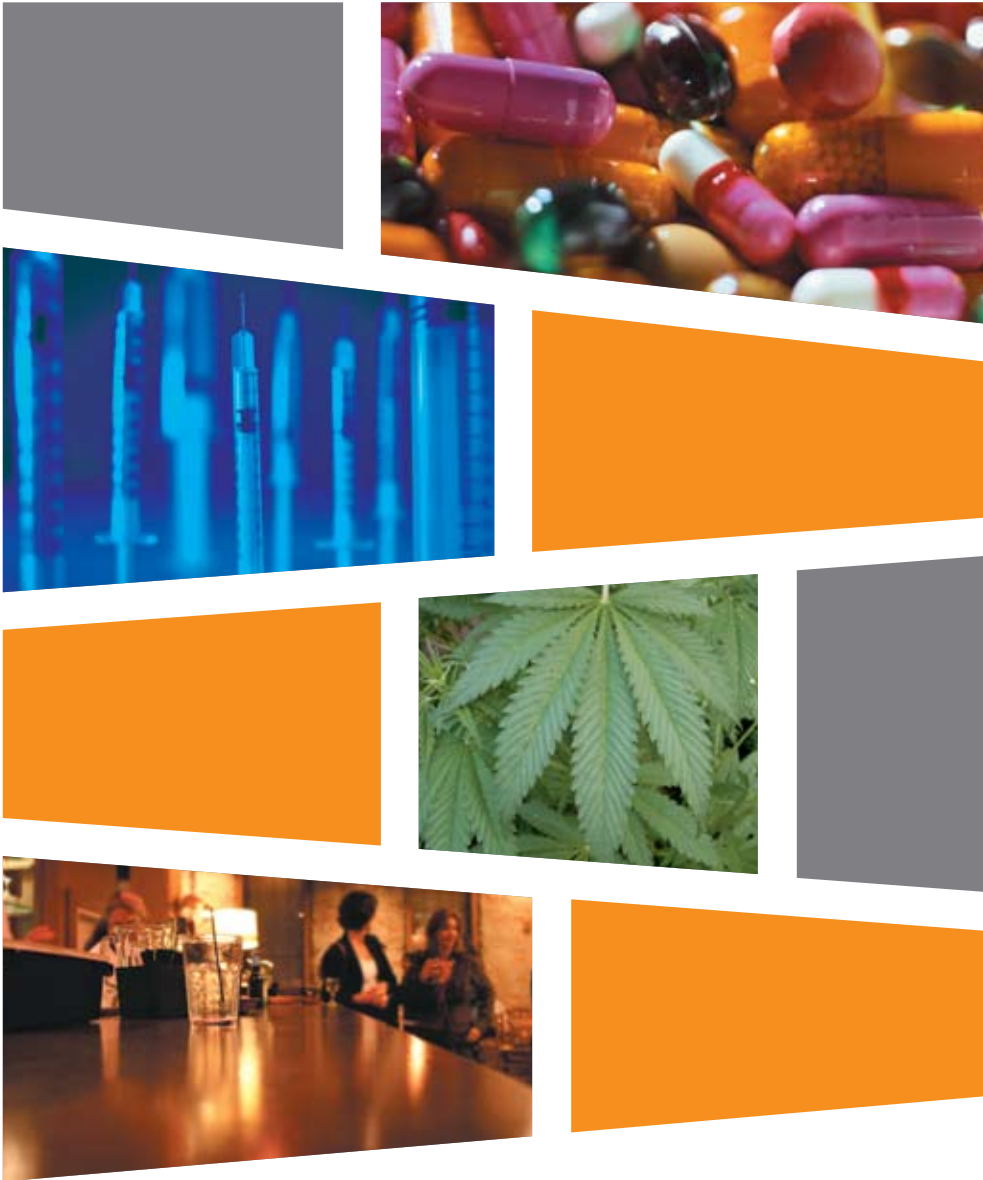




national drug research institute



ANNUAL REPORT

2008

Preventing harmful drug use in Australia



Funded by the National Drug Strategy

WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse

Tier 1 Research Centre

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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 conducts research that contributes to the formation of effective policy and practice in Australia in relation to the prevention and reduction of harmful alcohol and other drug use and its consequences. The Institute's research is complemented by 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 drug and alcohol field.

NDRI receives core funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, as part of the National Drug Strategy, with additional research funds obtained 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 to increase awareness of drug related harm and assist in developing effective prevention strategies.

Board of Management



Prof Jill Downie (Acting Chair)
Pro Vice Chancellor, Faculty of Health Sciences
Curtin University of Technology



Ms Virginia Hart
Assistant Secretary
Population Health Division - Drug Strategy Branch
Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing



Prof Steve Allsop
Director
National Drug Research Institute



Ms Ann Deanus (from July 2008)
Chief Executive Officer
Women's Health Services



Mr Eric Dillon (until July 2008)
Acting Executive Director
Drug and Alcohol Office, Western Australia



Mr Wayne Gregson (until November 2008)
Assistant Commissioner, Specialist Crime Portfolio
Western Australia Police



Mr Neil Guard (from August 2008)
Executive Director
Drug and Alcohol Office, Western Australia



Prof Barbara Horner (from December 2008)
Dean of Research and Graduate Studies
Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University of Technology



Associate Prof Dan Lubman (from Jan 2008)
ORYGEN Research Centre
University of Melbourne



Ms Coralie Ober
Research Fellow, Queensland Alcohol and Drug
Research and Education Centre (QADREC),
University of Queensland



Mr Tony Tate (from November 2008)
Director, Research and Development
Curtin University of Technology



Mr Charlie Thorn (until November 2008)
Associate Director, Research and Development
Curtin University of Technology



Mr Andrew Tovey (from November 2008)
Detective Superintendent, Licensing Enforcement Division
Western Australia Police

Director's Report

Following a detailed review of the Institute's functions and outputs, which occurred in 2007, we were pleased to be awarded a new 3-year funding contract with the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing. This attests to the quality of the Institute's outputs and to the work of all the staff. Well done to all. The new funding allows us to continue to contribute to the National Drug Strategy. In addition to securing core funding, we have continued to attract competitive research and other funding.

NDRI staff were involved in leading three successful NHMRC grant applications. Associate Professor Tony Butler was the lead investigator on a large NHMRC 2008 capacity building grant for population health and health services research, which drew together staff from our Indigenous Research Team with colleagues from around Australia. The project aims to build Australia wide research capacity in Indigenous offender health and health care delivery, with the program of research to commence in 2009. He was also successful in a collaborative NHMRC project (with colleagues from New South Wales and University of Western Australia) that will examine the role of traumatic brain injury in offending behaviour, and an Ausaid funded project that will aim to strengthen China's response to HIV, TB and HIV/TB co-infection in labour camps. Associate Professor David Moore was the lead investigator on a significant NHMRC funded project which aims to investigate barriers to treatment and other forms of service provision, and to improve treatment engagement and retention of people who inject methamphetamine.

The year has seen the development of two new research streams in the Institute. Associate Professor Tony Butler has established a highly productive team who focus on research and other activities that aim to reduce alcohol and other drug problems among criminal justice populations. In addition to successful research bids, Professor Butler launched the *National prison entrants' bloodborne virus and risk behaviour survey* at the 20th Annual Australasian Society for HIV Medicine conference in Perth. University funds allowed long-term collaborator Professor Sherry Siggers to join NDRI to head a new research program that focuses on the social determinants and contexts of drug related problems, building our capacity to contribute policy and prevention initiatives. The research team has recently been engaged in evaluating *Pathways to Prevention*, an early intervention program for pre-school children and their parents

in the northern suburbs of Perth, and the *Communities for Children* initiative in the East Kimberley. Members of the social determinants research team and the Indigenous research team completed an *Analysis of Indigenous child deaths* for the WA Child Death Review Committee, recommending significant changes to the service response to children requiring protection.

It is pleasing to see NDRI's research being applied. For example, NDRI launched the *Alcohol outlet density study* in early 2008, which confirmed that an increase in the number of liquor outlets is associated with an increase in alcohol related violence and assault. The report provides a practical methodology that can assist in liquor licensing decisions. The *School Health Alcohol and Health Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)* has received a great deal of international interest. The SHAHRP international bulletin was launched in response to this interest, to ensure that we more effectively disseminate the outcomes of the project.

In a project with clear practical application, Dr Jeremy Northcote led the development of resources to enhance service responses for homeless people who are affected by alcohol and other drug use. These have been incorporated into a web-based 'Homeless Information Portal' that was launched by the Australian National Council on Drugs.

Our Tier 1 colleagues, Professor Peter Howat and Associate Professor Bruce Maycock have been leading a highly practical study investigating the effectiveness of an online alcohol intervention for students. They have been able to ensure an incredible participation rate and the program (THRIVE) is being packaged for use by other organisations.

In partnership with the Australian Institute of Criminology, staff at NDRI developed a national amphetamine-type stimulant (ATS) strategy. The strategy was adopted as the basis of the Australian Government's National Amphetamine-Type Stimulant Strategy 2008-2011 and nationally distributed in 2008.

The Institute's work has also been cited at the highest levels. For example, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd referred to NDRI's work on Melbourne radio, citing the 2004 'prevention monograph' report as establishing beyond doubt that increasing the price of alcohol leads to a reduction in alcohol consumption and related problems.

NDRI staff were involved in a number of submissions, verbal and written, to subsequent inquiries about a range of strategies to reduce alcohol related harm.

Cannabis has been a key feature of research and other activities this year. Associate Professor Simon Lenton worked with the Beckley Foundation in the UK to develop its Global Cannabis Commission Report, *Cannabis policy - moving beyond stalemate*, and attended the report launch at the House of Lords, London.

NDRI is a consortium partner in the National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre (NCPIC) and, as part of this role, Dr Julia Butt, Mr Michael Doyle, Professor Dennis Gray, and Associate Professor Ted Wilkes, along with other NDRI staff and community based organisations, are engaged in developing clinical guidelines to ensure effective responses to cannabis problems in Indigenous communities.

Two scholars successfully completed their PhDs this year. Congratulations to Fumi Hirayama, whose thesis examined alcohol consumption, smoking and lifestyle characteristics for Japanese patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and to Celia Wilkinson whose thesis investigated alcohol use amongst older Australians.

Other PhD candidates are progressing well. For example, four candidates (Monica Barratt, Rachael Green, Amy Pennay and Christine Siokou) gave presentations on their research at international conferences in Spain and Italy and Rachael Green and Christine Siokou have had articles related to their theses accepted for publication.

All of our achievements are possible because of the commitment and efforts of high quality staff. It is pleasing to see this acknowledged in awards and commendations and invitations to contribute to strategic events. For example:

- Associate Professor Ted Wilkes attended, as an invited participant, the Australia 2020 Summit held in April 2008 at Parliament House, Canberra;
- Dr Tanya Chikritzhs was one of five finalists in the Aileen Plant Medal presented at the Population Health Congress 2008, and was awarded a Certificate of High Commendation for



significantly influencing and informing alcohol policy both in Australia and overseas, and her integral role in major national and international research in the alcohol field.

- NDRI Tier 1 colleague Professor Rob Donovan of the Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer Control was awarded a 2008 Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence.

It is also important to acknowledge the fantastic support we receive from our Business Services staff. They are without doubt the engine room of our productivity.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the substantial contributions of Professor Colin Binns to public health research in general and to the alcohol and drug field in particular. Professor Binns was head of the National Centre for Research into Drug Abuse (which became NDRI in 1999) when it was established and initiated its first research projects. We all wish him well in his retirement after 30 years of highly productive work at Curtin.

Professor Steve Allsop

Director

National Drug Research Institute

Highlights

During 2008, NDRI researchers were involved in over 110 projects, many of which are expected to result in a direct influence on policy, practice and the community. Much of NDRI's research is conducted in partnership and collaboration with other organisations, and this year was important for building new, and maintaining existing, relationships.

2008 highlights and achievements include:

- Following a successful review in 2007, NDRI was awarded a new 3-year funding contract with the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing.
- Long-term collaborator Professor Sherry Siggers joined NDRI to head a new research program on the social contexts of substance misuse (see page opposite).
- NDRI hosted its inaugural *NAIDOC Week* event in July, with Noongar elder Associate Professor Ted Wilkes leading the proceedings (see box opposite).
- Prime Minister Kevin Rudd referred to NDRI's work on Melbourne radio, citing the 2004 "prevention monograph" report as establishing beyond doubt that increasing the price of alcohol leads to a reduction in alcohol consumption and related problems.
- Associate Professor Ted Wilkes attended, as an invited participant, the Australia 2020 Summit held in April at Parliament House, Canberra.
- Associate Professor Simon Lenton worked with the Beckley Foundation in the UK to develop its Global Cannabis Commission Report, *Cannabis policy - moving beyond stalemate*, and attended the report launch at the House of Lords, London (see page 16).
- NDRI, in partnership with the Australian Institute of Criminology, developed a national amphetamine-type stimulant (ATS) strategy which formed the basis of the Australian Government's National Amphetamine-Type Stimulant Strategy 2008-2011 to address use and harm caused by amphetamine-type stimulants in this country (see page 15).
- Associate Professor Tony Butler was awarded a major NHMRC capacity building grant for population health and health services research to build Australia wide research capacity in Indigenous offender health and health care delivery, with a program of research commencing in 2009.
- Associate Professor David Moore was awarded a significant NHMRC grant to conduct research investigating barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine injectors in drug treatment and other health services (see page 20).
- Professor Steve Allsop launched his book, *Drug use and mental health: effective responses to co-occurring drug and mental health problems* at an NDRI seminar in September (see page 29).
- Associate Professor David Moore co-edited a new book, *Drugs and public health: Australian perspectives on policy and practice* (see page 26).
- The *National prison entrants' bloodborne virus and risk behaviour survey* was launched at the 20th Annual Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM) conference in Perth (see page 14).
- Dr Tanya Chikritzhs launched the *Alcohol outlet density study*, which confirmed that an increase in the number of liquor outlets is associated with an increase in alcohol related violence and assault (see page 11).
- The SHAHRP international bulletin was launched in response to continuing international interest in the school health and alcohol harm reduction project (SHAHRP) (see page 17).
- The 'Homeless Information Portal' developed during the *Working with homeless people who use drugs* project was launched by the ANCD in Sydney in October (see page 21).
- NDRI postgraduate student Celia Wilkinson was awarded a PhD following completion of her thesis investigating alcohol use amongst older Australians (see page 10).
- NDRI and Public Health postgraduate student Fumi Hirayama was awarded a PhD following completion of her thesis examining alcohol consumption, smoking and lifestyle characteristics for Japanese patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
- Four PhD candidates (Monica Barratt, Rachael Green, Amy Pennay and Christine Siokou) gave presentations on their research at international conferences in Spain and Italy, and Rachael Green and Christine Siokou have had articles related to their theses accepted for publication.
- Members of the Indigenous and the social contexts of substance use research teams completed an *Analysis of Indigenous child deaths* for the WA Child Death Review Committee, recommending significant changes to the service response to children requiring protection (see page 13).
- Dr Tanya Chikritzhs was one of five finalists in the Aileen Plant Medal presented at the Population Health Congress 2008, and was awarded a Certificate of High Commendation for significantly influencing and informing alcohol policy both in Australia and overseas, and her integral role in major national and international research in the alcohol field.
- NDRI Tier 1 colleague Professor Rob Donovan of the Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer Control was awarded a 2008 Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence.

New NDRI research program focuses on the social contexts of substance misuse

A new program of research specifically aimed at addressing health and wellbeing in diverse populations commenced at NDRI in 2008. The program - *Social contexts of substance misuse* - is organised within a social determinants of health framework and aims to complement and extend the work of the Indigenous and other NDRI research teams.

The program is headed by Professor Sherry Saggars, who joined NDRI full-time in early 2008 from the Centre for Social Research at Edith Cowan University, where she has been a long-term NDRI collaborator. Professor Saggars believes that in Australia today we are regularly reminded that we are primarily responsible for our own good or ill health – that eating wisely, drinking moderately or not at all, and exercising regularly are the keys to better health and longer lives. Smoking is now beyond the pale, and using any illicit drugs deemed an irresponsible act. This emphasis on the individual's responsibility for health from the media, politicians, and others makes it hard to argue that the social contexts in which we live profoundly influence – and sometimes determine – our health profile, including the likelihood of misusing alcohol and other drugs. While it is true that our lifestyles influence conditions such as cardiovascular diseases and diabetes, and individual choices to drink and smoke contribute to these, other factors which no individual can control continue to have a powerful impact on our health. This new program aims to conduct research and evaluation of positive approaches to better health and wellbeing, which acknowledge the broader contexts of people's lives.

Much of the research will be conducted in collaboration with other universities and organisations. Research areas include:

- the impact of early intervention among disadvantaged populations; particularly the way in which attention to maternal health and wellbeing, child health, and early learning and care ameliorates socio-economic disadvantage and leads to more positive futures;
- child-centred, family and community interventions and their role in improving health and social outcomes, such as school retention and employability;
- social inequalities and their impact on health outcomes; and models of leadership and community development in Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities which draw upon diverse theoretical and methodological approaches and incorporate understandings from many disciplines – anthropology, sociology, psychology, and the creative arts – to explore successful models of leadership and development.



Sherry Saggars

The research builds upon international work exploring the social and economic benefits of prevention and early intervention, particularly among marginalised populations, in terms of more equal health outcomes, reduced substance misuse, safer children, and more cohesive communities.

Research funding is being sought from diverse sources – including national competitive grants, commissioned and competitive government tenders, the non-government sector, business and industry, and private philanthropy. The only qualification for funding sources is the absence of any real or perceived conflict of interest between funding sources and this program, and an 'arms length' approach by funders at all stages of the research process, including the right to publish research findings.

NAIDOC Week at NDRI

NDRI's inaugural NAIDOC Week event, held on 7 July 2008, combined a celebration of Indigenous Australian culture with a presentation on the work of the NDRI Indigenous Australian Research Team.

The 'lunchtime gathering' featured traditional Noongar dancing by the Wilkes Dancers, accompanied by Noongar elder and NDRI Associate



The Wilkes Dancers perform a traditional Noongar dance accompanied by Noongar elder and NDRI Associate Professor Ted Wilkes on the didgeridoo

Professor Ted Wilkes playing the didgeridoo. He also led a doak (stick) throwing demonstration. The event concluded with a presentation describing NDRI's research into Indigenous drug and alcohol issues over the past 15 years, and outlining ongoing projects.

Professor Wilkes hoped the event would become an annual fixture. "NDRI is in a great position to be able to bring people in to celebrate our culture while being able to educate them about some of most important issues affecting our people and how they can help," he said. "Drugs and alcohol affect the whole Australian community and we need a good understanding of the issues. We need research, like that which NDRI has done over the past 15 years, to make sure our efforts in dealing with alcohol and drugs are aimed in the right direction."

Indigenous Australian research team leader Professor Dennis Gray said NDRI actively promoted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ownership of research and encouraged new and emerging researchers. "It is important when we do research to always keep in mind that Aboriginal culture is living and breathing and all Australians should celebrate and take pride in the fact that we have the oldest culture in the world," he said.

Partnerships

In 2008, NDRI worked in collaboration with a broad range of agencies and research centres locally, nationally and internationally. The Institute is 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

- Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley, USA
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
- Beckley Foundation (UK)
- Broome Regional Aboriginal Health Service
- Cairns Base Hospital
- Centre for Addictions Research of BC, University of Victoria, Canada
- Centre for Epidemiology & Population Health Research, Burnet Institute
- Centre for Harm Reduction, Burnet Institute
- Centre for International Health, Curtin University of Technology
- Centre for Mental Health Studies, University of Newcastle
- Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation (SHORE), Massey University
- Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University
- Centre for Women's Studies and Gender Research, Monash University
- Centre for Youth Drug Studies, Australian Drug Foundation
- Chemistry Centre of Western Australia
- City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Community Alcohol Action Network, Australian Drug Foundation
- Curtin University of Technology
- Deakin University
- Department of Corrective Services, WA
- Department of Public Health, University of Melbourne
- Derby Aboriginal Health Service
- Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Queensland
- Hunter New England Health
- Injury Research Council UWA
- Institute for International Research on Youth at Risk, National Development and Research Institutes, USA
- Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service Council
- Mission Australia
- Monash Institute for Health Services Research
- National Centre in Epidemiology and Population Health, ANU
- National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW
- National Centre for HIV Social Research, UNSW

- Rural Clinical School of Western Australia (UWA)
- St Bartholomew's House, Perth
- Ted Noffs Foundation
- Telethon Institute for Child Health Research
- University of California, San Francisco, USA
- University of New South Wales
- Western Australian Health Department
- Western Australia Police
- Wollongong University
- Youth Research Centre, University of Melbourne

Committee/Reference Group Memberships

- Addiction Journal, Editorial Board
- Addiction Research and Theory Journal, Editorial Board
- Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia Research Committee
- Anex Research Advisory Committee
- Australian Indigenous HealthInfonet Reference Group
- Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs Board
- Cancer Council Australia, Alcohol Working Party Advisory Committee
- Commission for Occupational Safety and Health WA
- Dept of Community Development, Child Death Review Committee
- Drug & Alcohol Review Editorial Board
- Drug & Alcohol Office WA Board & Cannabis Consultation Group
- Drug Info Clearinghouse Prevention Research Reference Group
- Eastern Goldfields Sexual Assault Referral Centre Board
- Orygen Research Centre Expert Panel
- Goldfields Women's Refuge
- National Drug Strategy Expert Panel
- Healthway Leadership Development in Health Promotion Programme
- Healthway Research Sub-Committee
- Hepatitis Council of Western Australia
- Independent Priority Assessment Cttee, Disability Services Commission
- Injury Control Council of Western Australia
- International Journal of Drug Policy, Editorial Board
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee
- National Prison Health Information Group Technical Expert Committee
- NHMRC Career Development Awards Population Health Panel
- NHMRC Indigenous Public Health Scholarship Review Panel
- NHMRC Public Health Scholarship Review Panel
- NHMRC Review of Australian Alcohol Guidelines Working Committee
- Orygen Research Centre MAKINGtheLINK Schools Project Ref Group
- Prevention Research Reference Group, Centre for Youth Drug Studies
- Prisoner Health Special Interest Group, Public Health Assoc of Australia
- Public Health Consultative Committee, Edith Cowan University
- WA Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies (WANADA)
- WA Viral Hepatitis Advisory Committee, Health Department of WA
- WA Centre for Public Health Consultative Committee
- WA Child Dev Study Survey, Telethon Institute for Child Health Research
- Western Australian Community Alcohol Network

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 an illustrative selection of new, ongoing and completed projects undertaken by NDRI researchers during 2008, organised by eight key research priorities (listed below). Appendix 1 (page 36) lists all 2008 research projects, and further project information can be found on NDRI's website at 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 development.
- 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 produce or reduce harm.

Philosophy

In conducting its research, NDRI follows the philosophy of harm minimisation that has underpinned Australia's National Drug Strategy since 1985. Harm minimisation aims to reduce harm to individuals and communities for those who continue to use drugs. 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** - reducing and 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 arising from drug use for those who continue to use.

Research Activities

Key Priority 1

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

New Projects

National collection of wholesale alcohol sales data

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop
Funded by: AGDHA (via DAO, WA)

The wholesale alcohol sales data project aims to:

- Construct an ongoing, regularly updated, national database of standardised alcohol sales data, containing specifications described below for all Australian states/territories;
- Monitor alcohol consumption trends by regularly estimating per capita alcohol consumption for all participating states/territories;
- Provide an annual report on consumption by region containing summaries of alcohol sales data and per capita alcohol consumption estimates for all participating states/territories and the Commonwealth;
- Provide standardised alcohol sales data sets for use by jurisdictions.

An investigation of the nature, extent and effects of point-of-sale promotions for alcohol beverages

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs, Clare Stevens

Project leaders: Wollongong University; SHORE, Massey University

Other partners: Cancer Council Victoria
Funded by: ARC

This project will systematically investigate the nature of point-of-sale promotions for alcohol beverages in both on-premise (eg pubs) and off-premise (eg liquor stores) venues; the effect of such promotions on drinking intentions and behaviours of people aged 18-25 years; and utilise the results to develop a proposal for revisions to regulation of alcohol promotions to reduce alcohol-related harm. Utilising a range of methodological approaches including observational, qualitative and experimental studies, it is the first systematic investigation – not only in Australia but anywhere in the world – of the nature and extent of non-advertising alcohol promotions and their effect on young people's drinking intentions and behaviours.

Pouring practices of 65-74 year old current drinkers: Implications for drinking guidelines and estimates of risk

In December 2008 NDRI postgraduate student Celia Wilkinson was awarded a PhD following completion of her thesis investigating alcohol use amongst older Australians. The research involved three studies:

In Study 1 a national key informant survey (n=32) was conducted to investigate appropriate alcohol guidelines for 65 to 74 year old Australians. It was found that older men should consume no more than 2 standard drinks per day to avoid the risk of long-term alcohol-related harm and no more than 3 per day to avoid the risk of short-term alcohol-related harm. Older women should consume no more than 1 standard drink per day to avoid the risk of long-term alcohol-related harm and no more than 2 per day to avoid the risk of short-term alcohol-related harm.

In Study 2 the accuracy of self-reported alcohol consumption amongst a sample (n= 844) of 65 to 74 year old men and women was assessed, based on an examination of alcohol pouring practices and of how individuals convert the amount of alcohol they pour into standard drinks. It was found that older Australian men underestimate their alcohol consumption by 23% and older Australian women by 16%.

Study 3 assessed the prevalence of at-risk alcohol consumption amongst an Australian national sample (n=2,300; NDSHS data) of 65

to 74 year old current drinkers, using results from Studies 1 and 2 to analyze the data. It was found that 12.6% of older Australian men and 5.1% of older Australian women were at risk of short-term alcohol-related harm. For long-term alcohol-related harm, the percentage of older Australian men at-risk was 35.2% and older Australian women was 30.9%.

The research concluded that the 2001 NHMRC alcohol guidelines were not appropriate for older Australians. When used as a benchmark to ascertain the prevalence of at-risk drinking, they were likely to underestimate the extent of risk. As older people under-report their consumption of alcohol, doubt exists about the accuracy of prevalence estimates of at-risk consumption amongst older people. Future research investigating prevalence of at-risk alcohol consumption should be based upon age appropriate alcohol guidelines and be adjusted to account for an under-estimation in self-reporting.



Celia Wilkinson

Ongoing Projects

Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)

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

This study comprises the Perth arm of a research project to monitor illicit drug use trends in major cities across Australia. The aims of the study are to examine the demographic characteristics, patterns of ecstasy and other 'party drug' use, perceived harms associated with use, drug market factors such as price, potency and availability of ecstasy and other party drugs in Perth, Western Australia from a sample of regular users of ecstasy. The project is coordinated nationally by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC), and has been conducted annually in WA since 2003.

Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, James Fetherston, Laura Santana, Jessica George
Project partners: NDARC
Funded by: AGDHA

This study comprises the Perth arm of a research project to monitor illicit drug use trends in major cities across Australia. The project is coordinated nationally by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC). The Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS) provides a coordinated approach to the monitoring of data associated with illicit drug use in Australia. The information collected is intended to act as an early warning system for the availability and use of four main drug categories: heroin, amphetamines, cocaine and cannabis. The project has been funded in all states and territories in Australia since 1999 by The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

Completed Projects

Alcohol outlet density and related harm

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Paul Catalano
Project partners: WA Health Dept; WA Police
Funded by: NDLERF

See box.

Alcohol outlet density study links alcohol sales and violence

The use of policy interventions to minimise alcohol related harm by controlling alcohol outlet density has not been considered within legislation in Western Australia (WA). The *Alcohol outlet density and related harm* project aimed to determine the feasibility of developing a model of alcohol outlet density to inform such interventions.



Tanya Chikritzhs

The research involved examining the effect of liquor licence approvals on alcohol related problems. Using this information, a model was created that predicts the likely effect of granting a new liquor licence anywhere in Australia on alcohol-related assaults, hospitalisations, deaths and road crashes.

The research confirmed that an increase in the number of liquor outlets (hotels and/or bottle shops) is associated with an increase in alcohol-related violence and assault in the surrounding area. An unexpected finding, however, was that, regardless of the type of new liquor outlet, most of this increased violence occurs in private homes rather than at licensed premises.

Chief Investigator Dr Tanya Chikritzhs said the research demonstrated that the decisions of liquor licensing authorities had a significant impact on the health and safety of communities.

"The model developed in this study allows us, for the first time, to predict the social impacts of any new liquor outlet anywhere in Australia," said Dr Chikritzhs. "Liquor licensing authorities should be obliged to consider these impacts when deciding whether to grant a new licence."

Based on figures from WA, the study found that an additional 'average' hotel in metropolitan Perth would increase the number of domestic violent assaults by 17 a year, and a new 'average' metropolitan liquor store would see an extra 8 assaults in private homes. If that liquor store was located in WA's Wheatbelt, the number of domestic assaults would increase by 29 each year.

"A common perception is that most alcohol-related violence happens in and around licensed premises, but in reality much of it goes on behind closed doors either following a night out at the pub or after drinking takeaways at home. We can assume that the domestic assault figures in this study are just the tip of the iceberg because many alcohol-related violent incidents, particularly domestic, go unreported," Dr Chikritzhs said.

The report, *Predicting alcohol-related harms from licensed outlet density*, is available at www.ndlerf.gov.au.

Research Activities

Key Priority 2

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

New Projects

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cannabis intervention

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Julia Butt, Steve Allsop
Project partners: Indigenous community-controlled health services
Funded by: NCPIC

The cannabis intervention project is a two year collaboration between NDRI and four Indigenous community controlled health services. The project, which is funded through the National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre (NCPIC) aims to develop, pilot and disseminate cannabis intervention protocols for Indigenous primary health care settings.

Restor(y)ing Aboriginal parenting: development and evaluation of a culturally relevant program to support Aboriginal parents promoting their children's behavioural and social competence and readiness for school learning

NDRI staff: Ted Wilkes
Project partners: Curtin University
Funded by: NHMRC

The Restor(y)ing Aboriginal Parenting Project involves the development and evaluation of a culturally relevant program for Aboriginal parents of young children. It aims to address the intergenerational effects of past policies of forced separation of children on the cultural and social transmission of parenting knowledge and skills. It seeks to restore identification with culture, promote parental confidence, knowledge and child rearing skills and enhance resilience in Aboriginal children.

Randomised controlled trial of an intensive smoking cessation intervention in Kimberley Aboriginal PHC settings

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray
Project partners: Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service; Cairns Base Hospital; Rural Clinical School of WA (UWA); Derby Aboriginal Health Service; Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service Council
Funded by: NHMRC

Aboriginal people smoke at much higher rates than non-Aboriginal people and smoking is an important contributor to increased disease, hospital admissions and deaths in Aboriginal populations. Quit smoking programs in Australia have not had the same impact on Aboriginal smokers as

on non-Aboriginal smokers and Aboriginal people are twice as likely to smoke as non-Aboriginal people. It is important that improved techniques for assisting Aboriginal people to quit be developed and implemented as part of comprehensive strategies to improve Aboriginal health. A range of strategies have been used to encourage Aboriginal people to quit smoking however there have been few good quality studies that show what approaches work best. More evidence of strategies that could work more widely in Aboriginal PHC settings is needed if good policy is to be developed and implemented. This trial will be based in two major Aboriginal health services in the Kimberley region of Western Australia and run over three years. Participants who agree to participate will be randomly allocated to either a program following current Australian recommended primary care smoking cessation strategies or a more intensive supported quit smoking intervention.

Jaru Pirrjirdi suicide prevention project

NDRI staff: Sherry Saggars, Anna Stearne
Funded by: Mt Theo-Yuendumu Substance Misuse Program

This project is an evaluation of the Jaru Pirrjirdi Project, which is a part of the Mt Theo-Yuendumu Substance Misuse Program (MYSMAC). The Jaru Pirrjirdi Project serves as a significant mechanism for the empowerment of young adults aged 17-25 within Yuendumu community. The project aims to develop them as young community leaders, in turn preventing suicide and substance misuse, especially petrol sniffing. The evaluation will measure and evaluate the processes and the overall effectiveness of the program model.

Ongoing Projects

Enhancing the management of alcohol-related problems among Indigenous Australians

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Steve Allsop, Sherry Saggars, Ted Wilkes, Violet Bacon
Project partners: Centre for Social Research, ECU; QUADREC
Funded by: AGDHA

This project is currently in the second stage of a three-stage program, being managed by NDRI, and aimed at enhancing the access of Indigenous Australians to quality treatment for alcohol-related problems. In stage 1, five independent research projects were commissioned:

- Evaluating the management of alcohol-related problems among urban Aboriginal People in Western Australia: using an action research approach to enhance service delivery and collaboration for client care. *Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service; Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service; Centre for International Health, Curtin University of Technology.*

- Multidisciplinary, self management rehabilitation care plans and case management to improve alcohol treatment for Aboriginal people in Alice Springs. *Central Australian Aboriginal Congress; James Cook University; University of Sydney; University of Queensland.*
- “Where’s your country?” “Who are your people?” Asking the right questions when treating problematic alcohol use amongst Indigenous Australians. *Muru Marri Indigenous Health Unit, University of NSW; National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University; Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Medical Service.*
- The integration of brief intervention into Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services in five rural communities in NSW. *National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre; Rural Clinical School, University of NSW; Durri Aboriginal Corporation Medical Service; Armajun Aboriginal Health Service; University of Queensland; University of Newcastle.*
- A community based brief intervention: increasing access to the full range of treatment services for alcohol problems for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. *Sydney South West Area Health Service.*

These projects are being undertaken in stage 2 of the program over a 15 month period. In stage 3 a set of recommendations based on the results of the projects will be prepared and a plan developed for their implementation.

Identifying areas of greatest need in Indigenous substance misuse intervention

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne, Jennifer Dodd, Michael Doyle, Mandy Wilson
Funded by: NIDAC

The National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC) – a sub-committee of the Australian National Council on Drugs – was established to provide high level advice on the most appropriate and effective approaches to addressing Indigenous drug and alcohol issues. To facilitate its role in this area, NIDAC commissioned this project aimed at providing an in-depth report on:

- current alcohol and other drug services for Indigenous Australians;
- funding of current alcohol and other drug services for Indigenous Australians;
- the appropriateness of current services and funding for them; and,
- the identification and assessment of unmet needs.

Completed Projects

Analysis of Indigenous child deaths

NDRI staff: Sherry Saggars, Dennis Gray and Ted Wilkes

Project partners: CSR, ECU

Funded by: WA Child Death Review Committee

See box.

Analysis of Indigenous child deaths

Media reports have highlighted shocking cases of child neglect in non-Indigenous and Indigenous communities, and governments across Australia are exploring the effectiveness of service responses to these and other cases. A research team from NDRI and Edith Cowan University was contracted to undertake a group analysis of Indigenous child deaths where chronic neglect was present.

The analysis of 22 Indigenous child deaths revealed that all of the children who died were living in families with multiple risk factors, such as alcohol and other drug dependence, family violence, homelessness, mental health problems and financial hardship.

It was found that the service system response to these cases of neglect was inadequate, mostly because of a focus on family centred practice that minimised potential cumulative harms for children and the proper assessment of their needs and wellbeing. In particular, while service workers recommended harm minimising drinking strategies to parents to protect children during drinking episodes, there was insufficient attention paid to the cumulative effects of substance dependence on parenting. In what has been called the ‘start-again’ syndrome, single instances of neglect, rather than long-term patterns of neglect, were highlighted by workers. The absence of proper risk assessments in many cases, ad hoc case management record keeping, and inadequate interagency coordination and referrals were also noted.

The research team’s recommendations for safer practices include recognition of the risk factors for neglect, the provision of targeted support such as treatment for substance dependence, routine child impact assessment, and an increased emphasis on early intervention through ‘shared care’ arrangements between families, statutory authorities, Indigenous child care agencies and communities. Strengths-based, family-focused practices must have children’s wellbeing at their core. It is acknowledged that the DCP’s current reform agenda for field service delivery, Indigenous engagement, whole of government partnerships and corporate support systems provides a more robust framework to address the concerns highlighted by this research.

The report, *Group Analysis of Aboriginal Child Death Review Cases* is available on the NDRI website: ndri.curtin.edu.au.



Research Activities

Key Priority 3

Preventing the spread of blood-borne viruses and other harm among injecting drug users

New Projects

Comparative research of Chinese and Australian approaches to illicit drug use and HIV prevention

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Tony Butler

Project leaders: Centre for International Health

Funded by: AusAID Australian Leadership Awards

The goal of this program is to enable research and leadership capacity building for a leading researcher in a region with a high prevalence of HIV in China (Professor Yang, Lijun, Yunnan Province). The broad activities include course work, training workshops, conferences, research seminars, regular mentorships with leading experts on drug research and interviews with relevant policy makers, police force and clinicians in Australia. Whilst the Chinese Government has made significant progress in implementing methadone substitution programs in registered drug users, it faces other challenges in developing this service to all illicit drug users. The issue of how Australian research and practice in drug and HIV prevention may be useful for China should be addressed. A particular focus will be on Australian multi-level approaches to reduce HIV transmission and practical strategies to reduce risks associated with injecting behaviours. The expected outcomes include policy (legal and clinical) and research recommendations for HIV prevention in China. The program will facilitate and enhance exchanges between Australia and China in research, practice and policy.

Completed Projects

A review of hepatitis C in Australia

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Funded by: AGDHA

This project comprised a review of the current literature relating to the prevention of hepatitis C transmission among injecting drug users. It included a review of the world epidemiology and patterns of hepatitis C infection and looked at various strategies by which the control of this epidemic in Australia has been attempted. The review explores the possibility of alternative prevention strategies and makes recommendations for the future of hepatitis C prevention in Australia.

National prison entrants' bloodborne virus and risk behaviour survey 2007

NDRI staff: Tony Butler, Cerissa Papanastasiou

Project partners: NCHECR, UNSW

Funded by: Part funded by DCS, WA

See box.

National prison entrants' bloodborne virus and risk behaviour survey 2007

The *National Prison Entrants' Bloodborne Virus and Risk Behaviour Survey Report 2004 & 2007* was launched in September at the 20th Annual Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM) Conference in Perth. The report is unique as it provides ongoing national surveillance on the prevalence of blood-borne viruses amongst the prisoner population in Australia. Monitoring these viruses among prisoners is important as many are unaware they are infected and possibly contributing to their transmission. Routine screening strategies for blood-borne viruses vary across Australia in terms of both their scope and coverage.

The survey took place over a two week period in October 2007 and included 740 prison entrants at 17 reception prisons across Australia. Findings from the national survey showed that the prevalence of hepatitis C among prison entrants was highest in NSW with 42% and lowest in WA (21%). Women prisoners were more likely to have hepatitis C than men. Prisoners are underserved with regard to treatment for hepatitis C infection - a population that would

benefit from a comprehensive prison-based treatment programme. The incidence of hepatitis B remains elevated at just under 30% nationally. This population is at greater risk of hepatitis B infection as many people showed no evidence of immunity against hepatitis B when screened for the virus, showing that more could be done to vaccinate this population against infectious diseases such as hepatitis B. The prevalence of HIV was low at less than 1% in all states, and for both sexes.

Amphetamines were the most frequently reported drug last injected by prison entrants and tobacco smoking was highlighted as being at epidemic proportions in this population - around 90% of prisoners surveyed reported that they currently smoked tobacco.

Incarceration is an important, but underutilised, public health opportunity to initiate health interventions amongst this highly marginalised population group.

The report is available on the NDRI website: ndri.curtin.edu.au.



Susan Carruthers, Tony Butler and Cerissa Papanastasiou at the report launch

Research Activities

Key Priority 4

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

New Projects

Development of a national needle and syringe program strategic framework

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project leaders: CHR, Burnet Institute; NCHECR

Funded by: DHS, Victoria

In this project, NDRI will form a consortium with the Centre for Harm Reduction at the Burnet Institute and the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (NCHECR). Together these centres represent a partnership which traverses diverse policy and research expertise and geographic territory. The consortium provides previous experience developing national strategies, expertise in NSP service delivery both in Australia and internationally and drug and alcohol, HIV and HCV qualitative and quantitative research. It will establish a strategic framework for the NSP sector that can be mutually supported and achieved across all of Australia's states and territories.

Data analysis reporting and dissemination of two sub-studies from the evaluation of the cannabis infringement notice scheme

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Jessica George

Funded by: UNSW

This project entails conducting data analysis, writing reports and refereed journal articles, and giving conference presentations and other briefings for policy makers locally, nationally and internationally on two sub-studies from the Western Australian evaluation of the cannabis infringement notice (CIN) scheme. The first substudy of regular cannabis users examines pre-post qualitative and quantitative interview data from a sample of regular cannabis users. It explores the impact of the CIN scheme on patterns of drug use and acquisition, drug market effects, sale of hydroponic equipment, drug driving, and knowledge and attitudes towards the law. The second substudy of school students examines pre-post quantitative self completion survey data of year 9 and 12 secondary school students. 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.

Development of the national amphetamine-type stimulant strategy

In 2006, the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy (MCDS) agreed that there was a need to develop a National Amphetamine-Type Stimulant (ATS) Strategy to coordinate efforts to reduce the harms of amphetamine and other dangerous psychostimulants (ATS). ATS is now recognised as a major illicit drug issue within Australia, with the production and use of ATS posing significant health risks to users, illicit manufacturers, the general community and first responders attending clandestine laboratories. All jurisdictions have already instigated initiatives to target drugs such as crystal methamphetamine or 'ice' as well as 'speed'. This new national approach will take jurisdictional efforts to the next level.

The National Drug Research Institute, and in particular its director, Professor Steve Allsop, was asked to lead development of the strategy, working in partnership with Dr Toni Makkai of the Australian Institute of Criminology in Canberra.

As part of the process, a program of national consultation was embarked upon.

Consultation forums were held in each Australian state and territory between March and June of 2007 (15 forums were held in total). In addition, targeted consultation forums were held with consumer groups, youth, Indigenous people/groups and 13 key organisations and individuals. Written submissions were also received.

The strategy was presented to the MCDS in May 2008 and endorsed. It encompasses a comprehensive approach to addressing problems associated with the use of amphetamine-type stimulants, with a range of actions recommended under each of the National Drug Strategy priorities – prevention, reduction of supply, reduction of drug use and related harms, improved access to quality treatment, the development of the workforce, organisations and systems, and strengthened partnerships.

The National Amphetamine-Type Stimulant Strategy 2008-2011 and the National Amphetamine-Type Stimulant Strategy Background Paper are both available at www.nationaldrugstrategy.gov.au.



Research Activities

Key Priority 4 (continued)

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

Ongoing Projects

Training of health staff for the implementation of the Smoke Free WA health system policy

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Richard Midford, Owen Carter, Clare Stevens

Funded by: WAHD

The implementation of the Smoke Free WA Health System Policy requires staff to be trained in using evidence based screening tools and the delivery of sound advice on the use of Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) with the support of resources to assist patients accessing health services to consider their tobacco use and make informed decisions about the management of their nicotine dependence. Staff are being trained in the delivery of sound NRT advice that will provide them with the confidence to address the issue of NRT use and assist patients in making decisions on the management of their nicotine withdrawal. Staff will have the capacity to monitor the efficacy of the NRT prescribed and assess the level of nicotine dependence and evidence of withdrawal. Staff will have the capacity to provide brief intervention advice to assist patients who wish to remain abstinent after discharge. Staff will be able to encourage patients not willing to remain abstinent on discharge to consider quitting in the future.

Completed Projects

Development of the draft national amphetamine-type stimulant strategy

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Simon Lenton, Jessica George

Project partners: AIC

Funded by: AGDHA

See box on previous page.

Global Cannabis Commission Report - chapter on the impacts of cannabis policy reforms within the current drug control regime

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton

Funded by: Beckley Foundation (UK)

See box.

Reforming global cannabis policy



Simon Lenton

Despite cannabis being the most widely used illegal drug, and therefore the mainstay of the 'war on drugs', it has only ever held a relatively marginal position in international drug policy discussions. In recognition of this, the Beckley Foundation, a UK charitable trust, convened the 'global cannabis commission' - a team of some of the world's leading drug policy analysts - to prepare an overview of the latest scientific evidence surrounding cannabis and the policies that control its use. The team comprised: Robin Room, University of Melbourne and Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre; Peter Reuter, University of Maryland; Benedikt Fischer, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver; Wayne Hall, University of Queensland; and Simon Lenton of NDRI.

The global cannabis commission's report, *Cannabis policy - moving beyond stalemate*, was published in September 2008 and launched in October 2008 at a two-day symposium on the report's findings and implications held at the House of Lords in London. It received extensive coverage in the UK and international media, including the *New Scientist*.

The report reviewed the issues which need to be considered by policymakers in developing more effective cannabis policies that minimise the harms associated with its use and the laws which control it. It addressed four major topics relevant to a reconsideration of cannabis policies: (1) An up-to-the-minute review of what is known about the health consequences of cannabis use and its public health significance; (2) A thorough assessment of the costs and consequences of cannabis use and its prohibition at a societal level; (3) A critical analysis of the successes and shortcomings of the different strategies adopted around the world to control cannabis use; (4) A consideration of how the international regulations that determine national drug policies might be reformed to allow countries a greater degree of flexibility in adopting policies which better reflect their own individual circumstances.

Among other things the report aimed to bring cannabis to the attention of policymakers and also provide them with the relevant facts to inform their decisions in the context of the March 2009 United Nations Strategic Drug Policy Review in Vienna, which reviewed the international drug conventions. It is also hoped that the report will prove useful in policy discussions concerning cannabis, as a blueprint for governments seeking to reform their cannabis policies, and will promote a wider discussion of these issues amongst the general public.

The report, which is under consideration to be republished as a book by Oxford University Press, is available at www.beckleyfoundation.org.

Research Activities

Key Priority 5

The development and evaluation of more effective school drug education programs

New Projects

Cochrane collaboration review of workplace AOD programs

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Richard Midford, Rina Cercarelli

Project partners: NCETA

This project involves a Cochrane systematic review of workplace interventions for alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems in the workplace. Alcohol and other drugs can have a significant impact on workplaces. They can result in a loss of productivity from absenteeism, poor decision making, and increased morbidity. Given the potential risks involved with AOD use in the workplace, this systematic review will examine the effectiveness of workplace interventions for AOD problems. Specifically, the review will examine the effectiveness of health promotion, information and education, drug testing, employee assistance programs, workplace controls, and other forms of interventions (such as contingency management interventions).

School drug education evaluation tools project

NDRI staff: Richard Midford

Project partners: Youth Research Centre, University of Melbourne; CYDS, ADF

Funded by: DEECD, Victoria

This is a pilot project designed to develop and test an evidence-based, school drug prevention intervention that comprises classroom and parent-assisted

homework components. The project is being carried out in collaboration with the Youth Research Centre at the University of Melbourne and the Centre for Youth Drug Studies at the ADF. The work will be carried out over two years in four Victorian government high schools. The intervention will recruit a cohort of students who commenced year eight in 2008. The formative research and initial pilot follow up intervention with the same group in 2009. The intention is that this project forms the basis for the future development of a comprehensive evidence-based drug education program.

Ongoing Projects

Continuing dissemination of the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

Funded by: AGDHA

See box.

New Projects

International dissemination of the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Clare Stevens

Funded by: AGDHA

See box.

School health and alcohol harm reduction project (SHAHRP)

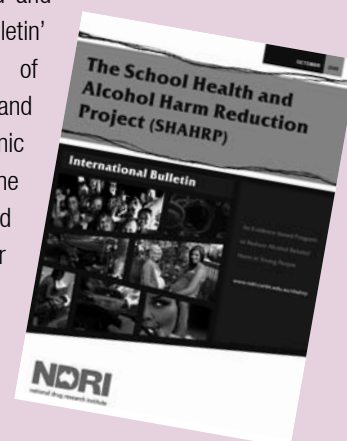
The School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP) is world first research assessing the impact of an alcohol harm reduction program in secondary school, rather than the most widely used goal in alcohol education of abstinence. The first phase results (from baseline to final follow-up 32 months later) demonstrated that students who participated in SHAHRP lessons (versus regular alcohol lessons) had 10% greater alcohol related knowledge, consumed 20% less alcohol, were 19.5% less likely to drink to harmful or hazardous levels, experienced 33% less harm associated with their own use of alcohol and 10% less harm associated with other people's use of alcohol than did the control group.

Given the success of SHAHRP there has been a high level of international and national interest from researchers, policy makers and practitioners. A SHAHRP study website has been developed and provides an overview of the study design, evidence-based features and results. Free copies of the program resources can also be downloaded from the website. There have been many requests for copyright, program advice, and research advice to replicate the program and the research in Australia and other countries.

The International Dissemination of SHAHRP project has identified and developed a database of international agencies and organisations, and the key contacts within each who have a role in policy and practice related to alcohol education. In 2008 SHAHRP researchers developed and published an 'international bulletin' which identifies key aspects of the SHAHRP study, program, and evidence base. This electronic bulletin has been sent to all the above database organisations and individuals who requested further information about the SHAHRP study.

For further information about the SHAHRP program visit:

ndri.curtin.edu.au.



Research Activities

Key Priority 6

The development and evaluation of more effective community drug prevention programs

New Projects

Evaluation of pathways to prevention initiatives for children and families in Western Australia

NDRI staff: Sherry Siggers

Project partners: Mission Australia

Funded by: Mission Australia

Mission Australia, one of the largest NGOs in Australia, has designed and delivered an early intervention program for pre-school children and their parents in the northern suburbs of Perth. These programs, based on international research and broader programs delivered in Queensland and elsewhere in Australia, are attempting to ameliorate the effects of socio-economic and other disadvantage on the health (including substance use), educational and social futures of young people. The aim of the research is to work with Mission Australia staff and participants of the program to qualitatively assess the extent to which the program is meeting its objectives (primarily to do with school readiness) in the short term. It will also attempt to identify a standard data recording system which will allow comparisons across programs throughout Australia.

Ongoing Projects

Alcohol use during pregnancy: formative intervention research

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Susan Carruthers

Project partners: TICHR; NDARC

Exposure to alcohol during the prenatal period remains the leading cause of preventable birth defects and developmental problems in Australia and as such has generated increase attention from policy, research and health practitioners. A large proportion of women reduce or stop alcohol use when they find out that they are pregnant, however, there is a proportion of women who continue to drink in moderation, and an additional group who continue to drink to risky levels while pregnant. The Alcohol Use During Pregnancy – Formative Intervention Research Study is an explorative, descriptive study using both quantitative and qualitative methods. The study is designed to assess factors that contribute to alcohol consumption during pregnancy, and to identify potential intervention strategies to reduce alcohol consumption during pregnancy. The study targets pregnant women who attend public hospitals in Perth and who are in their second or third trimester of pregnancy. Participants have identified themselves as current alcohol drinkers, 18 years of age or older, and who have English as their primary language.

Over a 14 month period between October 2006 and December 2007, 144 self-completion surveys were returned to the study researchers. Surveys assessed: the demographics of women who consume alcohol during pregnancy; their pregnancy history/ies; past and current alcohol

consumption; and a series of questions to assist in identifying context and issues related to alcohol use during pregnancy which will assist in identifying potential intervention targets and strategies. This initial analysis of study data provides some insights into intervention targets, components and strategies that may be useful to guide future interventions aiming to reduce alcohol consumption during pregnancy. The next phase of the analysis will assess the relationship between dependant and independent variables as well as data specific on subgroups within the study, and will further assist in defining and directing intervention planning.

Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP)

NDRI staff: Richard Midford, Sherry Siggers,

Fredrik Welander, Andrea Schineanu

Project partners: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

Funded by: AERF

KAAP is a three-and-a-half year, whole-of-community initiative that seeks to prevent problematic alcohol use and remediate associated harm in a community that historically has had high levels of both. The project, which is a partnership between NDRI and the City of Kalgoorlie/Boulder, is implementing an integrated range of local intervention strategies that have been derived from sound research evidence. The project is simultaneously conducting a range of early intervention, coalition building, media marketing, community education, skills training, enforcement and high risk group programs that address the individual, social and structural determinants of alcohol consumption and harm at the community level.

For further information about the Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project visit: ndri.curtin.edu.au.

Research Activities

Key Priority 7

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

New Projects

Impact of low and moderate alcohol use during pregnancy: human/animal studies

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

Funded by: Curtin Health Sciences ICRP Program

Australia's alcohol guidelines in relation to alcohol use during pregnancy have generated critical comment from several professional and lobby groups concerned with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in children of women who consumed low to moderate amounts of alcohol during pregnancy. However, there are legitimate concerns about adopting a more stringent policy, such as causing maternal guilt, providing limited guidance for women who continue to drink while pregnant, and the current paucity in clinical evidence guiding a policy of no use. The aims of this project include:

- Assessment of animal and human studies that support or dispute that low or moderate intake of alcohol during preconception, pregnancy or breastfeeding can lead to negative outcomes for pregnancy or infant and childhood health.
- Assessment of dose response and timing/pattern of alcohol use during prenatal period on pregnancy and health outcomes.

The methodology involves identifying experts in the field and snowballing initial contacts to seek out experts worldwide who are able to contribute to our level of knowledge of this issue.

Impact of parental substance use on infant development and family functioning

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: NDARC

Funded by: 2008 UNSW Goldstar Award

This study aims to identify substance use patterns in a cohort of pregnant women and their partners during the prenatal period and the characteristics associated with substance use. Next the study aims to examine the relationship of maternal and paternal substance use with pregnancy outcomes for mothers and their infants. Finally, the study aims to determine the extent to which substance use in pregnant women and their partners predict problems in: (a) infant development and (b) family functioning. Funding for a pilot study of 60 women and their partners was received from a UNSW Goldstar award for a near-miss NHMRC Project Grant application in 2007.

Ongoing Projects

Alcohol and other drug use at school leaver celebrations in Western Australia

PhD student: Tina Lam

PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

Many large events have expectations of risky alcohol and other drug use associated with them. Specifically, this project will focus on school leavers' celebrations (or "schoolies"). Many young people, who may not use alcohol and other drugs regularly, may choose to use them on "special occasions" such as large events. This study will examine the role of the large event context in facilitating as well as regulating alcohol and other drug use. Also, whether there are harms associated with this alcohol and other drug use, young peoples' perceptions of these harms, and novel and existing harm minimisation ideas will be explored.

Mortality among opioid dependent persons in pharmacotherapy

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Project partners: NDARC; NCHECR

Funded by: NHMRC

The aims of the project are: to quantify and compare the mortality rate, particularly from suicide and drug-overdose, among prisoners on opioid substitution treatment (OST) with that in prisoners who are not in the treatment program; to determine if the risk of death from suicide and drug overdose in the immediate post-release period is lower for those on OST while in prison, and those who continue in treatment after release, compared with those prisoners who are not on OST treatment in prison; and to determine whether prisoners are more likely to leave treatment than others on OST once they are released from prison into the community.

Review of alcohol and prostate cancer

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal, Tim Stockwell, Kaye Fillmore

Project partners: University of California, USA; CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada

Funded by: AGDHA

The relationship between alcohol and the development of prostate cancer is uncertain. Research study results have been mixed and most past reviewers have concluded no association. This study includes a comprehensive literature review and meta-analysis of the published literature on alcohol and prostate cancer with particular emphasis on outcomes as they relate to study design and methodology. The literature review and meta-analyses have been completed and the study will be published as an invited paper in the journal of *Molecular Nutrition and Food Research* in 2009.

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

Under construction: the social and cultural politics of hepatitis C in Australia

NDRI staff: David Moore

Project partners: Centre for Women's Studies and Gender Research, Monash University; National Centre for HIV Social Research, UNSW
Funded by: ARC

Hepatitis C is a relatively newly identified but heavily stigmatised disease. The key aim of this project is to investigate the ways in which this disease is being constituted medically, socially and culturally in Australia in order to develop insights into how it might be confronted both medically and socially without further stigmatising those affected by it.

The project will make a major contribution to knowledge about the social and cultural aspects of the prevention of hepatitis C, its management and treatment, and the lived experience of affected individuals. Its aim is to understand better how hepatitis C is conceptualised in Australia and how this informs the clinical encounter, the design and delivery of treatment, and the medical response to chronic symptoms. It will also shed light on how individuals understand and cope with their illness, how they view transmission prevention, and what strategies they use to manage their own health.

Understanding the barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine users in health services

NDRI staff: David Moore

Project partners: National Centre in Epidemiology & Population Health, ANU; Centre for Epidemiology & Population Health Research, Burnet Institute
Funded by: NHMRC

This research aims to map the social contexts and epidemiology of methamphetamine use, related harms and health service utilisation/provision amongst street-based injecting drug users; to integrate these diverse data to better understand the barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine injectors in specialist drug treatment and other health services; to make recommendations for appropriate interventions; and to further develop and supply an enhanced ethno-epidemiology framework to the Australian context.

Ongoing Projects

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

NDRI staff: David Moore

Project partners: Monash Institute for Health Services Research; National Centre in HIV Epidemiology & Clinical Research; National Centre in Epidemiology & Population Health; National Development & Research Institutes, USA
Funded by: NHMRC

This research project aims to provide greater understanding of the individual, social and cultural factors associated with psychostimulant-related harms through an innovative combination and integration of anthropological and epidemiological approaches known as 'ethno-epidemiology'. In order to access a diverse range of psychostimulant-using contexts, research is focusing on three urban sites: street-based drug users in Sydney, club drug users in Melbourne and home-based, recreational drug users in Perth. These groups were chosen because they have high prevalences of psychostimulant use. The ethnographic research is being conducted by three PhD students: Rachael Green (Perth), Suzie Hudson (Sydney), and Christine Siokou (Melbourne). The aims of the project are to:

1. determine the cultural meanings and social contexts of psychostimulant use in three social networks of young people: (i) street-based injectors (Sydney); (ii) club drug users (Melbourne); and (iii) home-based recreational drug users (Perth);
2. investigate the epidemiology of psychostimulant use and related harms in these social networks;
3. integrate social, cultural and epidemiological data in order to identify the dynamics of the three drug markets in which network members participate and how these dynamics affect specific harms associated with psychostimulant use (eg, risk of blood-borne virus transmission, violence);
4. recommend possible interventions for the prevention of psychostimulant-related harms based on improved understanding of the interaction of market dynamics and social networks.

The research project will provide important data that will inform future interventions, improve multidisciplinary models for drug research, and build Australia's capacity to conduct cutting-edge public health research.

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

Although there is clear epidemiological evidence of alcohol-related harm among young adults, there has been little qualitative research on their specific drinking practices. This project seeks to fill a 'gap' in the understanding of alcohol-related harm and related risk behaviours by employing a structured ethnographic perspective. It focuses on the effect of setting, values, social relationships and practices on alcohol consumption, but employs a grounded, 'insider' approach to understanding these aspects.

The research examines alcohol consumption among young adults (aged 18-24 years) with particular focus on binge drinking and related risk behaviours. It employs a structured ethnographic approach to documenting the social meanings of alcohol consumption amongst six discrete social networks of young adults in three types of recreational settings. The specific aims of the research project are to:

- describe the cultural meanings and social contexts of alcohol use among young adults in recreational settings;
- compare and contrast alcohol use across three types of recreational venue – nightclubs, hotels and private parties;
- understand the specific circumstances in which binge drinking and related risk behaviours occur;
- investigate the impact of social networks and life transitions on young adults' use of alcohol.

In gaining in-depth, systematic data on young adults' consumption practices, the findings of the research project will inform the design of prevention policies designed to discourage binge drinking and alcohol-related risk behaviours. The translation of research findings into practical recommendations for intervention strategies will be the major focus of the final project report produced from the study.

Completed Projects

Working with homeless people who use drugs

NDRI staff: Jeremy Northcote, Steve Allsop, Zaza Lyons

Project partners: St Bartholomew's House, Perth, Ted Noffs Foundation

Funded by: ANCD

See box.

Working with homeless people who use drugs

The aim of this project was to assess the extent and nature of alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems among homeless persons in Australia to develop guidelines for assessing, managing, and engaging with people who are homeless and have AOD problems.

Working with advisors from the Ted Noffs Foundation and St Bartholomew's House, the project team of Dr Jeremy Northcote, Zaza Lyons and Professor Steve Allsop devised a set of guidelines and information resources to link homeless services to up-to-date information and advice. The project involved the development of a national website to disseminate the information, which was designed by Starkis Design in Canberra under the direction of the project team.

The Homeless Information Portal was launched on 31 October 2008 by the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) in Sydney. Speakers at the event included Dr John Herron, Professor Margaret Hamilton and Professor Ian Webster, and the launch received national media coverage. The portal has its own dedicated website, which features a national directory of drug and alcohol related services and information on symptoms to help with the identification of use.

According to project leader Dr Jeremy Northcote, the website goes beyond other information portals by offering guidelines for frontline workers and organisations in dealing with drug and alcohol issues. The guidelines include step-by-step procedures for dealing with different types of clients, such as young people and Indigenous clients, and with various situations such as psychiatric emergencies and violent situations. The other area the team focussed on was developing advice for frontline services in improving their capacity to deal with drug and alcohol issues, such as how to apply for funding, building partnerships with other organisations and developing staff competency. It's not just about providing the right information to services, but improving their capacity to put that information to good use," said Dr Northcote.

The guidelines were developed from the results of an extensive consultation process with homeless service workers and clients from both metropolitan and rural areas around Australia and with assistance from the Drug and Alcohol Office, Western Australia.

The website can be viewed at www.hip.org.au.

Research Activities

PhD Program

NDRI has an active PhD program and works to identify opportunities to fund more postgraduate students. PhD candidates are attracted through scholarships and through collaborative supervision with other schools and universities. The NDRI Tier 1 group has successfully supervised a large number of international Masters and PhD students, with research projects engaging both students working within Australia and international students conducting projects 'at home'.

Completed PhD Projects

Alcohol consumption, smoking and lifestyle characteristics for Japanese patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

PhD student: Fumi Hirayama

PhD supervisor: Colin Binns and Andy Lee

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

See box page 10.

Ongoing PhD Projects

A case control study of lifestyle factors in the aetiology of ovarian cancer

PhD student: Dada Su

PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

Alcohol and smoking in breastfeeding

PhD student: Roslyn Giglia

PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

Funded by: AERF, AGDHA and NHMRC scholarship

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 BC)

PhD supervisors: David Moore and Jean Shoveller, Mark Tyndall (University of BC, Canada)

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

Use of online forums by Australian party drug users: making drug use safer or more dangerous?

PhD student: Monica Barratt

PhD supervisors: Simon Lenton, Matthew Allen (Curtin University of Technology)

Funded by: AERF scholarship

Young people, alcohol and other drug use at large events

PhD student: Tina Lam

PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

New PhD Projects

Hepatitis C and its treatment in Australian custodial settings

PhD student: James Fetherston

PhD supervisors: Tony Butler, Susan Carruthers, Matthew Law

Funded by: AGDHA

Health inequalities and chronic disease: the experience of disease of disadvantaged people living with type 2 diabetes in an urban community in Perth, Western Australia

PhD student: Beatriz Cuesta Briand

PhD supervisors: Sherry Siggers and Alexandra McManus (Curtin University)

Funded by: Curtin University scholarship

Staff

Director

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

Professors

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Beatriz Cuesta Briand

Robyn Dwyer

James Fetherston

Roslyn Giglia

Rachael Green

Fumi Hirayama

Tina Lam

Amy Pennay

Christine Siokou

Nicola Thomson

Dada Su

Celia Wilkinson

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Maggie Halls, Resource Officer

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Paul Jones, Computer Systems Officer

Rachael Lobo, Communications Officer

Jennifer Low, Clerical Officer

Jillian Evans, Clerical Officer

Patricia Niklasson, Secretary/Admin Assistant

Vic Rechichi, Communications Officer

Pauline Taylor-Perkins, Administrative Officer

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 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 conferences, symposia, workshops, seminars and forums. NDRI also 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 at 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.

In 2008, the provision of expert comment and evidence based research further enhanced NDRI's efforts to disseminate its research findings widely and to inform and participate in alcohol and other drug policy development in Australia.

NDRI received more than 800 mentions in the media during 2008. Much of the media interest revolved around alcohol, including issues about alcohol taxation, binge drinking and alcohol-related violence. However NDRI research and expert comment appeared in electronic and print media on a diverse range of subjects relating to legal and illegal drug use, including homeless youth, workplace drug testing, mental health, hepatitis and prisoner health.

A media highlight of 2008 was Prime Minister Kevin Rudd referring to NDRI's work on the highest rating morning radio program in Melbourne, citing the 2004 "prevention monograph" report as establishing beyond doubt that increasing the price of alcohol leads to a reduction in alcohol consumption and related problems.



Dissemination Activities

Publications

Monographs and Technical Reports

- Black, E., Roxburgh, A., Degenhardt, L., Bruno, R., Campbell, G., de Graff, B., Fetherston, J., Kinner, S., Moon, C., Quinn, B., Richardson, M., Sindicich, N. and White, N. (2008) Australian Drug Trends 2007: findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS). Australian Drug Trends Series No 1. National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of NSW, Sydney.
- Butler, T. and Papanastasiou, C. (2008) National Prison Entrants' Bloodborne Virus and Risk Behaviour Survey Report 2004 & 2007. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth & National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, University of New South Wales, Sydney.
- Carruthers, S. (2008) A review of hepatitis C: from the global to the local. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth.
- Chikritzhs, T., Catalano, P., Pascal, R. and Henrickson, N. (2008) Predicting alcohol related harms from licensed outlet density: A feasibility study. NDLERF Monograph Series No 28. National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund, Hobart.
- Fetherston, J. and Lenton, S. (2008) WA Drug Trends 2007: findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS). Australian Drug Trends Series No 7. National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of NSW, Sydney.
- Frances, K., Hutchins, T., Saggars, S. and Gray, D. (2008). Group analysis of Aboriginal child death review cases in which chronic neglect is present. Child Death Review Committee, Perth.
- George, J., Baker, J., Allsop, S. and Makkai, T. (2008) National Amphetamine-Type Stimulant Strategy Background Paper. National Drug Strategy Series No. 69, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra.
- George, J., Baker, J., Allsop, S. and Makkai, T. (2008) National Amphetamine-Type Stimulant Strategy 2008-2011. Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra.
- George, J. and Lenton, S. (2008) WA Trends in Ecstasy and Related Drug Markets 2007: findings from the Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS). Australian Drug Trends Series No 16. National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney.
- McBride, N. (2008) International SHAHRP Bulletin. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth.
- McBride, N., Carruthers, S.J. & Hutchinson, D. (2008) Alcohol use during pregnancy. Formative intervention research. Final report. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth.
- Ritchers, J., Butler, T.G., Kirkwood, K., Yap, L., Grant, L., Smith, A. and Donovan, B. (2008) Sexual health and behaviour of New South Wales prisoners. School of Public Health and Community Medicine., University of New South Wales, Sydney.

Room, R., Fischer, B., Hall, W., Lenton, S. and Reuter, P. (2008) The Global Cannabis Commission Report: Cannabis policy – moving beyond stalemate. The Beckley Foundation, Oxford, UK. Available at http://www.beckleyfoundation.org/pdf/BF_Cannabis_Commission_Report.pdf.

Published Articles, Chapters and Books

- Allnut, S., Wedgwood, L., Wilhelm, K. and Butler, T. (2008) Temperament, substance use and psychopathology in a prisoner population: implications for treatment. Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry, 42, (11), pp 969-975.
- Allsop, S. (2008) Engaging the community in responding to alcohol-related problems. In Moore, D. and Dietze, P. (eds) Drugs and Public Health: Australian Perspectives on Policy and Practice. Oxford University Press Australia & New Zealand, Melbourne, pp 17-28.
- Allsop, S. (ed) (2008) Drug use and mental health: effective responses to co-occurring drug and mental health problems. IP Communications, Melbourne.
- Allsop, S. (2008) Mental health and drug problems: what is the issue. In Allsop, S. (ed) Drug use and mental health: effective responses to co-occurring drug and mental health problems. IP Communications, Melbourne, pp 1-10.
- Binns, C.W. and Giglia, R. (2008). Alcohol, pregnancy and breastfeeding; an analysis of the 1995 and 2001 National Health Survey data. Breastfeeding Review, 16, (1), pp 17-24.
- Breen, L., Saggars, S., Roarty, L. and Green, M. (2008) Towards embedding wellness approaches to health and disability in the policies and practices of allied health providers. Journal of Allied Health, 37, (3), pp 173-179.
- Butler, T.G. (2008) Prisoner Health. Australia's Health (chapter). Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Canberra. pp. 87-91.
- Carruthers, S.J. (2008) The organisation of a community: community action to prevent injecting drug use-related health problems. Substance Use and Misuse, 42, (12), pp 171-179.
- Carter, O. (2008) Changes in the attitudes and beliefs of Western Australian smokers, 1984-2007. In the progress of tobacco control in Western Australia: achievements, challenges and hopes for the future. The Cancer Council Western Australia, Perth, pp 23-30.
- Cashin, A., Potter, E. and Butler, T.G. (2008) The relationship between exercise and hopelessness in prison. Journal of Psychiatry and Mental Health Nursing, 15, pp 66-71.
- Chikritzhs, T., Fillmore, K. and Stockwell, T.R. (2008) The persistent, alternative argument to apparent cardio-protective effects of alcohol. Addiction, 103, (5), pp 855-866.
- Degenhardt, L., Kinner, S.A., Roxburgh, A., Black, E., Bruno, R., Fetherston, J. and Fry, C. (2008) Drug use and risk among regular injecting drug users in Australia: does age make a difference? Drug and Alcohol Review, 27, (4), pp 357-360.

Dissemination Activities

Publications (continued)

- Degenhardt, L., Roxburgh, A., Black, E., Bruno, R., Campbell, G., Kinner, S.A. and Fetherston, J. (2008) The epidemiology of methamphetamine use and harm in Australia. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 27, (3), pp 243-252.
- Dietze, P., Cvetkovski, S., Barratt, M.J. and Clemens, S. (2008) Patterns and incidence of gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB)-related ambulance attendances in Melbourne. *Medical Journal of Australia*, 188, (12), pp 709-711.
- Dwyer, R. (2008) Privileging pleasure: Temazepam injection in a heroin marketplace. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 19, (5), pp 367-374.
- Fetherston, J., Topp, L., Black, E., Iverson, J. and Maher, L. (2008) Blood borne virus surveillance among sentinel samples of injecting drug users. *IDRS Drug Trends December Bulletin* 2007.
- Fillmore, K., Chikritzhs, T. and Stockwell, T.R. (2008) The effects of magic in medical epidemiology. *Addiction*, 103, (11), pp 1905-09.
- Fraser, S. and Moore, D. (2008) Dazzled by unity? Order and chaos in public discourse on illicit drug use. *Social Science and Medicine*, 66, pp 740-752.
- Giglia, R. and Binns, C.W. (2008). The effect of alcohol intake on breastfeeding duration in Australian women. *Acta Paediatrica*, 97, pp. 624-629.
- Grace, J., Moore, D. and Northcote, J. (2008) 'We're quite good at looking after each other': alcohol, risk and harm reduction amongst young people in Perth. *ICCWA News*, June, pp 1-2.
- Gray, D., Siggers, S., Atkinson, D. and Wilkes, T. (2008) Substance misuse. In Couzos, S. and Murray, R. (eds) *Aboriginal Primary Health Care: An Evidence Based Approach* (3rd ed). Oxford University Press, Melbourne.
- Hall, W., Chikritzhs, T., D'Abbs, P. and Room, R. (2008) Alcohol sales data are essential for good public policies towards alcohol. *Medical Journal of Australia*, 189, (4), pp 188-189.
- Joyce, A., Pauli-Myler, T., Burns, S., Howat, P. and Maycock, B. (2008) Adolescent mental health promotion: could it be assisted by considering the functions of depression in young people? *International Journal of Mental Health Promotion*, 10, (1), pp 16-22.
- Khan, S., Hudson-Rodd, N., Siggers, S., Bhuiyan, M. and Bhuiya, A. (2008) Phallus, performance and power: crisis of masculinity. *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 23, (1), pp 37-49.
- Lenton, S. (2008) Commentary: Case for peer naloxone further strengthened. *Addiction*, 103, pp 1658-9.
- Lenton, S. (2008) Working with windows: Translating drug research into drug policy. In Moore, D. and Dietze, P. (eds) *Drugs and Public Health: Australian Perspectives on Policy and Practice*. Oxford University Press Australia & New Zealand, Melbourne, pp 17-28.
- McLaren, J., Swift, W., Dillon, P. and Allsop, S. (2008) Cannabis potency and contamination: a review of the literature. *Addiction*, 103, (7), pp 1100-1109.
- Midford, R. (2008) Is this the path to effective prevention? *Addiction*, 103, (7), pp 1169-1170.
- Midford, R. (2008) Preventing youth substance abuse: science-based programs for children and adolescents (Book review). *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 27, (5), pp 575-576.
- Moore, D. and Dietze, P. (eds) (2008) *Drugs and Public Health: Australian Perspectives on Policy and Practice*. Oxford University Press Australia & New Zealand, Melbourne.
- Moore, D. (2008) Erasing pleasure from public discourse on illicit drugs: on the creation and reproduction of an absence. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 19, (5), pp 353-358.
- Moore, D., Grace, J. and Northcote, J. (2008) Drinking and related harm amongst young adults in Perth. *Interface*, May, pp 12-13.
- Shilton, T., Howat, P., James, R., Burke, L., Hutchins, C. and Woodman, R. (2008) Health promotion competencies for Australia 2001-2005: Trends and their implications. *Promotion and Education*, 15, (2), pp 21-26.
- Sims, M., Siggers, S., Hutchins, T., Guilfoyle, A., Targowska, A. and Jackiewicz, S. (2008) Indigenous child care - leading the way. *Australian Journal of Early Childhood*, 33, (1), pp 56-60.
- Siokou, C. and Moore, D. (2008) 'This is not a rave!': changes in the commercialised Melbourne rave/dance party scene. *Youth Studies Australia*, 27, (3), pp 50-57.
- Stockwell, T.R., Zhao, J., Chikritzhs, T. and Greenfield, T. (2008) What did you drink yesterday? Public health relevance of a recent recall method used in the 2004 Australian National Drug Strategy Household Survey. *Addiction*, 103, (6), pp 919-928.
- Treloar, C., Laybutt, M.B., van Beek, I. and Carruthers, S.J. (2008). Broadening discussions of 'safe' in hepatitis C prevention: analysis of video recordings of injecting practices. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 19, (1), pp 59-65.
- Webster, I., Moore, D. and Dietze, P. (2008) The evolution of alcohol and other drug research, policy and practice in Australia. In Moore, D. and Dietze, P. (eds). *Drugs and Public Health: Australian Perspectives on Policy and Practice*. Oxford University Press Australia & New Zealand, Melbourne, pp 1-13.
- Winter, M.V., Donovan, R.J. and Fielder, L.J. (2008) Exposure of children and adolescents to alcohol advertising on television in Australia. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, 69, (5), 676-683.

Dissemination Activities

Presentations

Conference Presentations

Allsop, S. (2008) Understanding and responding to drug problems in the workplace. Invited presentation at the Rostering, Shiftwork & Fatigue Management Conference 2008, Medina Grand Hotel, Perth, 19-21 May 2008.

Allsop, S. (2008) Influencing addiction policy: the risks of swimming with the crocodiles. Invited keynote presentation at the Addiction Summit - A climate for change, Sofitel Hotel, Melbourne, 10-11 July 2008.

Allsop, S. (2008) Implementing strategies to improve risk taking attitudes. Invited keynote presentation at Safety in Mining '08, Holiday Inn City Centre, Perth, 27-28 August 2008.

Allsop, S. (2008) Drugs at work: are they an issue? Invited keynote presentation at the 7th Annual Safety and Health Conference - Safety '08 Practical Workplace Solutions, Sheraton Hotel, Perth, 23-24 September 2008.

Allsop, S. (2008) Generation Y & Z - Communicating with young people. Invited keynote presentation at the Crime Stoppers Australia - 2008 Planning Conference, Kings Hotel, Perth, 26-28 November 2008.

Butler, T.G. (2008) Launch: 2004 & 2007 National Prison Entrants' Bloodborne Virus & Risk Behaviour Survey Report. Keynote presentation at the 2008 Australian Society of HIV Medicine Conference. Perth Convention Centre, 18th September 2008.

Carruthers, S.J. (2008) Increasing uptake of hepatitis B vaccinations among injecting drug users. Presented at the 6th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, 20-22 October 2008.

Carter, O. (2008) Personal liberty versus government responsibility: exploring the limits of publically acceptable tobacco control regulation. Invited presentation at the 2008 State Cancer Conference: Challenging cancer - past, present and future, Perth, 23 October 2008.

Carter, O., Donovan, R., Jalleh, G., Borland, R., Daube, M. and Siahpush, M. (2008) Smoking cessation pharmaceuticals: effectiveness in real-life settings. Invited presentation at the Behavioural Research in Cancer Control Conference, Melbourne, 10 April 2008.

Chikritzhs, T. (2008) Alcohol related harms and policing responses. Invited keynote presentation at the Australasian Police Commissioners Conference, Hobart, Tasmania, 5 March 2008.

Chikritzhs, T. (2008) Licensed outlet density: outcomes from a feasibility study. Invited keynote presentation at the New Zealand Alcohol Advisory Committee Partnerships Conference. Nelson, NZ, 9-10 April 2008.

Chikritzhs, T. (2008) Setting the scene: alcohol use and related harms across the nation. Invited, keynote presentation at the ACT Alcohol and other drugs sector first annual conference. Alcohol: past, present and future. Canberra, 25 June 2008.

Drugs and Public Health: Australian perspectives on policy and practice

A new book edited by NDRI's Associate Professor David Moore and Paul Dietze, Principle Research Fellow at the Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health Research, Burnet Institute and Associate Professor at Monash Institute for Health Services Research, was launched in 2008.

Published by Oxford University Press, Australian and NZ, *Drugs and Public Health* focuses on two key areas: an overview of existing practice responses to alcohol and other drug use, and the identification of emerging innovations in practice. The book studies the theory, evidence and context of existing and emerging alcohol and other drug practice and aims to provide material that can be used in vocational and professional education, refresher training and the documentation and evaluation of best practice. The book:



- Includes case studies giving examples of innovative practices and how to convert learning into practice.
- Covers a wide range of drug types (alcohol, tobacco, heroin, 'party drugs'), populations (youth, Indigenous Australians, injecting drug users) and areas of practice (prevention, harm reduction, community development, treatment, law enforcement).
- Considers the contexts – social, cultural, political, legal, and economic – that need to be addressed in innovative alcohol and other drug practice.
- Situates local alcohol and other drug practice and contexts in relation to national and international developments.

Chikritzhs, T. (2008) The Australian National Alcohol Indicators Project tools for policy and prevention. Invited plenary presentation at the New Zealand Alcohol Advisory Committee Partnerships Conference, Nelson, NZ, 9-10 April 2008.

Dwyer, R. (2008) Modes of exchange in a local drug marketplace. Presented at the 19th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug-related Harm, Barcelona, Spain, 11-15 May 2008.

Gates, P. (2008) Cannabis potency and contamination: views of key experts. Presented at the 70th Annual Meeting of the College of Problems on Drug Dependence, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 14-19 June 2008.

Dissemination Activities

Presentations (continued)

- Grace, J. (2008) A night out in Northbridge: The context and dynamics of young adults' drinking in Perth's "hotspot". Invited presentation at the Youth Affairs Council WA Fairground Conference, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 9-10 October 2008.
- Gray, D. and Wilkes, E. (2008) Gaps in the provision of alcohol and other drug treatment services for Indigenous Australians. Presented at the APSAD Conference 2008, Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Sydney, 23-26 November 2008.
- Gray, D. and Wilkes, E. (2008) Getting serious about the structural determinants of Indigenous substance misuse. Presented at the Addiction Summit - A Climate for Change, Sofitel Hotel, Melbourne, Australia, 10-11 July 2008.
- Green, R. (2008) "I haven't taken anything, just dexies": The illicit use of diverted dexamphetamine in Perth, Western Australia, and its implications for harm reduction. Presented at the Club Health 2008, Ibiza, Spain, 23-25 June 2008.
- Green, R. (2008) Ethnographic exploration of the use of diverted dexamphetamine among young people in Perth, WA. Presented at the 'Everyday Lives': 10th Social Research Conference on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases, NCHSR, Sydney, 27-28 March 2008.
- Howat, P. (2008) A RCT online intervention to prevent hazardous drinking by university students. Invited presentation at the 9th Biennial Behavioural Research in Cancer Control Conference, Melbourne, 9-11 April 2008.
- Howat, P. (2008) Prevention of excessive drinking by university students via an online intervention: a RCT. Invited, Keynote presentation at the UICC World Cancer Congress, Geneva, Switzerland, 27-31 August 2008.
- Lenton, S. (2008) Effects of the Western Australian cannabis infringement notice scheme on public attitudes, knowledge and use: A comparison of pre -post change survey data. Presented at the APSAD Conference 2008, Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Sydney, 23-26 November 2008.
- Lenton, S. (2008) Multivariate analysis of predictors of expiators and method of expiation by persons issued a Cannabis Infringement Notice in Western Australia. Presented at the APSAD Conference 2008, Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Sydney, 23-26 November 2008.
- Lenton, S. (2008) Young people, cannabis, mental health and the law. Invited presentation at the WA Police and the Drug and Alcohol Office - Prevention Workshop 2008, Perth, 10-14 March 2008.
- Maycock, B. (2008) An online intervention to prevent hazardous drinking by youth. Invited, Keynote presentation at the 40th International Conference of the Asia-Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health, Hanoi, Vietnam, 30 November 2008.
- Moore, D. (2008) Extending drug ethno-epidemiology using agent-based modelling. Presented at the APSAD Conference 2008, Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Sydney, 23-26 November 2008.
- Moore, D. (2008) Psychostimulant use and related harms amongst young Australians: Developing an integrated ethno-epidemiology. Presented at the 19th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug-related Harm, Barcelona, Spain, 11-15 May 2008.
- Moore, D. (2008) Psychostimulant use and related harms amongst young Australians: Developing and applying an integrated ethno-epidemiological approach. Presented at the 'Everyday Lives': 10th Social Research Conference on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases, NCHSR, Sydney, 27-28 March 2008.
- Pennay, A. (2008) Personal and ethical implications of 'insider' status in an ethnography of alcohol and party drug use in Melbourne, Australia. Presented at the 3rd International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences, Prato, Italy, 22-25 July 2008.
- Saggers, S. (2008) Cross-sectoral frameworks for community development. Keynote presentation at the Developing Communities in Changing Times, LGCDAWA Bi-Annual Conference, 10-11 April 2008.
- Saggers, S. (2008) It's not all 'rivers of grog' and abused children: Models for addressing Indigenous disadvantage. Invited presentation at the NCEPH@20...still developing health. , Australian National University, Canberra, 26-27 November 2008.
- Siokou, C. (2008) 'This is not a rave!' The effects of commodification and commercialisation on the Melbourne rave/dance party and club scene. Presented at the Club Health 2008, Ibiza, Spain, 23-25 June 2008.

Symposium Presentations

- Allsop, S. (2008) Stakeholder Participation in the WA Health Tobacco Action Plan 2007-2010. Invited presentation at the Respiratory Health Network Symposium, The Boulevard Centre, Floreat, 9 May 2008.
- Carruthers, S.J. and Butler, T.G. (2008) Enhancing access to hepatitis C treatments in the prison setting and beyond. Invited keynote presentation at the Enhancing access to hepatitis C treatment in the prison setting and beyond, Hyatt Hotel, Perth, 19 May 2008.
- Carruthers, S.J. (2008) Hepatitis C: prevalence revisited. Invited presentation at the Enhancing access to hepatitis C treatment in Prisons, Hyatt Hotel, Perth, 19 May 2008.
- Carter, O. and Donovan, R. (2008) That's disgusting! Evaluation of a youth oriented tobacco control advertisement distributed via chain email. Social marketing and the internet symposium, Perth, 1 April 2008.
- Lenton, S. (2008) Legislative Options for Cannabis. Invited presentation at the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (UK) Cannabis Review, London ExCel, London, UK, 5 February 2008.
- Lenton, S. (2008) The impacts of cannabis reforms within the current drug control regime. Invited presentation at The Beckley Foundation Global Cannabis Commission Report Launch: "Where can we go with cannabis policy?", House of Lords, London, UK, 2 October 2008.

Lenton, S. (2008) Conclusions & recommendations from the Global Cannabis Commission Report. Invited presentation at The Beckley Foundation Global Cannabis Commission Report Launch: "Where can we go with cannabis policy?", House of Lords, London, UK, 2 October 2008.

Workshop Presentations

Allsop, S. (2008) Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drug Services - Future Directions - Joint Workshop - Facilitator: Prof Steve Allsop. Invited presentation at the Future directions for Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services in Tasmania - Joint Workshop of Alcohol and Drug Service and Non-Government Organisations, Tram Room 29 - Tram Shed, Launceston, 23 July 2008.

Chikritzhs, T. (2008) Alcohol related harms and policing responses. Invited, Keynote presentation at the NSW Police Commissioner's Executive Committee, Sydney, 24 June 2008.

Chikritzhs, T. and Allsop, S. (2008) Introductory address at the Alcohol Policy Forum. Invited, Keynote presentation at the Alcohol Policy Forum - Where Next? - Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 3 July 2008.

Chikritzhs, T. (2008) Licensed outlet density: outcomes from a feasibility study. Invited, Keynote presentation at the Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Office, Drug and Alcohol Prevention Workshop, Perth, 10-13 March 2008.

Seminar Presentations

Gray, D. and Wilkes, E. (2008) Indigenous research at the National Drug Research Institute. Invited presentation at the Western Australian Institute of Medical Research Seminar, Queen Elizabeth Medical Centre, Perth, 21 May 2008.

Lenton, S. (2008) Is heroin availability increasing? If so, what should we be doing? Invited presentation at the DAO Lunchtime Seminar, Perth, 29 July 2008.

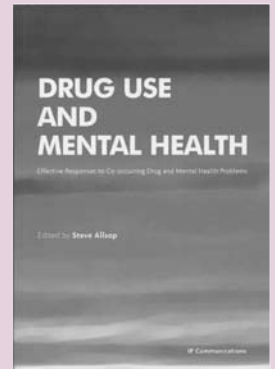
Moore, D. (2008) Extending drug ethno-epidemiology using agent-based modelling. Presented at the Victorian Substance Use Research Forum (VSURF), Melbourne, 20 June 2008.

Moore, D. (2008) Qualitative methods. Invited presentation on qualitative methodologies, Graduate Programs in Alcohol and Other Drug Studies, Turning Point, Melbourne, 24 April 2008.

Pennay, A. (2008) Controlling consumption: Narratives from a sample of young party drug users in Melbourne, Australia. Presented at the Victorian Substance Use Research Forum (VSURF), Melbourne, 19 September 2008.

Tackling co-occurring drug and mental health problems

Drug Use and Mental Health: Effective responses to co-occurring drug and alcohol problems, edited by NDRI Director Professor Steve Allsop, was published in 2008. Launching the book at a NDRI seminar in Perth on 23 September, together with one of the book's contributors, Curtin's Dr Ali Marsh, Professor Allsop called for improvements to existing service systems to enable the identification and management of co-occurring disorders in a more integrated way that meets the needs of affected people.



Prof Allsop said that people who are drug dependent experience a high prevalence of mental health disorders such as anxiety and depression, and suicide risk is increased among this group. Also, drug use is much more common among those with mental health problems than in the broader community.

However, although people with serious co-occurring drug and mental health problems tend to access health services more frequently than individuals affected by a drug problem or mental health disorder in isolation, they are more impaired, experience more disability and have poorer treatment outcomes, in addition to contributing to higher health and other costs in the community. This is mainly because historically mental health staff have not been trained to respond to drug problems, and drug treatment staff have been ill-prepared to respond to mental health problems. Prof Allsop added that, while some of the recent initiatives that better equip both mental health and drug specific services to respond effectively should be welcomed, there is still a significant challenge.

The book, published by IP Communications, introduces the reader to the issues, and encourages consideration of the evidence about the nature and prevalence of co-occurring disorders and the challenges they create for individuals, the community and service providers. A diverse range of expertise of contributors provides the opportunity to consider the challenges of navigating the various systems of care from the perspective of consumers, parents and clinicians. Researchers and clinicians examine the available evidence about the links between the various disorders and discuss the implications for treatment through a series of case studies, and the reader is guided through evidence-based clinical decision-making.

Dissemination Activities

Presentations (continued)

Roarty, L.A. and Siggers, S. (2008) Confronting the 2006 census in discrete Indigenous communities in the East Kimberley. Presented at the Social Sciences Research Seminar, Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University, 17 April 2008.

Siggers, S. (2008) "Now that Jaru Pirrjirdi mob is really strong...": Tackling substance use and mental health in central Australia. Invited presentation at Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service, Canberra, 27 November 2008.

Siggers, S. (2008) Young people and risky drinking. Presented at the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth National Webinar, ARACY, Perth, 18 November 2008.

Wilkes, E. (2008) The NT intervention and its implications for WA. Invited, Keynote presentation at the Aboriginal Rights Coalition Public Lecture. Centre for Aboriginal Studies, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, 3 December 2008.

Forum Presentations

Allsop, S. (2008) Alcohol Taxes and Access to Alcohol. Invited, Keynote presentation at the Alcohol Policy Forum - Where Next? - Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 3 July 2008.

Allsop, S. (2008) MCDS Alcohol Forum - Facilitator. Invited presentation at the MCDS Alcohol Forum - Industry Consultation, Melbourne, 9 July 2008.

Allsop, S. (2008) Keynote Address - Tasmanian Alcohol Forum. Invited, Keynote presentation at the Tasmanian Alcohol Forum, Sovereign Room, Hobart, 17 July 2008.

Carter, O., Pilkington, S., Cameron, A. and Thompson, S. (2008) Tobacco control practices of Aboriginal health professionals in Western Australia. Invited presentation at the 'Staying Alive': 2008 WA Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services Forum, Perth, 5 March 2008.

Donovan, R. (2008) Alcohol and Marketing. Invited, Keynote presentation at the Alcohol Policy Forum - Where Next? - Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 3 July 2008.

Howat, P. (2008) Community Education. Invited, Keynote presentation at the Alcohol Policy Forum - Where Next? - Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 3 July 2008.

Wilkes, E. (2008) Alcohol and Indigenous Populations. Invited presentation at the Alcohol Policy Forum - Where Next? - Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 3 July 2008.

Wilkes, E. and Gray, D. (2008) Innovative ways to improve outcomes for Aboriginal people and in particular young Aboriginal people - the future generations. Invited presentation at the WA Aboriginal Alcohol and Other Drugs Forum, Gateway Hotel, Perth, 30 October 2008.

Meeting Presentations

Allsop, S. (2008) Workplace AOD Testing. Invited keynote presentation at the AFOEM Education Meeting, 1st Floor Seminar Room, Crawley, 5 August 2008.

Allsop, S. (2008) Drugs in the Workplace. Invited keynote presentation at The CEO Institute, The University Club, Crawley, 10 September 2008.

Allsop, S. (2008) Comment on National ATS Strategy. Invited keynote presentation at the Launch of the Drug Aware Amphetamine Campaign - WANADA, The Bakery Artrage Complex, Northbridge, 24 September 2008.

Carruthers, S.J. (2008) The Future of Hepatitis C Councils in Prevention. Invited presentation at the Presentation to Hepatitis Australia Board, All Seasons Hotel, Northbridge, 12 June 2008.

Butler, T.G. (2008) Launch: 2004 & 2007 National Prison Entrants' Bloodborne Virus & Risk Behaviour Survey Report. Keynote presentation at the 2008 Australian Society of HIV Medicine Meeting, Perth Convention Centre, 18 September 2008.

Lenton, S. (2008) Topical issues: 1. Heroin Resurgence? 2. The Cannabis Infringement Notice Scheme. Invited presentation at the Meeting of the Australian National Council on Drugs, Duxton Hotel, Perth, WA, 5-6 June 2008.

Dissemination Activities

NDRI Seminar Series

NDRI Seminar Series 2008

The National Drug Research Institute hosts regular events as part of its Seminar Series. These seminars serve several purposes. They provide NDRI staff with an avenue to disseminate research findings; they help build the presentation skills of early career researchers; and they provide a forum for NDRI staff and others in the alcohol and drug field to hear from visiting researchers.

The NDRI Seminar Series program is available on the NDRI website at ndri.curtin.edu.au.

14 March 2008

Drugs and Crime: Tapping into the AIC

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Toni Makkai, Australian Institute of Criminology

4 April 2008

The more things change...Do they stay the same?

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Wendy Loxley, NDRI

10 April 2008

'We are quite good at looking after each other when we've been drinking': Alcohol, risk and harm reduction among young people in Perth

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Jocelyn Grace and Jeremy Northcote, NDRI

12 May 2008

Break free: Reducing smoking in prisons

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Tony Butler, NDRI and Robyn Richmond, University of New South Wales

24 June 2008

"I'm trying to get somewhere like everyone else is on this good earth": Experiences of young people attending AOD treatment services in Perth

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Mandy Wilson and Sherry Saggars, NDRI

7 July 2008

A NAIDOC Week Event: Indigenous Australian Research Seminar

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars, Ted Wilkes and Anna Stearne, NDRI

17 July 2008

Universal web-based alcohol screening and brief intervention for university students: a randomised controlled trial

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Jonathan Hallett, WA Centre for Health Promotion Research

7 August 2008

Drugs and violence: Toxicology and circumstances of death of homicide victims

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Shane Darke, National Alcohol and Drug Research Centre

23 September 2008

Effective responses to co-occurring drug and mental health problems

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Steve Allsop, NDRI, and Ali Marsh, Curtin University of Technology (See page 29)

16 October 2008

Information evening for 2009 Honours and Masters students

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Simon Lenton, Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars, Susan Carruthers, James Fetherston, Tanya Chikritzhs and Tina Lam, NDRI

20 October 2008

Cannabis potency and contamination

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Wendy Swift, National Alcohol and Drug Research Centre

27 October 2008

"Just Dexies": Recreational use of dexamphetamine in a social network of young people in Perth, Western Australia

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Rachael Green, NDRI

18 November 2008

Extending drug ethno-epidemiology using agent-based modelling

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

David Moore, NDRI, and Anne Dray, Australian National University

2 December 2008

Taxation and price controls: the Holy Grail of alcohol policy?

NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth

Tim Stockwell, Centre for Addictions Research of BC, Canada

Finance Report

The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing provided \$2,431,215 to the Institute's core funding for the period January to December 2008. Details of income and expenditure follow.

National Drug Research Institute Core Income and Expenditure 2008		
Income	\$	Total
AGDHA	2,431,215	
Research Contributions	50,000	
RPI and DEST PhD Income	0	
Curtin R&D Contribution	140,000	
Sundry Income	(232)	
Interest	60,214	
Surplus BF from December 2007	950,988	\$3,632,185
Expenditure		
Salaries	2,217,840	
Operating costs	677,076	
Capital Costs	18,617	
PhD Scholarships	40,458	\$2,953,991
Surplus at 31 December 2008		\$678,194
Add Reserves	28,268	\$28,268
Total funds available at 31 December 2008		\$706,462

National Competitive Grants and Tenders				
Project	Funder	Total grant approved for project	Grant received in 2008	Expenditure in 2008
Illicit drug reporting system (IDRS)	NDLERF via NDARC	\$378,428	\$75,706	\$59,328
Ecstasy and related drugs reporting system (EDRS)	NDLERF via NDARC	\$282,061	\$69,595	\$46,150
Policing implications of petrol sniffing and inhalant misuse in Aboriginal communities	NDLERF	\$139,440	\$0	\$3,854
Research into alcohol outlet density and related harm	NDLERF	\$58,481	\$22,117	\$0
Improving understanding of psychostimulant-related harms in Australia: an integrated ethno-epidemiological approach	NHMRC	\$603,910	\$0	\$114,815
2005 NHMRC population health career development award	NHMRC	\$271,500	\$92,500	\$105,752
Understanding the barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine users in health services	NHMRC	\$756,850	\$270,417	\$18,621
Building Indigenous research workforce capacity	AERF	\$179,780	\$55,707	\$59,192
Concurrent alcohol and party drug use (PhD Scholarship)	AERF	\$99,993	\$20,000	\$27,425
Kalgoorlie alcohol action project (KAAP)	AERF	\$799,981	\$0	\$247,115
Multi-site investigation of the social meanings of alcohol misuse among young adults in recreational settings	AERF	\$308,286	\$0	\$54,027
Review of restrictions on the sale and supply of alcohol in Australia and Western Australia	AERF	\$61,808	\$5,000	\$5,832
Working with homeless people who use drugs	ANCD	\$63,587	\$21,162	\$11,023
Identifying areas of greatest need in indigenous substance misuse intervention	ANCD	\$94,174	\$77,273	\$51,940
		\$4,098,278	\$709,478	\$850,074

State Competitive Grants and Tenders				
Project	Funder	Total grant approved for project	Grant received in 2008	Expenditure in 2008
MHRIF Round 11 Award - Simon Lenton	WAHD	\$10,818	\$10,818	\$10,818
MHRIF Round 11 Award - Dennis Gray	WAHD	\$31,001	\$31,001	\$30,085
MHRIF Round 11 Award - Richard Midford	WAHD	\$15,466	\$15,466	\$46,618
MHRIF Round 11 Award - Justice research	WAHD	\$35,360	\$35,360	\$33,967
MHRIF Round 11 Award - Ethnographic research	WAHD	\$17,406	\$17,406	\$11,659
NIRIS Award 2007 - Tony Butler	WAHD	\$10,000	\$0	\$9,680
Training of health staff for the implementation of the smoke free WA health system policy	WAHD	\$200,000	\$140,000	\$115,805
Review of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island community controlled alcohol and other drugs sector	QAIHC	\$41,679	\$16,672	\$28,930
Indigenous alcohol and other drug misuse and harm service provision	WANADA	\$97,798	\$48,898	\$29,458
		\$459,528	\$315,621	\$317,022

Finance Report

Other Grants				
Project	Funder	Total grant approved for project	Grant received in 2008	Expenditure in 2008
Development of national amphetamine-type stimulant strategy	AGDHA	\$133,320	\$0	\$14,038
Effects of changes in cannabis law on prevalence of cannabis use, attitudes, deterrent effects and knowledge - phase 2	DAO	\$50,000	\$0	\$6,806
Alcohol sales data collection project	AGDHA via DAO	\$114,086	\$57,044	\$0
Volunteer addiction counsellor programme	DAO	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
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	\$0	\$30,893
Development of key performance indicators for local government in Australia	Fairfield & Brisbane Councils	\$66,538	\$0	\$30,248
Provision of pharmaceutical drug misuse research	Turning Point	\$33,078	\$9,406	\$13,376
National prison entrants bloodborne virus and risk behaviour survey 2007	DJ Vic, DCS Qld, JH NSW, DCS WA	\$32,000	\$8,000	\$22,571
Dampier Peninsular prevention project	Kimberley drug services team	\$10,000	\$9,000	\$43
Indigenous child death review	DCP	\$37,758	\$37,758	\$29,677
Evaluation of pathways to prevention initiatives for children and families in WA	Mission Australia	\$19,027	\$19,027	\$3,918
Jaru Pirrjirdi suicide prevention project	Mt Theo	\$36,000	\$12,000	\$1,143
Mount Theo enhancing capacity management project	Mt Theo	\$21,046	\$11,576	\$2,775
Development of a drug prevention research action plan	PDPC Vic	\$78,314	\$0	\$64
School drug education evaluation tools project	DEECD Vic	\$39,573	\$27,701	\$7,453
Key performance indicators for the SA alcohol action plan	DAS, SA	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$30,223
Outcome evaluation of department of corrective services prison pharmacotherapy treatment service	DCS, WA	\$74,402	\$48,361	\$60,336
Seeding project to develop prison specific smoking reduction group program	DCS, WA	\$27,273	\$13,636	\$186
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cannabis intervention	NDARC	\$777,485	\$71,488	\$36,378
Data analysis, reporting and dissemination of 2 substudies from the evaluation of cannabis infringement notice scheme	UNSW - DPMP	\$45,455	\$31,818	\$0
SRG 2008 social determinants of health framework	ORD	\$730,000	\$185,000	\$173,311
Research infrastructure funding (RPI) 2008	Curtin	\$175,091	\$175,091	\$175,121
HDR consumables and fieldwork distribution	Curtin	\$6,118	\$6,118	\$0
PhD allocation 2008 - infrastructure	Curtin	\$26,001	\$26,001	\$53,028
		\$2,707,941	\$829,025	\$691,568

Summary of NDRI Funding in 2008	
Area of Funding	Grant Received
Core funding (AGDHA)	\$2,431,215
National competitive grants	\$709,478
State competitive grants	\$315,621
Other grants and tenders	\$829,025
Total funding received in 2008	\$4,285,339

Sources of Research Grants Received in 2008	
Funding Source	Grant Received
Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation	\$80,707
Australian National Council on Drugs	\$98,435
Curtin University of Technology	\$392,210
Department of Corrective Services, Western Australia	\$61,998
Department of Child Protection	\$37,758
Department of Education, Early Childhood Development, Victoria	\$27,701
Drug and Alcohol Office, Western Australia	\$72,044
Drug and Alcohol Services, South Australia	\$65,000
National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund	\$167,418
National Health and Medical Research Council	\$362,917
Department of Justice, Victoria	\$8,000
Kimberley Community Drug Services Team	\$9,000
Mission Australia	\$19,027
Mount Theo Substance Misuse Association	\$23,576
National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, UNSW	\$71,488
Queensland Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health Service	\$16,672
Turning Point	\$9,406
University of New South Wales	\$31,818
Western Australian Health Department	\$250,051
Western Australian Network of Alcohol and Drug Agencies	\$48,898
Total additional research grants received	\$1,854,124

Appendix 1

Full list of research projects

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

NEW PROJECTS

An investigation of the nature, extent and effects of point-of-sale promotions for alcohol beverages

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs, Clare Stevens
Project leaders: Wollongong University; Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research & Evaluation (SHORE), Massey University
Other partners: Cancer Council Victoria
Funded by: ARC

Benchmarking and identifying new and existing key performance indicators for the SA Alcohol Action Plan

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
Funded by: (DASSA) SAHS

Development of aetiologic fractions for emergency departments

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop
Funded by: AGDHA via DAO

National collection of wholesale alcohol sales data

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop
Funded by: AGDHA via DAO

ONGOING PROJECTS

Developing a national minimum dataset for prisoners' health

NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Funded by: AIHW

Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)

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

GENACIS

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

Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, James Fetherston, Laura Santana, Jessica George
Project partners: NDARC
Funded by: AGDHA via NDARC

Indigenous National Alcohol Indicators Project (INAIIP)

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

National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP)

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

NAIP component study: analysis of trends in drinking patterns 1983-2004

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
Project partners: Turning Point; Dept of Public Health, University of Melbourne
Funded by: AGDHA

NDSHS 2004 drinking prevalence study

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Paul Catalano
Project partners: CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada
Funded by: CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada

Nutritional information labelling for alcoholic beverages

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
Project partners: Turning Point

Prevalence and cost of alcohol-caused hospital admissions in rural NSW

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
Project partners: NDARC
Funded by: AERF

The range and magnitude of alcohol's harm to others

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop
Project partners: Turning Point
Funded by: AERF

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Alcohol outlet density and related harm (phase 1)

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
Project partners: WAHD, WA Police
Funded by: NDLERF

DUMA research into drug use and offending

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

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

NEW PROJECTS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cannabis intervention

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Julia Butt, Steve Allsop
Project partners: Indigenous community controlled health services
Funded by: NCPIC

Jaru Pirrjirdi suicide prevention project

NDRI staff: Sherry Saggars, Anna Stearne
Funded by: Mt Theo Yuendumu Substance Misuse Aboriginal Corporation

Mt Theo Enhancing Capacity Management project (Mt Theo Palka-Jarrija Project)

NDRI staff: Sherry Saggars, Anna Stearne

Funded by: Mt Theo Yuendumu Substance Misuse Aboriginal Corporation

Randomised controlled trial of an intensive smoking cessation intervention in Kimberley Aboriginal PHC settings

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray

Project partners: Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service; Cairns Base Hospital; Rural Clinical School of WA (UWA); Derby Aboriginal Health Service; Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service Council

Funded by: NHMRC

Restor(y)ing Aboriginal parenting: development and evaluation of a culturally relevant program to support Aboriginal parents promoting their children's behavioural and social competence and readiness for school learning

NDRI staff: Ted Wilkes

Project partners: Curtin University of Technology

Funded by: NHMRC

ONGOING PROJECTS

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

NDRI staff: Bruce Maycock, Peter Howat

Funded by: Australian Respiratory Council, Healthway

Bibliographic database on Indigenous Australian alcohol and other drug use

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars, Anna Stearne, Michael Doyle

Project partners: CSR, ECU

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

Funded by: NHMRC

Development of Tangentyere Council Research Hub

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars, Anna Stearne

Project partners: Tangentyere Council; Centre for Remote Health (Flinders University & Charles Darwin University)

Funded by: AGDHA

Enhancement of the patrol monitoring and evaluation database

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne

Project partners: Tangentyere Council; Julalikari Council; Kununurra-Waringarri Aboriginal Corporation

Funded by: AERF

Enhancing the management of alcohol-related problems among Indigenous Australians - Stage 2 and 3

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Steve Allsop, Sherry Saggars, Ted Wilkes

Project partners: CSR, ECU; QUADREC, University of Qld

Funding: AGDHA

Evaluation of the 'Makin Tracks' 2 project

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne

Project partners: ADAC (SA)

Funded by: AGDHA and ADAC (SA)

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

NDRI staff: Sherry Saggars, Anna Stearne

Project partners: ECU

Funded by: Foundation for Young Australians

Identifying areas of greatest need in Indigenous substance misuse intervention

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne, Jennifer Dodd, Michael Doyle, Mandy Wilson

Funded by: National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee

Indigenous alcohol and drug staff development initiative

NDRI Staff: Ed Garrison, Dennis Gray

Funded by: AGDHA

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

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray

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

Funded by: NHMRC

Review of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled alcohol and other drugs sector in Queensland

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars, Ted Wilkes

Project partners: CSR, ECU

Funded by: Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council

The role of resiliency in responding to blood borne viral and sexually transmitted infections in Indigenous communities

NDRI staff: Ted Wilkes

Funded by: NHMRC

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Analysis of Indigenous child death review cases

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars, Ted Wilkes

Project partners: CSR, ECU

Funded by: Department of Child Protection

Building Indigenous research workforce capacity

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray

Project partners: Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service

Funded by: AERF

Indigenous alcohol and other drug misuse and harm service provision

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne

Funded by: WANADA

Appendix 1

Full list of research projects (continued)

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

NEW PROJECTS

Comparative research of Chinese and Australian approaches to illicit drug use and HIV prevention

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Tony Butler

Project leaders: Centre for International Health, Curtin

Funded by: AusAID Australian Leadership Awards

Hepatitis C and its treatment in Australian custodial settings (PhD project)

PhD student: James Fetherston

PhD supervisors: Tony Butler, Susan Carruthers, Matthew Law

Funded by: AGDHA

Strengthening China's response to HIV, TB and HIV/TB co-infection in labour camps (lao jiao suo) in Guangxi Autonomous Region: developing a prevention model to inform national policy

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Project partners: UNSW School of Public Health, National Center for AIDS/STD Control & Prevention, Beijing

Funded by: AusAID

ONGOING PROJECTS

MY-Peer project

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Project partners: WA Centre for Health Promotion Research, School of Psychology, and Centre for Developmental Health, Curtin University of Technology

Funded by: Healthway

WA Prisoner Health Survey

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Project partners: ECU

Funded by: ECU

COMPLETED PROJECTS

An investigation of pharmaceutical drug misuse and harms among drug treatment clients in Victoria, Tasmania, West Australia and Queensland

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Project partners: Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre

Funded by: Ministerial Council on Drugs

A review of hepatitis C in Australia

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Funded by: AGDHA

Hepatitis C in magazines aimed at youth

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Funded by: AGDHA

National prison entrants' bloodborne virus and risk behaviour survey 2007

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Project partners: NCHECR, UNSW

Funded by: Part funded by DCS WA, DCS Qld, DCS NSW, DCS Vic

Outcome evaluation of the Department of Corrective Services Prison Pharmacotherapy Program

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers, Jocelyn Grace

Funded by: DCS, WA

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

NEW PROJECTS

Data analysis reporting and dissemination of two substudies from the evaluation of the cannabis infringement notice scheme

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Jessica George

Funded by: UNSW

Development of a National Needle and Syringe Program (NSP) strategic framework

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: CHR, Burnet Institute; NCHECR

Funded by: DHS, Victoria

ONGOING PROJECTS

A longitudinal study of pharmacological smoking cessation aids efficacy in real-life settings

NDRI staff: Rob Donovan, Owen Carter

Funded by: NHMRC

Book on prevention policy in relation to alcohol and other drugs

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

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

Identifying elements of alcohol TV advertising that predict advertising impact on under-age youth

NDRI staff: Rob Donovan, Owen Carter

Funded by: Healthway

Multivariate analysis of Cannabis Infringement Notice data

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: NDRI

Training of health staff for the implementation of the smoke free WA health system policy

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Richard Midford, Owen Carter, Clare Stevens

Funded by: HDWA

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)

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

WA CIN scheme cannabis evaluation - phase 2 (sub-study 2, regular users study)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: DAO and NDRI

WA CIN scheme cannabis evaluation - phase 2 (sub-study 7, evaluation in schools)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: DAO and NDRI

COMPLETED PROJECTS

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

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

Funded by: WAHD

Development of the draft national amphetamine-type stimulant strategy

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Simon Lenton, Jessica George

Project partners: AIC

Funded by: AGDHA

Evaluation of the 'Make Smoking History' passive smoking campaign:

Ghost Cigarette (waves 17 and 18)

NDRI staff: Owen Carter, Geoffrey Jalleh, Rob Donovan

Funded by: Cancer Council WA

Global Cannabis Commission Report - chapter on the impacts of cannabis policy reforms within the current drug control regime

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton

Funded by: Beckley Foundation (UK)

Preventing and reducing alcohol-related harm in students

NDRI staff: Peter Howat, Bruce Maycock

Funded by: Healthway

Review of international research on the impacts of changes to permitted hours of drinking

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: AGDHA

That's disgusting! Evaluation of a youth oriented tobacco control advertisement distributed via chain email

NDRI staff: Owen Carter, Rob Donovan

Funded by: Cancer Council WA

WA CIN scheme cannabis evaluation - phase 2 (sub-study 1, public attitude survey)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs, James Fetherston

Funded by: DAO

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

NEW PROJECTS

Cochrane collaboration review of workplace AOD programs

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Richard Midford, Rina Cercarelli

Project partners: NCETA

Funded by: AGDHA

International dissemination of the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Clare Stevens

School drug education evaluation tools project

NDRI staff: Richard Midford

Project partners: Youth Research Centre, Uni of Melbourne, Centre for Youth Drug Studies, ADF

Funded by: DEECD, Victoria

ONGOING PROJECTS

Continuing dissemination of the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

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

NEW PROJECTS

Evaluation of pathways to prevention initiatives for children and families in Western Australia

NDRI staff: Sherry Saggars

Project partners: Mission Australia

Funded by: Mission Australia

Seeding project to develop a prison specific smoking reduction program

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Project partners: DCS, WA

Funded by: DCS, WA

Appendix 1

Full list of research projects (continued)

ONGOING PROJECTS

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

PhD student: Dada Su

PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

Alcohol consumption by women in Australia; changes with pregnancy and 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 study

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Susan Carruthers

Project partners: TICHRR; NDARC

Evaluation of the Dampier Peninsula prevention project

NDRI staff: Richard Midford

Funded by: AERF via Kimberley Community Drug Service Team

Interventions to reduce alcohol use during pregnancy: Systematic literature review

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP)

NDRI staff: Richard Midford, Sherry Saggars, Fredrik Welander, Andrea Schineanu

Project partners: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

Funded by: AERF

People with mental health disorders and cognitive disability in the criminal justice system (ARC linkage project)

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Project partners: UNSW

Funded by: Australian Research Council

The influence of fathers on infant feeding practices in Western Australia (FIFA-WA)

NDRI staff: Colin Binns, Peter Howat, Bruce Maycock

Funded by: Healthway

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Development of key performance indicators for local governments in Australia: Achievements on drugs and alcohol action and community safety (KPI)

NDRI staff: Richard Midford, Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs, Rina Cercarelli

Funded by: National Local Govt Drug and Alcohol Advisory Committee

Long term evaluation of Liquor Licensing Restrictions in Port Hedland

NDRI staff: Richard Midford

Funded by: Health Department of WA

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

NEW PROJECTS

Impact of low and moderate alcohol use during pregnancy: human/animal studies

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

Funded by: Curtin Health Sciences ICRP Program

Impact of parental substance use on infant development and family functioning

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: NDARC

Funded by: 2008 UNSW Goldstar Award

ONGOING PROJECTS

Alcohol and other drug use at school leaver celebrations in Western Australia (PhD project)

PhD student: Tina Lam

PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: OCY, OCP

An examination of cannabis contamination and potency in Australia

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: NDARC; Chemistry Centre WA

Funded by: NDARC

Does moderate drinking prevent heart disease? A meta-analysis

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Tim Stockwell, Kaye Fillmore

Project partners: University of California, San Francisco, USA; Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley, USA; CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada

Funded by: AERF

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

NDRI staff: Andy Lee

Project partners: Injury Control Council, UWA

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

Mortality among opioid dependent persons in pharmacotherapy

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Project partners: NDARC; NCHECR

Funded by: NHMRC

Reducing impulsive behaviour in repeat violent offenders using a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Funded by: NSW Health

Review and meta-analysis of alcohol and prostate cancer

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Tim Stockwell, Kaye Fillmore

Project partners: University of California, San Francisco, US; CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada

Funded by: AGDHA

Secondary analysis of the relationship between cannabis use, dependence, mental health and associated outcomes in the Victorian Adolescent Cohort study

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: NDARC; Centre for Adolescent Health

Funded by: NDARC

Sexual Health & Attitudes of Australian Prisoners Survey

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Funded by: NHMRC

THRIVE (tertiary health research intervention via email) online alcohol intervention

NDRI staff: Peter Howat, Bruce Maycock

Funded by: Healthway

Tobacco capacity building scholarship

NDRI staff: Rob Donovan, Owen Carter

Funded by: Healthway

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Alcohol consumption, smoking and lifestyle characteristics for Japanese patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (PhD project)

PhD student: Fumi Hirayama

PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

Drug use and mental health book

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

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

Under construction: the social and cultural politics of hepatitis C in Australia

NDRI staff: David Moore

Project partners: Centre for Women's Studies and Gender Research, Monash University; NCHSR, UNSW

Funded by: ARC

Understanding the barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine users in health services

NDRI staff: David Moore

Project partners: NCEPH, ANU; CEPHR, Burnet Institute

Funded by: NHMRC

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

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 (Uni BC)

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

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 (Uni of Melbourne)

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

The ethnography 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 ethnography 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 ethnography 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, Simon Lenton

Funded by: AERF scholarship

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Working with homeless people who use drugs

NDRI staff: Jeremy Northcote, Zaza Lyons, Steve Allsop

Project partners: St Bartholomew's House, Perth; Ted Noffs Foundation

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
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
ANCD	Australian National Council on Drugs
ANU	Australian National University
APSAD	Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs
ARC	Australian Research Council
ASHM	Australasian Society for HIV Medicine
ATS	Amphetamine-type stimulant
CARBC	Centre for Addictions Research of British Columbia
CHR	Centre for Health Research, Burnet Institute
CIN	Cannabis infringement notice
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
DCP (WA)	Department for Child Protection, Western Australia
DCS, Qld	Department of Corrective Services, Queensland
DCS, WA	Department of Corrective Services, Western Australia
DEECD, Victoria	Department for Education and Early Childhood Development, Victoria
DEST	Department of Education, Science and Training
DHS, Victoria	Department of Human Services, Victoria
DJ VIC	Department of Justice, Victoria
ECU	Edith Cowan University
EDRS	Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System
JH, NSW	Justice Health, New South Wales
IDRS	Illicit Drugs Reporting System
KAAP	Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project
MCDS	Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy
NAIP	(Indigenous) National Alcohol Indicators Project
NCETA	National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction

NCEPH	National Centre in Epidemiology and Population Health, ANU
NCHECR	National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW
NCPIC	National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre
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
NSP	Needle and syringe program
NSW BOCSAR	Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, New South Wales
OCP	Office of Crime Prevention, Western Australian Police Service
OCY	Office of Children and Youth, Department of Community Development
PDPC, Victoria	Premier's Drug Prevention Council, Victoria
QAIHC	Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council
QUADREC	Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre
RPI	Research Performance Index
SHAHRP	School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project
SHORE	Centre for Social Health Outcomes Research Evaluation
THRIVE	Tertiary health research intervention via email
TICHR	Telethon Institute of Child Health Research
UNSW	University of New South Wales
UWA	University of Western Australia
WA	Western Australia
WAHD	Western Australian Health Department
WANADA	WA Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies
WAP	Western Australian Police Service
WHO	World Health Organization



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