and implement a range of prevention activities best suited to local circumstances. Those activities, based on what has worked in other communities, may include media campaigns to reduce risky drinking, brief interventions with drink drivers to reduce road crashes, and responsible service training to address serving of intoxicated patrons at bars and restaurants.

Project staff will also work with local agencies to achieve structural changes to how the community responds to alcohol and related harm.



KAAP Project Coordinator,  
Fredrik Welander

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 7

Identifying fundamental, strategic and developmental research questions in the area of prevention of harmful drug use

## New Projects

### Examination of cannabis contamination and potency in Australia

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: NDARC; Chemistry Centre WA

Funded by: NDARC

This pilot study, which is being led and funded by NDARC with input from NDRI, aims to improve our understanding of the potency and contamination of cannabis available on the Australian market. It uses various methodologies to identify and discuss the implications of trends in cannabis potency and the presence of contaminants. The study includes a literature review; consultations/interviews with experts on potency and contamination; an audit of websites associated with cannabis cultivation for information on potency and pesticides, growth promoters and contaminants relevant to local conditions; and a survey of users, growers and dealers addressing their knowledge and beliefs about potency and contamination.

## Ongoing Projects

### Does moderate drinking prevent heart disease? A meta-analysis

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: University of California, San Francisco, USA; Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley, USA; Centre for Addictions Research of BC, University of Victoria, Canada

Funded by: AERF

See box

## Completed Projects

### Misuse/abuse of benzodiazepines and other pharmaceutical drugs in Victoria

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers, Steve Allsop, Simon Lenton, James Fetherston

Funded by: DCPC, Victoria

This project involved the preparation of a draft interim report on behalf of the Victorian Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee, in accordance with the terms of reference of their inquiry into the misuse/abuse of benzodiazepines and other forms of pharmaceutical drugs in Victoria. The project included a literature review and analysis of submissions and public hearing transcripts. The Parliament of Victoria has now published a monograph based on the findings of the interim inquiry.

### International team questions alcohol's protection against heart disease

In April, a research team from Australia, the USA and Canada received international media attention upon publication of a paper in the journal *Addiction Research and Theory*, which challenged the widely held belief that 'moderate' drinking helps prevent heart disease.

The team included Kaye Fillmore and Alan Bostrom of the University of California, San Francisco, USA; William Kerr of the Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley, USA; Tim Stockwell of the Centre for Addictions Research of British Columbia, University of Victoria, Canada; and Tanya Chikritzhs of the National Drug Research Institute.

The research team investigated the suggestion first made by eminent British heart specialist Gerry Shaper that the majority of research studies suggesting 'moderate' drinking helps prevent heart disease may be flawed. This is because most of the studies made a consistent and serious error of including as 'abstainers' people who had cut down or quit drinking due to declining health, frailty, medication use or disability. When combined in the same group with *long-term* abstainers, deaths among these people in poor health may have increased the apparent risk of abstinence.

Fifty-four research studies linking how much people drank with risk of premature death from all causes including heart disease were analysed. It was found that only seven of the studies properly compared light drinkers with *long-term* abstainers, and their results showed no reduction in risk of death among the light drinkers compared with abstainers. The other 47 studies showed significantly lower risk of death among light drinkers compared with a group of "abstainers" that included people who had recently cut down or quit drinking.

The team cautioned that their research has not disproved the notion that light drinking is good for health as too few error-free studies have been performed. However, the extent to which these benefits actually translate into longer life may have been exaggerated.

Tanya Chikritzhs said the study, funded principally by the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation, demonstrated that drinking should not be taken up or justified on health grounds as the costs to individuals are likely to outweigh the benefits.

"The widely held belief that light (or 'moderate') drinking protects against coronary heart disease has had a great influence on alcohol policy and clinical advice of doctors to their patients throughout the world", said Dr Chikritzhs. "These findings suggest that caution should be exerted in recommending light drinking to abstainers."

The research team has called for more well-designed studies that assess people's alcohol intake and abstinence more precisely as their drinking patterns change with the years.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 8

**Investigating the influence of structural determinants and the social contexts of drug use on the implementation of strategies designed to reduce and prevent harmful drug use**

### New Projects

#### Working with homeless people who use drugs

NDRI staff: Jeremy Northcote, Zaza Lyons  
Project partners: St Bartholomew's House  
Funded by: ANCD

The aim of this project is to assess the extent and nature of alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems among homeless persons in Australia in order to develop a set of guidelines for assessing, managing and engaging with people who are homeless and have AOD problems. To this end, a comprehensive literature evaluation and consultation process is being undertaken and a best practice 'Resource Kit' produced for distribution to homeless agencies and organisations to assist them in their management of AOD problems among the homeless. As a special project initiated by ANCD, the outcomes of this project are envisaged to have far-reaching benefits for addressing AOD issues amongst the Australian homeless population and thereby improving health outcomes in this population group.

### Ongoing Projects

#### A multi-site investigation of the social meanings of alcohol misuse among young adults in recreational settings

NDRI staff: David Moore, Jeremy Northcote, Jocelyn Grace  
Funded by: AERF

This research project aims to describe the social contexts and cultural meanings of alcohol use among young adults in recreational settings in Perth; compare and contrast alcohol use in nightclubs, hotels and private parties; understand binge drinking and related risk behaviours; and investigate the impact of social networks and life transitions on young adults' use of alcohol.

The methodology links structured direct observation of the drinking practices of young people in recreational settings with in-depth interviews focusing on the meanings that they attach to these practices. In-depth interviews are also being conducted with key informants, including venue management, licensing authorities, youth agencies and other relevant stakeholders, in order to explore their understandings of the relevant issues and the ways in which they deal with alcohol-related harm amongst young people.

#### Ethnographic research: Identifying risk and enabling change

NDRI's ethnographic research focuses on identifying 'risk environments' for alcohol and other drug related harm. It examines the overlapping social, cultural, economic, physical and political environments of drug-related harm across two interacting levels: the 'micro' or local and immediate aspects of drug use; and the 'macro' or wider societal aspects.



Ethnographic research project leader  
David Moore

In this framework, policy and practice should aim to create 'enabling environments' by identifying various environmental barriers to reducing harm and systematically removing or decreasing them. This approach complements attempts to persuade drug users to change their behaviour by assuming that individual behaviour change is more likely if the environment is conducive to and supportive of such change.

#### An investigation of the links between social and economic disadvantage, alcohol consumption and related harm

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Paul Catalano  
Project partners: Turning Point; Deakin University  
Funded by: AERF

The overall aim of the "alcohol and poverty" study is to undertake an ecologic examination of the relationship between measures of income disparity and the rates of key alcohol related harms at a local-area level in Australia between 1996 and 2001. The specific objectives of the research project are to: develop measures of income disparity (GINI coefficients) for Australian Statistical Local Areas (SLAs); develop measures of the rate of key alcohol related harms for Australian SLAs as well as rates for a number of control conditions (eg diverticulitis); using multi-level models, examine the relationship between income inequality and the rate of alcohol related harms at an SLA level; and map the relationship between income inequality and the rate of alcohol related harms in Australian SLAs.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 8 (continued)

### Investigating the influence of structural determinants and the social contexts of drug use on the implementation of strategies designed to reduce and prevent harmful drug use

#### Improving understanding of psychostimulant related harm in Australia: An integrated ethno-epidemiological approach

NDRI staff: David Moore

Project partners: Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre; National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research; National Centre in Epidemiology and Population Health; National Development and Research Institutes, USA

Funded by: NHMRC

This research aims to provide a greater understanding of the social, cultural and economic contexts of psychostimulant use and related harm amongst young Australians. It focuses on recreational drug use in Perth, street-based injecting in Sydney and rave drug use in Melbourne, and uses an ongoing and concurrent combination of anthropological and epidemiological approaches (ethno-epidemiology) as well as innovative approaches to the integration of diverse data (agent-based modelling). Three PhD students, Rachael Green (Perth), Suzie Hudson (Sydney), and Christine Siokou (Melbourne), have been recruited to conduct the ethnographic research. The project will provide important data to inform future interventions to prevent psychostimulant-related harm, improve multidisciplinary models for drug research, and build Australia's capacity to conduct cutting-edge public health research.

## Ongoing Projects

#### Research into the cultures and contexts of ecstasy and related drug use in Victoria: New bases for prevention and harm minimisation

NDRI staff: David Moore

Project partners: Centre for Youth Drug Studies; Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre

Funded by: PDPC, Victoria

The objectives of this project are to: describe patterns of ecstasy and related drugs (ERDs) use, including settings of use, with whom use occurs, time and frequency of use, the profile and social networks of people who use ERDs, and how this changes over time and varies according to age and gender; identify the social and cultural contexts of ERDs users including the role and function ERDs play in their lives and how this changes over time and according to age and gender; identify the harms that users associate with ERDs use and the strategies they employ to reduce or manage those harms; describe users' perceived future patterns of ERDs use including alcohol and other drug use; and make recommendations about prevention approaches relevant to consumers of ERDs, including when and where these approaches would be most appropriate.

#### Study helps Melbourne's street-based injecting drug users and sex workers

The *Ethnographic study of heroin markets and health related harms in Melbourne*, funded by the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation, was led by NDRI's David Moore and involved collaborators from Monash University and Turning Point. It focused on the social contexts of heroin overdose and other drug-related harm amongst street-based injecting drug users and sex workers in Melbourne's St Kilda area. Research methods included ethnographic fieldwork and in-depth interviews with street-based injectors, sex workers and service providers, ongoing epidemiological monitoring and analysis of policy and practice documents.

A key finding was that despite good recognition of overdose risk factors and behavioural prevention strategies, their adoption was being undermined by the social, cultural and economic contexts of street-based injecting and sex work. Therefore, in addition to encouraging individual behaviour change, policy and practice needed to consider how to create 'enabling environments' for the reduction of drug-related harm, both at the micro level (eg extended needle and syringe program coverage, safer working environments for street sex workers and a supervised injecting facility) and macro level (eg addressing marginalisation through housing, employment and education).

The findings of this research have influenced and informed the redrafting of the City of Port Phillip's local drug strategy, which calls for the implementation of policy and practice recommendations emerging from the research. They have contributed to the redesign of existing drug services and renewed advocacy for a trial of a supervised injecting facility. They were also used in submissions by practitioners to Victorian politicians, including the Health Minister; were disseminated in other forums comprising policy makers, practitioners, residents and other stakeholders; and received extensive media coverage.

# Research Activities

## PhD Program

### New PhD Projects

[Use of online forums by Australian party drug users: Making drug use safer or more dangerous?](#)

PhD student: Monica Barrett  
PhD supervisors: Simon Lenton and Matthew Allen (Curtin University of Technology)  
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

### Ongoing PhD Projects

[An examination of injection drug use sites: The influence of social and physical context on drug-related harm and public health interventions](#)

PhD student: Will Small (enrolled University of British Columbia, Canada)  
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Jean Shoveller, Mark Tyndall (University of BC)

[Exploring drug users' socially constructed conceptualisations of drug use in the search for an alternative discourse](#)

PhD student: Laura Willis (enrolled Curtin)  
PhD supervisors: Ali Marsh, Brian Bishop (Curtin School of Psychology) and David Moore

[Loss and its consequences among town campers in Alice Springs: The role of alcohol and other drugs](#)

PhD student: Jane Ulrik  
PhD supervisors: Dennis Gray, Sherry Sagers  
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

[Pouring practices of 65-74 year old current drinkers: Implications for drinking guidelines and estimates of risk](#)

PhD student: Celia Wilkinson  
PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs  
Funded by: AERF, NDRI

[Social, cultural and economic processes in illicit drug markets and their public health consequences](#)

PhD student: Robyn Dwyer  
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Andrew Dawson (University of Melbourne)  
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

[The ethno-epidemiology of party drug use and related harm in the Melbourne club/rave scene](#)

PhD student: Christine Siokou  
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Helen Lee (La Trobe University)  
Funded by: NHMRC

[The ethno-epidemiology of recreational party drug use and related harm in Perth](#)

PhD student: Rachael Green  
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW)  
Funded by: NHMRC

[The ethno-epidemiology of psychostimulant use and related harm amongst street-based injecting drug users in Sydney](#)

PhD student: Susan Hudson (enrolled UNSW)  
PhD supervisors: Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW) and David Moore  
Funded by: NHMRC

[The harms associated with concurrent alcohol and party drug use amongst young people: Risk environments and the implications for prevention](#)

PhD student: Amy Pennay  
PhD supervisors: David Moore, Simon Lenton  
Funded by: AERF scholarship

[The relationship between non-fatal overdose of pharmaceutical medications, suicidality and depression](#)

PhD student: Penny Heale  
PhD supervisor: Wendy Loxley  
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

# Staff

## Academic Staff

### Director

Steve Allsop, BSc(Hons)(Stir), PostGradDip(Paisley), PhD(Curtin)

### Professors

Colin Binns, MBBS(WAust), MPH(Harv), PhD(Hon)(Inje,Seoul) FRACGP  
FAFOM FAFPHM (from July 06)

Robert Donovan, PhD(WAust) (from July 06)

Dennis Gray, BA MA(WAust), MPH PhD(Hawaii) (**Deputy Director**)

Peter Howat, DipTchg(Chch) DPE(Otago) PhD(III) (from July 06)

Andy Lee, MMath(Wat), PhDBioStats(ANU) (from July 06)

### Associate Professors

Simon Lenton, BPsych, MPsych(Clin)(WAust), PhD(Curtin) (**Deputy Director**)

Wendy Loxley, CertTch(Rhodesia), BA(Hons)(WAust), GradDipPsych(WAIT),  
MPsych PhD(Curtin)

Bruce Maycock, MEd(WAust), GradDipBus(ECowan) (from July 06)

Richard Midford, BA BPsych PhD(WAust), MPsych(Tas)

David Moore, BA(Hons) MA PhD(WAust)

Edward Wilkes, BA(Curtin) (from Dec 06)

### Senior Research Fellows

Tanya Chikritzhs, BA(Hons)(Murd), GradDipEpidBioStats PhD(Curtin)

Nyanda McBride, DipTeach BEd(WACA), PGradDipHlthProm MPH  
PhD(Curtin)

### Research Fellows

Susan Carruthers, BAppSc GradDipDiet MPH PhD(Curtin)

Owen Carter, BPsych(WAust) DPsych (Murd) BA (Ancient History)(WAust)  
(from July 06)

Paul Catalano, BSc (Hons) (WAust), MCrimJus (WAust), MA (Qu)

Ed Garrison, MEd(CalifState), BA(Harpur)

Jocelyn Grace, BSc(Hons)(WAust), PhD(Murd) (from April 06)

Geoffrey Jalleh, MPH(WAust) (from July 06)

Heidi Nietz, PhD, GradCert(Higher Ed) (until March 06)

Jeremy Northcote, BA(Hons)(Curtin), PhD(Murd)

Fredrik Welander, BSc(MidSweden)

### Research Associates

Liane Auld (until Oct 06)

Denise Cail (until Aug 06)

James Fetherston, BPsych PostGradDipADAS(WAust)

Jessica George, BA (Hons)(Murd)

Zaza Lyons, BA(Hons)(BristolUK), MPH(WAust)

Richard Pascal, BSc(Hons)(Curtin)

Anna Stearne, BA(ECowan), DipEd(WAust)

### Research Officer

Andrew Joyce, BA(Hon)(Melb) GradDipEd(Monash) PhDPsych(LaTrobe)

### Project Officer

Donna Campbell, (until Oct 06)

### PhD Students

Monica Barrett

Robyn Dwyer

Rachael Green

Penny Heale

Amy Pennay

Christine Siokou

Jane Ulrik

Celia Wilkinson

### Adjunct Professors

Kate Graham, CertT BA MA(SFraser), PhD(WOnt)

Sherry Siggers, BA(WAust), MA(Hawaii), PhD(Brown)

Tim Stockwell, MA(Hons)(Oxf), MSc(Sur), PhD(Lond)

### Emeritus Professor

David Hawks, BA(Hons)(WAust), MSc(Econ), DPsych(Lond), PhD(Qu) FBPsS  
CPsychol

### Adjunct Associate Professor

Peter d'Abbs, BA(Hons)(Melb), MA(Exe), PhD(Melb)

### Adjunct Senior Research Fellows

Richard Fordham, BA(Hons)(YorkUK), PhD(WAust)

Toni Makkai, BA, MA, PhD(Qu)

### Adjunct Research Fellows

Vi Bacon, BSW MHC(Curtin)

Kevin Boots, MA(LaTrobe), SEN(Alfred), GradDip(KingsleyColl), BA(Melb)

Neil Donnelly, BA(NSW), MA(Syd)

## Business Services Staff

Fran Davis, Business Manager

Philippa Greaves, Clerical Officer

Maggie Halls, Resource Officer

Paul Jones, Computer Systems Officer

Rachael Lobo, Communications Officer

Patricia Niklasson, Secretary/Admin Assistant

Vic Rechichi, Communications Officer

Pauline Taylor-Perkins, Administrative Assistant



# Dissemination Overview

The National Drug Research Institute widely disseminates its research findings to increase awareness of drug related harm and effective prevention strategies, and to inform community debate and public health policy and practice.

Research is disseminated through various means, including the media, publications and presentations, to policy makers, practitioners, public health professionals, other researchers, interest groups and the community. Further information can be found on NDRI's website at [www.ndri.curtin.edu.au](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au).

## Publications

Research findings are published in refereed journals, reports and monographs, which are widely circulated throughout Australia and internationally. The publication of NDRI's research findings has played a significant role in research translating into policy and practice.

## Presentations

Research findings are presented locally through the NDRI seminar series, and nationally and internationally through presentations at national and international conferences. NDRI also hosts regular conferences and directly influences policy through frequent presentations and submissions to national and state policy bodies.

## CentreLines

Produced alternately by NDRI and its sister organisation, NDARC, this bi-monthly newsletter presents the latest NDRI research and provides a platform for debate on issues affecting drug and alcohol policy.

## Research Bulletins

The findings of the National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP) are disseminated in four-page colour bulletins. This 'user friendly' approach has proven effective in broadening the reach of NDRI's research beyond the academic sphere.

## Website

Further information about NDRI's research is available through its website, [www.ndri.curtin.edu.au](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au). The site is a popular way for the community, the media and other researchers to access NDRI's work, registering more than 500,000 hits annually.

## Media

The media is an important conduit for NDRI's research to reach the community. NDRI has built a reputation as a source of reliable scientific information on a range of issues concerned with the prevention of alcohol and drug-related harm.

The provision of expert comment and evidence based research has enhanced NDRI's efforts to disseminate its research findings widely and to inform and participate in alcohol and other drug policy development in Australia.

In 2006, NDRI received more than 220 mentions in the media. Research findings and comment were carried by international, national, regional and local news and current affairs outlets.



# Dissemination Activities

## Publications

### Published Articles, Chapters and Books

- Allsop, S., Chikritzhs, T. and Rechichi, V. (2006) Alcohol and teenagers: Risky business. *Issues*, 74, pp 15-19.
- Amonini, C. and Donovan, R. (2006) The relationship between youth's moral and legal perceptions of alcohol, tobacco and marijuana and the use of these substances. *Health Education Research: Theory and Practice*, 21, (2), pp 276-286.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2006) Profit versus harm: The paradox of alcohol regulation in Australia. *Centrelines*, 18, pp 2-3.
- Chikritzhs, T. and Brady, M. (2006) Fact or fiction? A critique of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey 2002. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25, pp 277-287.
- Chikritzhs, T. and Brady, M. (2006) Substance use in the 2002 NATSISS in assessing the evidence on indigenous socioeconomic outcomes: A focus on the 2002 NATSISS. *The Australian National University*, 26, pp 231-247. ANU E Press, Canberra.
- Chikritzhs, T. and Stockwell, T.R. (2006) The impact of later trading hours for hotels on levels of impaired driver road crashes and driver breath alcohol levels. *Addiction*, 101, (9), pp 1254-1264.
- Degenhardt, L., Black, E., Breen, C., Bruno, R., Kinner, S., Roxburgh, A., Fry, C., Jenkinson, R., Ward, J., Fetherston, J., Weekley, J. and Fischer, J. (2006) Trends in morphine prescriptions, illicit morphine use and associated harms among regular injecting drug users in Australia. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25, pp 403-412.
- Dietze, P., Jolley, D., Fry, C., Bammer, G. and Moore, D. (2006) When is a little knowledge dangerous? Circumstances of recent heroin overdose and links to knowledge of overdose risk factors. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 84, (3), pp 223-230.
- Donovan, R., Jalleh, G. and Carter, O. (2006) Tobacco industry smoking prevention advertisements' impact on youth motivation for smoking in the future. *Social Marketing Quarterly*, 12, (2), pp 3-13.
- Donovan, R., Jalleh, G., Stewart, S. and Sullivan, D. (2006) Is there public support for banning smoking in motor vehicles? *Tobacco Control*, 15, p 71.
- Fillmore, K.M., Kerr, W.C., Stockwell, T.R., Chikritzhs, T. and Bostrom, A. (2006) Moderate alcohol use and reduced mortality risk: Systematic error in prospective studies. *Addiction Research and Theory*, 14, (2), pp 101-132.
- Gray, D., Pulver-Jackson, L., Saggars, S. and Waldon, J. (2006) Addressing indigenous substance misuse and related harms. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25, pp 183-188.
- Higgs, P., Moore, D. and Aitken, C. (2006) Engagement, reciprocity and advocacy: Ethical harm reduction practice in research with injecting drug users. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25, (5), pp 419-423.
- Jalleh, G., Stewart, S. and Sullivan, D. (2006). Is there public support for banning smoking in motor vehicles? *Tobacco Control*, 15, p 71.
- Johnston, J., Barratt, M.J., Fry, C.L., Kinner, S., Stoové, M., Degenhardt, L., George, J., Jenkinson, R., Dunn, M. and Bruno, R. (2006) A survey of regular ecstasy users' knowledge and practices around determining pill content and purity: Implications for policy and practice. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 17, (6), pp 464-472.
- Lee, A. and Hamilton, G. (2006) Multilevel logistic regression modelling with correlated random effects: Application to the Smoking Cessation for Youth Study. *Statistics in Medicine*, 25, (22), pp 3864-3876.
- Lenton, S. (2006) Cannabis, health and the law. In *Proceedings of the Australasian Schizophrenia Conference*, 40, (2), p A120.
- Lenton, S. (2006) Is the embracing of random roadside saliva testing to prevent drug-affected driving premature? *Centrelines*, 19, pp 2-4.
- Lenton, S. (2006). What's the deal on Dope? *Issues*, 74, pp 38-40.
- Lenton, S. and Midford, R. (2006) Response: Research regulation by omission and by publication. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 17, pp 244-245.
- Lenton, S., Bevan, J. and Lamond, T. (2006) Threat or opportunity? Secondary exchange in a setting with widespread availability of needles. *Substance Use and Misuse*, 41, pp 845-864.
- Midford, R. (2006) Looking to the future: Providing a basis for effective school drug education. In Midford, R. and Munro, G. (eds) *Drug education in schools: Searching for the silver bullet*, pp 213-230. IP Communications, Melbourne.
- Midford, R. (2006) Preventing alcohol problems in a changing world: What does community action offer? *DrugInfo*, 5, (1), pp 2/7.
- Midford, R. (2006) Should parents buy the booze for leavers' week. *The West Australian, Health + Medicine*, 15 November, p 5.
- Midford, R. (2006) Why is drug education popular? *Issues*, 74, pp 41-42.
- Midford, R. and Munro, G. (2006) Preface. In Midford, R. and Munro, G. (eds) *Drug education in schools: Searching for the silver bullet*, ix-xii. IP Communications, Melbourne.
- Midford, R. and Munro, G. (eds) (2006) *Drug education in schools: Searching for the silver bullet*. IP Communications, Melbourne.

# Dissemination Activities

## Publications (continued)

### Indigenous researchers focus on solutions to Indigenous alcohol and drug issues

In May 2006, the journal *Drug and Alcohol Review* published a special Indigenous issue in which Indigenous researchers focused on solutions to some of the alcohol and drug issues facing Indigenous people in Australia. The issue was edited by NDRI's Dennis Gray, Sherry Sagers (ECU) Lisa Jackson Pulver (UNSW) and John Waldon (Massey University, NZ), who undertook to provide special editorial assistance to Indigenous authors. The editors also wrote a paper contextualising and commenting upon the eight papers in the collection.

The journal papers described projects conducted in urban, remote and regional towns to address issues with petrol, tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs. The papers were written by people actively involved in working to improve the health and welfare of Indigenous people by developing and conducting specific intervention projects with Indigenous communities. Seven of the eight papers were authored or co-authored by Indigenous people, including health service administrators and service providers, as well as individuals employed in academic institutions.

On publication of the journal, Dennis Gray said the papers showed that action to address alcohol and other drug problems in Indigenous communities needed to take place on two fronts.

Generally, action was needed to address the underlying structural determinants of Indigenous health, including providing meaningful employment, providing an educational system that is relevant and supports Indigenous Australians, tackling poverty, and providing an opportunity to accumulate life-long assets, social and financial capital.

Specifically, action needed to be directly targetted at reducing harmful alcohol and drug consumption, and providing specific drug prevention and treatment programs.

"Alcohol and drug problems affect the whole Australian community. Such problems have major relevance for Indigenous communities, but these papers demonstrate that we can reduce these problems in partnership with Indigenous people," Professor Dennis Gray said.



NDRI Indigenous Research Team leader Dennis Gray with Tangentyere Council researchers Peggy Forrester, Lorraine Pepperill and Vanessa Davis

Included in the special issue of *Drug and Alcohol Review* was a paper contributed by Aboriginal researchers at Tangentyere Council in Alice Springs. NDRI has a long-standing relationship with the Council and is involved in providing training and support for the Council's own 'research hub' (see page 11).

The paper, *Researching ourselves back to life': New ways of doing Aboriginal alcohol research*, highlights the importance – and provides an example – of Aboriginal control over research. It describes how Aboriginal people from Tangentyere Council conducted a survey of the attitudes of people who reside in Town Camps to a trial of liquor licensing restrictions in Alice Springs; how the results of the survey were used; and how the project led to the establishment of a permanent Tangentyere Council 'Research Hub'.

The paper provides a model of conducting research for other Aboriginal community-controlled organisations and can inform non-Aboriginal researchers about ways of working with Aboriginal community organisations to address substance misuse and other health problems.

Midford, R., Pettingell, J. and Stothard, B. (2006) The history of drug education: An Australian perspective. In Midford, R. and Munro, G. (eds) *Drug education in schools: Searching for the silver bullet*, pp 20-39. IP Communications, Melbourne.

Miller, P., Moore, D. and Strang, J. (2006) The regulation of research by funding bodies: an emerging ethical issue for the alcohol and other drug sector? *International Journal on Drug Policy*, 17, (1), pp 12-16.

Moore, D. and Fraser, S. (2006) Putting at risk what we know: Reflecting on the drug-using subject in harm reduction and its political implications. *Social Science and Medicine*, 62, (12), pp 3035-3047.

Northcote, J. (2006) Focus groups. *Of Substance*, 4, (1), pp 16-17.

Northcote, J. (2006) Nightclubbing and the search for identity: Making the transition from childhood to adulthood in an urban milieu. *Journal of Youth Studies*, 9, (1), pp 1-16.

# Dissemination Activities

## Publications (continued)

- Northcote, J. and Lyons, Z. (2006) Research on homelessness and substance use: Where do we go from here? *Parity*, 19, (8), p 25.
- Northcote, J., Lyons, Z., Allsop, S., Howard, J. and Evans, L. (2006) Working with homeless people who use alcohol and other drugs: Devising a resource guide for frontline practitioners. *Parity*, 19, (8), p 30.
- Saggers, S., Gray, D. and Stempel, P. (2006) Sex, drugs and indigenous young people. In Aggleton, P., Ball, A. and Mane, P. (eds) *Sex, drugs and young people: International perspectives*, pp 200-218. Routledge, London.
- Winter, M. and Donovan, R. (2006) Does alcohol advertising impact on young people's drinking? A review of the alcohol industry's case. *CentreLines*, 20, pp 2-4.
- Loxley, W. (2006). Australian Alcohol Guideline 5: A review of some literature and issues. Report prepared for AGDHA. National Drug Research Institute, Perth.
- Loxley, W., Lyons, Z., Chikritzhs, T., Allsop, S., Gray, D., Lenton, S., McBride, N. and Midford, R. (2006). Alcohol and harm reduction. A report prepared for the World Health Organization. National Drug Research Institute, Perth.
- McBride, N., Farrington, F., Meuleners, L. and Midford, R. (2006) The School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP). Details of intervention development and research procedures. National Drug Research Institute, Perth.
- Stafford, J., Degenhardt, L., Black, E. and Fetherston, J. (2006) Australian drug trends 2005: Findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS). National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, Sydney.

## Monographs and Technical Reports

- Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee - Parliament of Victoria. (2006) Inquiry into misuse/abuse of benzodiazepines and other pharmaceutical drugs. Consultants and chapter writers Allsop, S., Lenton, S., Carruthers, S, and Fetherston, J. (2006). No. 223 Session 2003-2006. Authority Government Printer for the State of Victoria, Melbourne.
- Fetherston, J. and Lenton, S. (2006) WA drug trends 2005: Findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS). National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, Sydney.
- Fillmore, K., Stockwell, T.R., Kerr, W., Chikritzhs, T. and Bostrom, A. (2006) Systematic error in prospective studies of alcohol use and mortality risk: A meta-analysis of prospective mortality studies and re-estimation of the impact of alcohol on premature mortality in Australia. National Drug Research Institute, Perth.
- George, J. and Lenton, S. (2006) WA trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2005: Findings from the Party Drugs Initiative (PDI). National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, Sydney.
- Gray, D., Shaw, G., d'Abbs, P., Brooks, D., Stearne, A., Mosey, A. and Spooner, C. (2006) Policing, volatile substance misuse and Indigenous Australians. Monograph Series No. 16, National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund, Mardon, SA.
- Howat, P., Maycock, B., Sleet, D., Lower, T. and Elder, R. (2006) Preventing alcohol related problems: A review of the effectiveness of health promotion interventions. Report for the International Union of Health Promotion and Education/WHO. Curtin University of Technology, Perth.
- Hunt, N., Lenton, S. and Witton, J. (2006) Cannabis and mental health: Responses to the emerging evidence. The Beckley Foundation Drug Policy Programme, London.
- Stafford, J., Degenhardt, L., Dunn, M., Fischer, J., George, J., Johnston, J., Mathews, A., Newman, J., Proudfoot, P. and Weekley, J. (2006) Australian trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2005: Findings from the Party Drugs Initiative (PDI). National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, Sydney.
- Tressider, J., Cail, D. and Homel, P. (2006). The developmental phase of the Responsible Parenting Initiative: A process evaluation. Australian Institute of Criminology, Canberra, ACT.

# Dissemination Activities

## Presentations

### Conference Presentations

- Allsop, S. (2006) Drinking and the ageing population. Invited presentation at the 6th Korean Society of Alcohol Science Fall Meeting - Alcohol Policy: Ageing and Drinking, Legislation Memorial Hall, Seoul, Korea, 8 December 2006.
- Allsop, S. (2006) Prevention, education and community responses to reduce use and related harms. Invited keynote presentation at the National Leadership Forum on Ice, Radisson Plaza Hotel, Sydney, NSW, 14 December 2006.
- Allsop, S. (2006) Responding to drug-related harm in the workplace. Invited keynote plenary presentation at the Australasian Amphetamine Conference, Sydney Convention Centre, Sydney, NSW, 28-29 September 2006.
- Allsop, S. (2006) Responses to alcohol problems in Australia: Alcohol strategies and alcohol taxation. Invited presentation at the 1st International Alcohol Conference (Korea), The Federation of Korean Industries Building, Seoul, Korea, 5-7 December 2006.
- Allsop, S. (2006) Targeting attitudes to risk and strategies to improve risk-taking behaviour in regards to drugs and alcohol. Invited presentation at the 3rd Annual Australian Mine Safety Conference, Duxton Hotel, Perth, WA, 12-15 September 2006.
- Allsop, S. (2006) Testing the magic bullet: The potential and limitations of drug testing in the workplace. Invited keynote presentation at the NCETA conference - 24/7: Work-Related Alcohol & Drug Use - A National Forum, Hilton Adelaide, Adelaide, SA, 29-30 June 2006.
- Allsop, S. and Chikritzhs, T. (2006) Policing alcohol and drug issues. Keynote presentation at the WA Police Service Seminar, WA Police Academy, Perth, WA, 11 August 2006.
- Allsop, S. and Fetherston, J. (2006) Trends in amphetamine use in WA. Invited presentation at the WA Aboriginal AOD Symposium, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 23-24 May 2006.
- Carter, O. (2006) Australian tobacco control campaigns 1997-2005: An audit of unpublished research and campaign evaluations. Behavioural Research in Cancer Control Conference, Brisbane, Qld, 29 September 2006.
- Carter, O., Weller, N. and Donovan, R. (2006) Impact of smoking images in magazines on youth smoking attitudes and intentions. Behavioural Research in Cancer Control Conference, Brisbane, Qld, 28 September 2006.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2006) Australia's National Alcohol Indicators Project, 1999-2006: A model for Canada? Invited presentation at the Public Symposium on Estimating Alcohol's Benefits and Harms, Vancouver, Canada, 4 May 2006.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2006) Evidence for hypothecated alcohol taxation? Revisiting the evaluation of the Northern Territory's Living With Alcohol Program. Presented at the 17th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm, Vancouver, Canada, 30 April-4 May 2006.
- Dwyer, R. (2006) Harm reduction and the pleasures of "Normie" injection among heroin user-sellers of Vietnamese ethnicity. Presented at the 9th Social Research Conference on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases, Kingsford, NSW, 20-21 April 2006.
- Fetherston, J. (2006) Sharing and testing: Injecting drug user behaviour in an age of viruses. Invited presentation at the National Drug Trends Conference 2006, Cairns Convention Centre, Cairns, Qld, 5 November 2006.
- George, J. (2006) Party Drugs Initiative: WA trends in ecstasy and related drug markets, 2003-2005. Invited presentation at the Alcohol and Drug Adviser's Conference, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 7-10 February 2006.
- Grace, J. (2006) Pleasure and harm reduction: Understanding and responding to the drinking practices of young adults in Perth. Presented at the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs (APSAD) Conference 2006, Cairns Convention Centre, Cairns, Qld, 5-8 November 2006.
- Gray, D. (2006) Partnerships in the building and sustaining of Indigenous Australian research capacity. Keynote presentation at the 2006 Public Health Association of New Zealand Conference 'Sustaining Public Health – Pupuritia Te Whare Tapa Wha', Palmerston North Convention Centre, Palmerston North, New Zealand, 4-7 July 2006.
- Gray, D. and Saggars, S. (2006) Taking charge of Indigenous research: The Tangentyere Council experience. Invited presentation at the International Society for Biological Research on Alcohol 2006 World Congress on Alcohol Research, Sofitel Wentworth Sydney, Sydney, NSW, 10-13 September 2006.
- Hallett, J., Howat, P., Maycock, B., McManus, A. and Kypri, K. (2006) Male university student perceptions of alcohol use: Implications for health promotion. Presented at the Men's Advisory Network National Conference, Perth, WA, 29 October-1 November 2006.
- Hallett, J., Maycock, B., McManus, A., Kypri, K. and Howat, P. (2006) Alcohol use by university students: preventing high risk drinking. Presented at the Eighth Behavioural Research in Cancer Control Conference, Brisbane, Qld, 27-29 September 2006.
- Howat, P., Maycock, B., Elder, R. and James, R. (2006) A global review of the effectiveness of health promotion in preventing alcohol related problems. Invited presentation at the Australian Health Promotion Association National Conference, Alice Springs, NT, 23-26 April 2006.

# Dissemination Activities

## Presentations (continued)

- Lenton, S. (2006) Cannabis, health and the law. Invited plenary presentation at the Australasian Schizophrenia Conference, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 21-23 August 2006.
- Lenton, S. (2006) Making the most of 'windows of opportunity' for drug policy change' theoretical and practical aspects. Presented at the 17th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 30 April-4 May 2006.
- Lenton, S. (2006) Stirring the pot: Is 'legalization or decriminalization' the right question? Invited plenary presentation at the 17th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 30 April-4 May 2006.
- Loxley, W. (2006) Reducing the harms of alcohol: Evidence for effective alcohol policy in Australia. Presented at the 17th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 30 April-4 May 2006.
- Loxley, W. (2006) Women, drugs and criminal justice: Findings from the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia study. Presented at the 17th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 30 April-4 May 2006.
- Maycock, B. and Howat, P. (2006) Prevention of alcohol and other risk behaviours for youth. Invited presentation at the Youthsafe Conference, Sydney, NSW, 31 May 2006.
- Midford, R. (2006) Are governments serious about drug education in schools? Invited presentation at the Auckland Drugs and Young People Hui, Orakei Marae, Auckland, New Zealand, 1 June 2006.
- Midford, R. (2006) Is Australia 'fair dinkum' about drug education in schools? - 3rd Dame Elizabeth Murdoch Oration. Keynote presentation at the 5th International Conference on Drugs and Young People, AJC Convention Centre, Sydney, NSW, 24-26 May 2006.
- Moore, D. (2006) Erasing pleasure in drug discourses: On the creation and reproduction of an absence. Invited plenary presentation at the Dangerous Consumptions IV conference, Humanities Research Centre, Canberra, 4-5 December 2006.
- Moore, D. (2006) Intersecting spaces: Globalisation, young people and drug use. Presented at the 17th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 30 April-4 May 2006.
- Moore, D. (2006) Pleasure minimisation in drug research discourses: On the creation and reproduction of an absence. Invited plenary presentation at the 9th Social Research Conference on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases, Kingsford, NSW, Australia, 20-21 April 2006.
- Northcote, J., Grace, J., & Moore, D. (2006) The tribulations and jublations of peer-based participant observation: Friends documenting friends at nightlife venues. Presentation at The Australian Sociological Association (TASA) Conference, Perth, WA, 5-7 December 2006.
- Pascal, R. (2006) First report from the Indigenous National Alcohol Indicators Project. Presented at the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs (APSAD) Conference 2006, Cairns Convention Centre, Cairns, Qld, 5-8 November 2006.

## Symposium Presentations

- Carruthers, C. (2006) Hepatitis C and injecting drug use research. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- Chikritzhs, T., Stockwell, T. and Pascal, R. (2006) Living With Alcohol revisited: The impact before, during and after. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- Fetherston, J. (2006) Are Western Australian injecting drug users returning to opiates? Drug trends from the Illicit Drugs Reporting System (IDRS) and Party Drugs Initiative (PDI) 2005. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- George, J. (2006) WA trends in ecstasy and related drug markets: Findings of PDI 2003-2005. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- Grace, J., Northcote, J. and Moore, D. (2006) Parties, pubs and clubs: Understanding drinking practices among young adults in Perth. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- Gray, D. (2006) Substance misuse intervention programs: What works? Invited presentation at the Australian Institute of Criminology Symposium 'Family Violence, Drug and Alcohol Use in Remote Communities, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Darwin, NT, 11th August 2006.
- Green, R. (2006) Investigating recreational party drug use and related harms among young people in Perth: Cultural practices and social contexts of use. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from

# Dissemination Activities

## Presentations (continued)

- the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- Lenton, S. (2006) Research contributions to cannabis law reform in Western Australia. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- Loxley, W. (2006) Women, drugs and criminal justice: Findings from the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia study. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- McBride, N., Farrington, F., Meulners, L. and Midford, R. (2006) The School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project – SHAHRP. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- Midford, R. (2006) An evaluation of liquor licensing restrictions in the Western Australian community of Port Hedland. Presented at the Kettill Bruun Society thematic symposium on population level studies on alcohol consumption and harm, Delta Chelsea Hotel, Toronto, Canada, 1st-5th October 2006.
- Midford, R. (2006) The legacy of COMPARI: A community mobilisation project to reduce alcohol related harm. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- Moore, D. (2006) Identifying risk and enabling change: NDRI's ethnographic research program. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- Welander, F., Auld, L. and Midford, R. (2006) Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project: Taking action to reduce alcohol related harm in our community. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- Wilkinson, C. (2006) Alcohol use and older Australians: An investigation. Poster presentation at NDRI's 20th Anniversary Research Symposium - Responding to drug problems: Lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities, Acacia Hotel, Perth, WA, 25-26 September 2006.
- Allsop, S. (2006) IGCD Strategic Workshop. Invited keynote presentation at the IGCD Strategic Workshop, Royal on the Park, Brisbane, Qld, 18-19 July 2006.
- Allsop, S. (2006) NDRI Consultancy: (1) Planning for delivery of community alcohol and drug services, Darwin, NT, 22 June 2006; (2) Workshop on responding to clients who present through the Diversion Program (NT Government), Darwin, NT, 23 June 2006.
- Allsop, S. (2006) Risk-taking and prevention in drug and alcohol. Keynote presentation at the Roundtable on Adolescent Risk-Taking (NSW), NSW Commission for Children and Young People, Surry Hills, NSW, 29 May 2006.
- Allsop, S. (2006) Workshop on Drugs at Work (SA Government). Keynote presentation at the Roundtable on Adolescent Risk-Taking (NSW), NSW Commission for Children and Young People, Surry Hills, NSW, 29 May 2006.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2006) Does moderate drinking prevent heart disease? Invited presentation at the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation Meeting, Rydges Hotel, Perth, WA, 3 August 2006.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2006) Ischaemic heart disease and counting the cost attributable to alcohol – is there really a quantifiable benefit? Presented at the workshop on the social costs of drug use and avoidable costs of alcohol use in Australia, AIHW, Sydney, NSW, 24 March 2006.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2006) Workshop on the social costs of drug use and avoidable costs of alcohol use in Australia. Keynote presentation at the Roundtable on Adolescent Risk-Taking (NSW), NSW Commission for Children and Young People, Surry Hills, NSW, 29 May 2006.
- Gray, D. (2006) Alcohol misuse intervention strategies. Presented at the Combined Aboriginal Organisations of Alice Springs workshop on alcohol misuse intervention strategies, Alice Springs Resort, Alice Springs, NT, 15 June 2006.

## Workshop Presentations

# Dissemination Activities

## Presentations (continued)

### Seminar Presentations

- Allsop, S. and Chikritzhs, T. (2006) Impact of alcohol and other drugs on WA Police frontline resources. Invited presentation at the Superintendents Forum: Policing Alcohol and Drug Issues, Flat Lecture Theatre (T2), Joondalup, WA, 11 August 2006.
- Carruthers, S.J. (2006) Hepatitis C and Indigenous Australians in WA. Invited presentation at the Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations Forum, Mercure Hotel, Perth, WA, 3 May 2006.
- Carruthers, S.J. (2006) The burden of illness and hepatitis. Invited presentation at the lecture given to 3rd year medical students, Notre Dame University, Fremantle, WA, 21 April 2006.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2006) Alcohol and drugs in context. Invited presentation at the Murdoch University Chiropractic Seminars, Murdoch University, Perth, WA, 1 July 2006.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2006) Calling last drinks: The impact of later closing hours for pubs on alcohol-related problems. Presented at the ICCWA Annual General Meeting 2006, Perth, WA, 30 December 2006.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2006) Does a standard drink a day really keep the cardiologist away? Invited keynote presentation at the Mark Liveris Health Sciences Research Seminar 2006, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, WA, 10 November 2006.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2006) Time is money: Getting a handle on the true cost of alcohol-related incidents to frontline police resources. Presented at the Contemporary Australian City: New Ethnographic and Narrative Accounts of Life in Australian Cities - A Postgraduate Anthropology Seminar, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Vic, 4 August 2006.
- Dwyer, R. (2006) The social life of smokes: Incorporating the ethnographer in a social field. Presented at the Contemporary Australian City: New Ethnographic and Narrative Accounts of Life in Australian Cities - A Postgraduate Anthropology Seminar, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Vic, 4 August 2006.
- Fetherston, J. (2006) Illicit drug trends in WA: Findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System and the Party Drugs Initiative. Invited presentation to Next Step, East Perth, WA, 13 September 2006.
- Fetherston, J. (2006) Illicit drugs: An overview of trends, harms and risk factors. Presented at the lecture given to 2nd year medical students, Notre Dame University, Fremantle, WA, 17 May 2006.
- Fetherston, J. (2006) WA drug trends 2005: Findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System and the Party Drugs Initiative. Invited presentation at the Organised Crime Squad Training Seminar, RAAF Base Pearce, Bullsbrook, WA, 13-27 March 2006.
- Gray, D. (2006) Policing, volatile substance misuse, and Indigenous Australians. Invited presentation at the Superintendents Forum: Policing Alcohol and Drug Issues, Flat Lecture Theatre (T2), Joondalup, WA, 11 August 2006.
- Lenton, S. (2006) Pot, politics and the press: Cannabis law reform in Western Australia. Presented at the University of Victoria Public Seminar, University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, 12 May 2006.
- Lenton, S. (2006) The cannabis infringement notice scheme in Western Australia: Overview and evaluation. Invited presentation at the Meeting of the Womens' Justices Association, May Holman Centre, Perth, WA, 27 February 2006.
- Midford, R. (2006) Are governments serious about drug education in schools? Invited presentation at the Christchurch Drugs and Young People Seminar, Holiday Inn on Avon, Christchurch, New Zealand, 29 May 2006.
- Midford, R. (2006) Are governments serious about drug education in schools? Invited presentation at the 2nd Annual Policy Roundtable, Drugs and Young People, Parliament House, Wellington, New Zealand, 31st May 2006.
- Midford, R. (2006) Are governments serious about drug education in schools? Some messages from the Australian experience. Presented at the Centre for History in Public Health and Centre for Research on Drugs and Health Behaviour Seminar, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK, 11 October 2006.
- Midford, R. (2006) Australian community programs to reduce alcohol problems: Past projects, future directions. Presented at the Oxford Brookes University Community Seminar, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK, 10 October 2006.
- Midford, R. (2006) The Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP): Collecting data to better understand what the community wants. Presented at the Westlink video presentation to WA country centres, Dumas House, West Perth, 11 September 2006.
- Midford, R. (2006) What are researchers' experiences with knowledge exchange?: Brief case examples. Presented at the Seminar on knowledge exchange and translation research and effective alcohol policies: International perspectives and local opportunities, Delta Chelsea Hotel, Toronto, Canada, 6 October 2006.
- Moore, D. (2006) Harm reduction and the drug-using subject: Available options and their political implications. Presented at the Drug and Alcohol Seminar Series, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University College London, London, UK, 17 May 2006.



# Dissemination Activities

## Presentations (continued)

### NDRI Seminar Series

23 March 2006

#### **WA drug trends 2005: Findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System and the Party Drugs Initiative**

James Fetherston, NDRI

27 April 2006

#### **Is Australia 'fair dinkum' about drug education in schools?**

Richard Midford, NDRI

25 May 2006

#### **A review of restrictions on the sale and supply of alcohol in Australia**

Zaza Lyons, NDRI

6 June 2006

#### **A snapshot of alcohol policy research at NDRI**

Tanya Chikritzhs, NDRI

29 June 2006

#### **Does narrative therapy practice have potential to assist Indigenous Australians reduce substance misuse?**

Vi Bacon, NDRI

27 July 2006

#### **Outlet density: The relationship between alcohol outlet density and alcohol related harms in WA**

Paul Catalano, NDRI

31 August 2006

#### **National competition policy and liquor regulation**

Richard Pascal and Steve Allsop, NDRI

27 September 2006

#### **The Drug Policy Modelling Program (DPMP)**

Alison Ritter, National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, Sydney

26 October 2006

#### **Policing, volatile substance misuse and Indigenous Australians**

Dennis Gray, NDRI

8 November 2006

#### **Treating complicated grief and co-occurring substance use disorders**

Allan Zuckoff, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, University of Pittsburgh

9 November 2006

#### **NDRI information evening for 2007 honours and masters students**

Steve Allsop, Susan Carruthers, Wendy Loxley, Tanya Chikritzhs, Rachael Green, Celia Wilkinson, James Fetherston, NDRI

14 November 2006

#### **Tobacco control – the state of the art**

Mike Daube, Professor of Health Policy, Curtin University of Technology

20 November 2006

#### **The health impacts and politics of change in the minimum purchase age for alcohol in New Zealand**

Kyp Kypri, Senior Lecturer, University of Newcastle

# Finance Report

The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing provided \$1,837,439 to the Institute's core funding for the period January to December 2006. Details of income and expenditure follow.

<b>National Drug Research Institute Core Income and Expenditure 2006</b>		
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>Total</b>
AGDHA	1,837,439	
Commonwealth Grants Other	8,400	
State Grants Research	7,500	
NHMRC Study Grants	8,529	
Research Contributions	78,526	
RPI Income	41,575	
Curtin R&D Contribution	83,333	
Sundry Income	16,212	
Interest	11,922	
<b>Surplus BF from December 2005</b>	<b>334,063</b>	<b>\$2,427,499</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Salaries	1,760,684	
Operating costs	329,306	
Capital Costs	10,975	
PhD Scholarships	43,772	\$2,144,737
<b>Surplus at 31 December 2006</b>		<b>\$282,762</b>
Add Reserves	151,601	\$151,601
<b>Total funds available at 31 December 2006</b>		<b>\$434,363</b>

# Finance Report

National Competitive Grants and Tenders				
Project	Funder	Total grant approved for project	Grant received in 2006	Expenditure in 2006
Illicit drug reporting system (IDRS)	AGDHA via NDARC	\$265,900	\$49,817	\$43,427
Ecstasy and related drugs reporting system (EDRS)	AGDHA via NDARC	\$177,670	\$44,356	\$48,439
Moderate drinking and deaths in Australia	AERF	\$215,900	\$20,000	\$27,565
Policing implications of petrol sniffing and inhalant misuse in Aboriginal communities	NDLERF	\$139,440	\$0	\$18,395
Improving understanding of psychostimulant-related harms in Australia: An integrated ethno-epidemiological approach.	NHMRC	\$603,910	\$169,357	\$179,225
Travel study grant	NHMRC	\$8,529	\$8,529	\$3,490
Concurrent alcohol and party drug use (PhD Scholarship)	AERF	\$99,993	\$35,065	\$39,363
Kalgoorlie alcohol action project (KAAP)	AERF	\$799,981	\$0	\$138,535
Multi-site investigation of the social meanings of alcohol misuse among young adults in recreational settings	AERF	\$308,286	\$121,120	\$80,541
Review of restrictions on the sale and supply of alcohol in Australia and Western Australia	AERF	\$61,808	\$56,808	\$36,087
Indigenous alcohol and drug staff development initiative	AERF	\$18,648	\$18,648	\$9,830
Enhancement of the patrol monitoring and evaluation database	AERF	\$247,446	\$235,000	\$119,749
NDRI 20th anniversary research symposium	AERF	\$20,000	\$0	\$0
Working with homeless people who use drugs	ANCD	\$63,587	\$0	\$13,897
Research into alcohol outlet density and related harm	NDLERF	\$58,481	\$36,364	\$45,088
		<b>\$3,089,578</b>	<b>\$795,063</b>	<b>\$803,630</b>

# Finance Report

State Competitive Grants and Tenders				
Project	Funder	Total grant approved for project	Grant received in 2006	Expenditure in 2006
New Independent Researcher Infrastructure Award 2005	HDWA	\$15,000	\$0	\$16,012
Assessment of the effectiveness of the regulation of alcohol in WA (WALL)	HDWA	\$27,053	\$22,727	\$22,150
Towards a model of care for injecting drug users in hepatitis C treatment	CSRGS	\$9,959	\$9,959	\$4,000
MHRIF Round 9 Award - Simon Lenton	HDWA	\$11,977	\$11,977	\$0
MHRIF Round 9 Award - Dennis Gray	HDWA	\$9,428	\$9,428	\$3,987
MHRIF Round 9 Award - Nyanda McBride	HDWA	\$11,252	\$11,252	\$0
NIRIS Award - Tanya Chikritzhs	HDWA	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$3,555
NDRI 20th anniversary research symposium	DAO	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
Research into factors associated with young people's risky alcohol use, particularly in relation to large private and public events - PhD scholarship	OCY & OCP	\$95,376	\$30,000	\$0
		<b>\$197,545</b>	<b>\$112,843</b>	<b>\$57,204</b>

Other Grants				
Project	Funder	Total grant approved for project	Grant received in 2006	Expenditure in 2006
Evaluation of the SDEP In Touch program	SDEP HDWA	\$15,000	\$0	\$3,884
Alcohol fact sheets: Alcohol and your health	AGDHA	\$18,111	\$0	\$10,453
Indigenous alcohol and drug projects 2005 (Mapping 3)	AGDHA	\$64,777	\$19,433	\$23,453
Evaluation of the Australian Responsible Parenting Initiative	AIC	\$37,681	\$37,027	\$20,894
DUMA research into drug use and offending	AIC	\$29,590	\$25,000	\$9,889
Inquiry into the misuse/abuse of benzodiazapines and other forms of pharmaceutical drugs in Victoria	DCPC, Vic	\$28,557	\$28,557	\$23,565
Development of a drug prevention research action plan	PDPC, Vic	\$78,314	\$14,240	\$848
		<b>\$272,030</b>	<b>\$124,256</b>	<b>\$92,985</b>

# Finance Report

Summary of NDRI Funding in 2006	
Area of Funding	Grant Received
Core funding (AGDHA)	\$1,837,439
Curtin University of Technology R&D contribution	\$83,333
Research Performance Index (DEST/Curtin)	\$41,575
Sundry income	\$115,060
National competitive grants	\$795,063
State competitive grants	\$112,843
Other grants	\$124,256
<b>Total funding received</b>	<b>\$3,109,570</b>

Sources of Additional Research Grants Received in 2006	
Funding Source	Grant Received
Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation	\$486,641
National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund	\$130,536
National Health and Medical Research Council	\$177,886
Australian Government Dept of Health and Ageing	\$19,433
Australian Institute of Criminology	\$62,027
Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee, Parliament of Victoria	\$28,557
Premier's Drug Prevention Council, Victoria	\$14,240
Office of Children and Youth & Office of Crime Prevention	\$30,000
Health Department of Western Australian	\$65,384
Drug and Alcohol Office, Western Australia	\$7,500
Curtin Strategic Research Grants Scheme 2005 (for 2006 funding)	\$9,959
<b>Total additional research grants received</b>	<b>\$1,032,163</b>

# Appendix 1

## Full list of research projects

### Key Priority 1: National monitoring of alcohol and other drug consumption patterns and related harms

#### Alcohol outlet density and related harm

NDRI staff: Paul Catalano, Tanya Chikritzhs  
Project partners: HDWA, WAPS  
Funded by: NDLERF

#### Development of a paper for the WHO on alcohol and harm reduction

NDRI staff: Wendy Loxley, Zaza Lyons  
Funded by: WHO

#### DUMA Research into drug use and offending

NDRI Staff: Wendy Loxley  
Project partners: AIC  
Funded by: AIC

#### Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) (previously Party Drugs Initiative)

NDRI staff: Jessica George, Simon Lenton  
Project partners: NDARC  
Funded by: AGDHA

#### Evaluation of the reliability of the WAPS Information Management System mandatory alcohol field

NDRI Staff: Tanya Chikritzhs  
Partners: WAPS

#### GENACIS

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs  
Project partners: Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre; Deakin University  
Funded by: NHMRC

#### Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)

NDRI staff: James Fetherston, Simon Lenton  
Project partners: NDARC  
Funded by: AGDHA

#### Indigenous National Alcohol Indicators Project (INAIP)

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Tanya Chikritzhs, Anna Stearne, Richard Pascal, Sherry Saggars  
Project partners: CSR, ECU; NIDAC  
Funded by: NDS, AGDHA

#### Monitoring of alcohol-related violence and crime in NSW

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop  
Project partners: NSW BOCSAR; NSW Attorney General's Department Drug Programs Bureau; NSW Health  
Funded by: NSW Department of Health

#### National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP)

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal  
Project partners: Turning Point  
Funded by: AGDHA

#### NAIP component study: Economic costs associated with alcohol attributable mortality and morbidity in Australian states and territories

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal  
Funded by: AGDHA

#### New independent researcher infrastructure award 2006

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs  
Funded by: HDWA

#### Pouring practices of 65 - 74 year old current drinkers: Implications for drinking guidelines and estimates of risk (PhD project)

PhD student: Celia Wilkinson  
PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs  
Funded by: AERF, NDRI

### Key Priority 2: Partnerships in the prevention of alcohol and other drug misuse among Indigenous Australians

#### Addressing Indigenous substance misuse and related harm: Editing a special Indigenous issue of the journal, *Drug and Alcohol Review*

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars  
Project partners: CSR, ECU; UNSW; Massey University (NZ)  
Funded by: AGDHA

#### Beyond the big smoke - a clear vision for Aboriginal tobacco control

NDRI staff: Bruce Maycock, Peter Howat  
Funded by: Australian Respiratory Council

#### Bibliographic database on Indigenous Australian alcohol and other drug use

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars, Anna Stearne  
Funded by: AGDHA

#### Building Indigenous research workforce capacity

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray  
Project partners: Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service  
Funded by: AERF

#### Development of Tangentyere Council research hub

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars  
Project partners: Tangentyere Council; CSR, ECU; Centre for Remote Health (Flinders University & Charles Darwin University)  
Funded by: AGDHA

#### Development of best practice guidelines for Indigenous residential alcohol and drug rehabilitation programs (Fellowship)

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars  
Project partners: Menzies School of Health Research; CSR, ECU  
Funded by: NHMRC

#### Enhancement of the patrol monitoring and evaluation database

NDRI staff: Anna Stearne, Donna Campbell, Dennis Gray  
Project partners: Tangentyere Council; Julalikari Council; Kununurra-Waringarri Aboriginal Corporation  
Funded by: AERF

#### Enhancing the management of alcohol-related problems among Indigenous Australians

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Steve Allsop, Sherry Saggars, Ted Wilkes, Coralie Ober, Violet Bacon  
Project partners: CSR, ECU; QUADREC  
Funding: AGDHA

#### Evaluation of the DASA outreach program

NDRI staff: Anna Stearne, Dennis Gray  
Project partners: Drug and Alcohol Services Association, Alice Springs  
Funded by: AERF

# Appendix 1

## Full list of research projects (continued)

### Evaluation of the 'Makin Tracks' 2 project

NDRI staff: Anna Stearne, Dennis Gray

Project partners: Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council of South Australia

Funded by: AGDHA

### Evaluation of "youth led futures" partnership grants with Indigenous communities

NDRI staff: Sherry Saggars, Anna Stearne

Project partners: CSR, ECU

Funded by: Foundation for Young Australians

### Indigenous alcohol and drug staff development initiative

NDRI Staff: Ed Garrison, Dennis Gray

Funded by: AERF/AGDHA

### Alcohol and its consequences among town campers in Alice Springs: The role of alcohol and other drugs (PhD project)

PhD student: Jane Ulrik

PhD supervisor: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

### Not just scholars but leaders: Learning circles in Indigenous health research

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray

Project partners: Curtin University of Technology; TICH; Menzies School of Health Research; CUCRH

Funded by: NHMRC

### Substance use in the 2002 NATSISS

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: CAEPR, ANU

### The policing implications of petrol sniffing and other inhalant misuse in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' communities

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne, Peter d'Abbs

Project partners: James Cook University; NDARC; Bowchung Pty Ltd

Funded by: NDLERF and AGDHA

## Key Priority 3: Prevention of the spread of blood-borne viruses and other harms among injecting drug users

### Future directions in the prevention of hepatitis C among injecting drug users: What are the needs of the using community?

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Project partners: AIVL

Funded by: NDRI

### Review of Hepatitis C

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Funded by: AGDHA

### Towards developing a model of care for injecting drug users in hepatitis C treatment: Assessing current services and identifying barriers to participation

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Funded by: CSRGs

## Key Priority 4: The impact of legislative, regulatory and educational strategies to minimise alcohol and other drug-related harm

### Assessing the relative efficacy of past and present youth smoking prevention messages

NDRI staff: Geoffrey Jalleh; Owen Carter; Rob Donovan

Funded by: Healthway

### Assessment of the effectiveness of the regulation of alcohol in WA (WALL)

NDRI staff: Wendy Loxley, Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop, Richard Pascal

Funded by: HDWA

### Cancer Council alcohol policy

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: Cancer Council

### Developing and trialling a resource for parents on *Alcohol Use and Teenagers*

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: Edith Cowan University

Funded by: AGDHA

### Development of a drug research action plan

NDRI staff: Wendy Loxley, Zaza Lyons

Project partners: Centre for Adolescent Health, Murdoch Children's Research Institute

Funded by: Premier's Drug Prevention Council, Victoria

### Evaluation of a best practice integrated intervention for regular methamphetamine users with co-morbid depression

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: Centre for Mental Health Studies, University of Newcastle; Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Queensland; NDARC

Funded by: Beyondblue National Depression Initiative

### Labelling alcohol containers to inform consumers

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Rob Donovan

Project partners: ADCA

Funded by: AERF

### National competition policy and liquor regulation

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal, Vic Rechichi

Funded by: AGDHA

### Review of restrictions on the sale and supply of alcohol in Australia and Western Australia

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Sherry Saggars, Dennis Gray, Zaza Lyons

Project partners: CSR, ECU

Funded by: AERF and HDWA

### Revision of the Commonwealth Alcohol Communicators Guide

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal

Funded by: AGDHA

### Revision of the WHO international guide for monitoring alcohol consumption and related harm

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: WHO

# Appendix 1

## Full list of research projects (continued)

Use of online forums by Australian party drug users: Making drug use safer or more dangerous? (PhD project)

PhD student: Monica Barrett

PhD supervisors: Simon Lenton and Matthew Allen (Curtin University)

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

WA Cannabis Infringement Notice Scheme evaluation phase 2 (sub-study 7 - evaluation in schools)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Fiona Farrington

Funded by: DAO

### Key Priority 5: The development and evaluation of more effective school drug and education programs

Editing book *Drug Education in Schools: Searching for the Silver Bullet*

NDRI staff: Richard Midford

Project partners: Australian Drug Foundation

Editing special edition of *Drug and Alcohol Review* journal on school drug education

NDRI staff: Richard Midford

### Key Priority 6: The development and evaluation of more effective community drug prevention programs

A case control study of lifestyle factors in the aetiology of ovarian cancer (PhD project)

PhD student: Dada Su

PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

Alcohol and drugs in the workplace – South Australia

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: NCETA

Funded by: NCETA

Alcohol and smoking in breastfeeding (PhD project)

PhD student: Roslyn Giglia

PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

Funded by: AERF, AGDHA and NHMRC scholarship

Alcohol use during pregnancy: Formative intervention research - qualitative

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Susan Carruthers

Project partners: TICHR; NDARC

Alcohol use during pregnancy: Formative intervention research - quantitative

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Susan Carruthers

Project partners: TICHR; NDARC

Dampier Peninsula prevention project

NDRI staff: Richard Midford

Funded by: AERF via Kimberley Community Drug Service Team

Evaluation of the WA Responsible Parenting Initiative

NDRI staff: Richard Midford, Denise Cail

Project partners: Australian Institute of Criminology

Funded by: WA Department of Premier and Cabinet via AIC

Interventions to reduce alcohol use during pregnancy: Systematic literature review

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP)

NDRI staff: Richard Midford, Fredrik Welander, Lianne Auld

Project partners: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

Funded by: AERF

### Key Priority 7: Identifying fundamental, strategic and developmental research questions in the area of prevention of harmful drug use

Analysing alcohol advertising's impact on recall of drinking experiences

NDRI staff: Rob Donovan

Funded by: Australian Research Council

An evaluation of cannabis contamination and potency in Australia

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: NDARC; Department of Illicit Drugs and Physical Evidence, Chemistry Centre WA

Funded by: NDARC

A multi-site randomised controlled trial of the adolescent cannabis checkup

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: NDARC; NCETA

Co-existing mental health and drug problems book

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Dietary factors for Japanese patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (PhD project)

PhD student: Fumi Hiramaya

PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

Does moderate drinking prevent heart disease? A meta-analysis

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: University of California, San Francisco, USA; Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley, USA; Centre for Addictions Research of British Columbia, University of Victoria, Canada

Funded by: AERF

Medications and crash involvement for older drivers: A population based study

NDRI staff: Andy Lee

Funded by: Australian Transport Safety Bureau, Road Safety Research Grant

Misuse/abuse of benzodiazepines and other pharmaceutical drugs in Victoria

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers, Steve Allsop, Simon Lenton, James Fetherston

Funded by: Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee, Parliament of Victoria

Review of alcohol and prostate cancer

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: Department of Social and Behavioural Science, University of California; Centre for Addictions Research of BC, Canada

The relationship between non-fatal overdose of pharmaceutical medications, suicidality and depression (PhD project)

PhD student: Penny Heale

PhD supervisor: Wendy Loxley

Funded by: NDRI scholarship



# Appendix 1

## Full list of research projects (continued)

### Tobacco capacity building scholarship

NDRI staff: Rob Donovan, Owen Carter  
Funded by: Healthway

### Web-based alcohol and tobacco intervention

NDRI staff: Peter Howat, Bruce Maycock  
Funded by: Healthway

## **Key Priority 8: Investigating the influence of structural determinants and the social contexts of drug use on the implementation of strategies designed to reduce and prevent harmful drug use**

### An examination of injection drug use sites in Vancouver: The influence of social and physical context on drug-related harm and public health interventions (PhD project)

PhD student: Will Small (enrolled University of British Columbia, Canada)  
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Jean Shoveller, Mark Tyndall (University of BC)

### An investigation of the links between social and economic disadvantage, alcohol consumption and related harm (alcohol and poverty study)

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Paul Catalano  
Project partners: Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre; Deakin University  
Funded by: AERF

### A multi-site investigation of the social meanings of alcohol misuse among young adults in recreational settings

NDRI staff: David Moore, Jeremy Northcote, Jocelyn Grace  
Funded by: AERF

### Conceptualising varying patterns of drug use: Exploring drug users' socially constructed conceptualisations of drug use in the search for an alternative discourse (PhD project)

PhD student: Laura Willis (enrolled Curtin)  
PhD supervisors: Ali Marsh, Brian Bishop (Curtin School of Psychology) and David Moore

### Improving understanding of psychostimulant-related harm in Australia: An integrated ethno-epidemiological approach

NDRI staff: David Moore  
Project partners: Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre; National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW; National Centre in Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University; Institute for International Research on Youth at Risk, National Development and Research Institutes, USA.  
Funded by: NHMRC

### Research into the cultures and contexts of ecstasy and related drug use in Victoria: New bases for prevention and harm minimisation

NDRI staff: David Moore  
Project partners: Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre  
Funded by: Premier's Drug Prevention Council, Victoria

### Social, cultural and economic processes in illicit drug markets and their public health consequences (PhD project)

PhD student: Robyn Dwyer  
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Andrew Dawson (University of Melbourne)  
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

### The ethno-epidemiology of party drug use and related harm in the Melbourne club/rave scene (PhD project)

PhD student: Christine Siokou  
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Helen Lee (La Trobe University)  
Funded by: NHMRC

### The ethno-epidemiology of psychostimulant use and related harm amongst street-based injecting drug users in Sydney (PhD project)

PhD student: Susan Hudson (enrolled UNSW)  
PhD supervisors: Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW) and David Moore  
Funded by: NHMRC

### The ethno-epidemiology of recreational party drug use and related harm in Perth (PhD project)

PhD student: Rachael Green  
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW)  
Funded by: NHMRC

### The harm associated with concurrent alcohol and party drug use amongst young people: Risk environments and the implications for prevention (PhD project)

PhD student: Amy Pennay  
PhD supervisor: David Moore and Simon Lenton  
Funded by: AERF scholarship

### Working with homeless people who use drugs

NDRI staff: Jeremy Northcote, Zaza Lyons  
Project partners: St Bartholomew's House, Perth  
Funded by: ANCD

# Appendix 2

## List of abbreviations

ADAC (SA)	Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (South Australia)
AERF	Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation
AGDHA	Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
AIC	Australian Institute of Criminology
APSAD	Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs
CAEPR, ANU	Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Australian National University
CSRGS	Curtin Strategic Research Grant Scheme
CSR, ECU	Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University
CUCRH	Combined Universities Centre for Rural Health
DASA	Drug and Alcohol Services Association
DAO (WA)	Drug and Alcohol Office of Western Australia
DCPC, Victoria	Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee, Parliament of Victoria
DEST	Department of Employment, Science and Training
ECU	Edith Cowan University
HDWA	Health Department of Western Australia
KAAP	Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project
MHRIF	Medical and Health Research Infrastructure Fund
NAIP	National Alcohol Indicators Project
NATSISS	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey
NCETA	National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction
NDARC	National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre
NDLERF	National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund
NDRI	National Drug Research Institute
NDS	National Drug Strategy
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
NIDAC	National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee
NIRIS	New Independent Researcher Infrastructure Award
NSW BOCSAR	Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, New South Wales
OCP	Office of Crime Prevention
OCY	Office of Children and Youth
PDPC, Victoria	Premier's Drug Prevention Council, Victoria
QUADREC	Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre
RPI	Research Performance Index
RSC	Road Safety Council
SDEP	School Drug Education Project
TICHR	Telethon Institute of Child Health Research
WANADA	WA Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies
WAPS	Western Australian Police Service
WHO	World Health Organization





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national drug research institute