



national drug research institute



Preventing harmful drug use in Australia



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Curtin University

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The National Drug Research Institute at Curtin University is supported by funding from the Australian Government under the Drug and Alcohol Program

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Contents

About NDRI	02
Advisory Board	03
Chair's Report	04
Director's Report	05
Highlights	06
Research Activities	08
Staff	16
Dissemination Activities	17
Finance Report	27
Appendix - List of Abbreviations	28



About NDRI

The National Drug Research Institute (NDRI) is one of the largest centres of alcohol and other drug research expertise in Australia.

NDRI is based at Curtin University in Perth, Western Australia. NDRI is an integral part of the national strategy aimed at minimising the harm associated with legal and illegal drug use in Australia. Our role is to conduct and disseminate high quality research that contributes to effective policy, strategies and practice to prevent and reduce harmful alcohol and other drug use. Our research is complemented by the work of the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) at the University of New South Wales, the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction (NCETA) at Flinders University, and the National Centre for Youth Substance Use Research (NCYSUR) at the University of Queensland.

NDRI is supported by core funding from the Australian Government under the Drug and Alcohol Program and also receives significant funding from Curtin University. Additional competitive funds are attracted from a range of state, national and international funding bodies such as the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and the Australian Research Council (ARC).

Mission

Our mission is to conduct and disseminate high quality research that supports evidence informed policy, strategies and practice approaches to prevent and minimise alcohol and other drug-related health, social and economic harms among individuals, families and communities in Australia.

Key Result Areas

- Conduct research that contributes to the evidence base to support policy, strategies and practice to prevent and reduce alcohol and other drug-related health, social and economic harm.
- Contribute to enhancing the national capacity for research and engage with key groups to translate research findings to policy, strategies and practice.

Values

Our work is guided by the following values:

- Encouragement of academic excellence and productivity
- Academic independence
- Service to the community
- Social equity and justice, including a commitment to Aboriginal Australians
- 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
- Ethical conduct
- Support for and development of early career researchers
- Fairness and equity for staff of all levels

Advisory Board

The NDRI Advisory Board reflects our national scope, comprising members from around Australia. Members are drawn from stakeholders including Aboriginal Australians, law enforcement, non-government services, public health, the wider community, consumers, academia and research. The role of the Advisory Board is to support and advise the Director in the effective governance of the Institute.



Dr Michael Moore AM PhD (Chair)

Distinguished Fellow, The George Institute
Adjunct Professor Uni of Canberra



Prof Archie Clements

Pro Vice Chancellor
Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University



Ms Carol Daws

Chief Executive Officer
Cyrenian House



Superintendent Mark Gilbert

Nominee of the Commissioner
Western Australia Police



Dr Victoria Hovane (to May 2020)

Professor and Study Director
National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health,
Australian National University



Ms Juanita Koeijers

Consumer Representative



Prof Chris Moran

Deputy Vice Chancellor Research
Research Office, Curtin University



Ms Linda Savage

Lawyer and WA Ambassador for
Children and Young People



Mr Terry Slevin

Chief Executive Officer
Public Health Association Australia



Dr Amanda Stafford (to Nov 2020)

Staff Specialist Emergency Medicine
Royal Perth Hospital



Prof Simon Lenton (Executive Officer)

Director
National Drug Research Institute

Chair's Report

Welcome to the National Drug Research Institute's Annual Report for 2020. This report provides a brief overview of the Institute's activities during what was certainly an extraordinary year.

COVID-19 was obviously the dominant feature of the past 12 months, with all of us dealing with the onset of the virus and then changing our practices to comply with regulations to keep our community safe.

It was pleasing to see how my NDRI colleagues navigated the challenges of 2020 and were able to continue producing meaningful outputs. Researchers and business support staff adapted quickly to working from home. Perhaps more importantly, the research for which NDRI is well-known was able to continue with, in many cases, a shift from face-to-face to virtual data collection.

In fact, across all its research programs in 2020, NDRI continued to produce important outputs to inform alcohol and other drug (AOD) policy in Australia. Most pleasing was, that in many cases, the pandemic was turned into an opportunity with innovative NDRI researchers incorporating the impact of coronavirus on AOD consumption and harm into existing projects, or directly examining links between coronavirus and AOD.

In the context of the challenges outlined above, it is even more satisfying that NDRI was able to expand its research program in some key areas. For example, in the second half of the year the Institute appointed a new leader for its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Program, with further appointments expected in 2021 to grow the team.

Around the same time, NDRI re-established a physical presence in the Eastern States through a collaboration with the Burnet Institute in Melbourne. While making practical sense, with each Institute's work complimenting the other, the collaboration also brings together two institutes world-renowned in our field. Again, I look forward to seeing the research produced from the growing NDRI Melbourne team through 2021 and beyond.

In closing, I warmly acknowledge and thank the academic and support staff at NDRI for their commitment and leadership during 2020. Similarly, I express my sincere thanks to my fellow NDRI Advisory Board members from across Australia for their time, commitment and contribution during a difficult 12 months.

Our collective ability to not only survive but prosper during these challenging 12 months gives me great confidence in the continued longevity of the Institute, and I look forward to more productive years ahead.



Dr Michael Moore AM PhD
Chair
NDRI Advisory Board

Director's Report

As has been the case everywhere, during 2020 NDRI has been dealing with the impacts of COVID-19 and the associated countermeasures. While COVID has impacted on our research activity, we have nevertheless continued to conduct high quality research to inform alcohol and other drug (AOD) policy and practice in Australia and, looking to the future, continued to develop our research program. In 2020, program development highlights have included the reopening of an NDRI office in Melbourne and developments in our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Program.

In October 2020, we announced the opening of NDRI's new Melbourne office, a collaboration with the Burnet Institute that formalised a longstanding relationship between the two internationally-renowned research Institutes. Based at Burnet's premises in central Melbourne, NDRI Melbourne will serve to further advance NDRI's research presence and impact in Victoria and the eastern states more generally. Professor Paul Dietze, Director of Burnet's Behaviours and Health Risks Program, has been appointed as Professor and Head of NDRI Melbourne, on a half-time basis with his existing Burnet position.

With the new arrangement strongly supported by the NDRI Advisory Board, Curtin University and the Commonwealth Department of Health, the new NDRI Melbourne office will build on the strengths of NDRI and Burnet Institute to conduct high quality research that is valued by policy makers, practitioners and communities in Australia and internationally. Further research appointments and PhD scholarships are expected to grow the office from 2021 onwards.

In the previous month, NDRI took a significant step in the renewal of its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Research Program with the appointment of Dr Jocelyn Jones, a leading Aboriginal epidemiologist with extensive experience in Aboriginal health and justice services, to lead the Program. It is appropriate that we have a Nyoongar woman, with Wadjuk, Ballardong and Palyku connections to the land in Western Australia, leading this program of community-driven research that aims to change policy and improve AOD related outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Unsurprisingly, COVID had both organisational and project-specific impacts in 2020. Consistent with revisions to WA State Government and University guidelines that reflected the low rate of community spread in WA, we saw the majority of staff return to working from the NDRI Perth offices after a period working from home. We have, of course, been complying with social distancing, sanitation and infection control procedures while dealing with COVID-related organisational challenges and uncertainties.

At a research project level, while a few affected projects were put on hold during the year, most were reshaped away from face-to-face contact with participants towards phone and online interviews. Furthermore, some projects were started and many ongoing projects were modified to measure and document the impact of COVID



on alcohol and other drug use in Australia. This was important to provide the most up-to-date information for policy makers and practitioners to help reduce drug-related health, social and economic harm. As Director, I acknowledge the fantastic work of NDRI researchers and our business support team in enabling the ongoing research work of the Institute during these challenging and disruptive times.

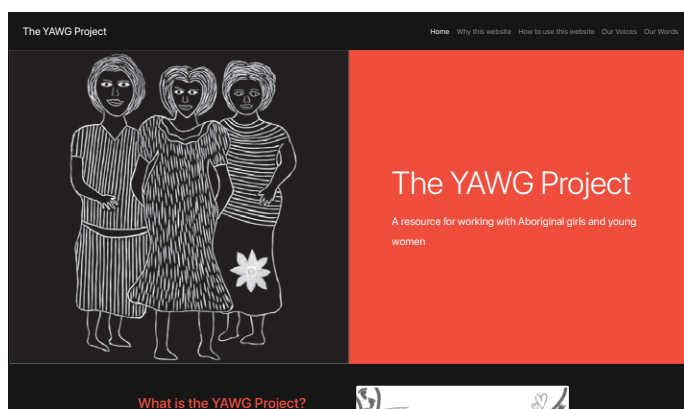
Despite the pandemic, the quantity and quality of the Institute's research activity has continued. While travel restrictions meant face-to-face presentations at conferences both in Australia and internationally effectively ceased, other outputs were maintained. During the year, our staff and students produced more than 120 publications including refereed journal articles, reports, books and chapters; gave 21 presentations at conferences, workshops, seminars and other events in Australia and internationally; and supervised 11 postgraduate students. In 2020, we received \$1.2 million in externally competitive and commissioned research funding, made 6 submissions to Government inquiries and reviews, and NDRI research or expertise appeared in some 1315 media stories.

To conclude, during this unprecedented year of change and challenges, I thank our funders – the Australian Government Department of Health and Curtin University – and the Chair and members of the NDRI Advisory Board, who have provided sound support and a keen interest in our work. In this year of so much uncertainty, this support has been centrally important to enable the work of NDRI researchers. Importantly, I convey my thanks and admiration to the researchers, students and business support staff who make up the NDRI team for their contribution and commitment throughout this extraordinary year.

Professor Simon Lenton
Director
National Drug Research Institute

Highlights and Achievements 2020

- After several months of negotiation for an ongoing collaborative arrangement and co-location environment with Burnet Institute, NDRI's Melbourne Office was opened in June 2020, with one of Australia's leading alcohol and other drug researchers Professor Paul Dietze appointed as the Head of NDRI Melbourne (see Director's Report).
- NDRI welcomed Dr Jocelyn Jones as the Indigenous Research Program Lead in September. A Nyoongar woman, with Wadjuk, Ballardong and Palyku connections to the land in Western Australia, Dr Jones is a leading Aboriginal epidemiologist with extensive experience in Aboriginal health and justice services. She is well known to the Institute, having collaborated over many years with the team working on the Indigenous program (see Director's Report).
- An NDRI team, led by Professor Steve Allsop and Dr Robert Tait, completed two major 'social costs' reports for the Department of Health: one on the social costs of non-medical use of opioids, and the second focused on cannabis. Work was completed on the Social Cost of Opioids project and the report released in May 2020, generating extensive media interest to the equivalent of \$10 million in advertising. The Cannabis report was finalised in July 2020.



- Released in February 2020, the YAWG website (pictured) has been developed by NDRI researchers as a resource for service providers who work with young Aboriginal women and girls. It aims to share their stories and experiences around fighting, drinking and offending to help service providers better understand how to support and engage with them. Available at www.yawg.info, the website is based on the findings of the Young Aboriginal Women and Girls project.
- The new book, *Legalizing Cannabis: experiences, lessons and scenarios*, edited by Tom Decorte, Simon Lenton and Chris Wilkins, was published by Routledge in February. The 400 page volume brings together leading drug policy experts to examine current examples of cannabis legalisation and other cannabis law reforms, and lessons that can be drawn from attempts to regulate alcohol, tobacco and other psychoactive substances, to inform effective regulation of legal cannabis markets.

- Professor Tanya Chikritzhs, Dr Robert Tait, Will Gilmore and Professor Steve Allsop were awarded \$500,000 to undertake a social costs of alcohol study commencing in July 2020. This is the fifth in the 'social costs' series of reports, following methamphetamine, tobacco, opioids and cannabis.
- PhD scholar Anna Stearne spent two days at the SBS studios in Sydney as part of AusSMC's third Indigenous media mentoring program. The program, which provides intensive training with Indigenous journalists and mentors, aims to provide Indigenous scientists with the skills and confidence to engage proactively with the public through the media.
- NDRI Alcohol Program Lead Professor Tanya Chikritzhs had her role with the National Health and Medical Research Council National Alcohol Guidelines Committee extended to assist in disseminating the new Australian Drinking Guidelines. The new guidelines generated significant media interest.
- Jodie Grigg's PhD award was conferred in May. She also presented at the Mark Liveris Student Research Seminar, provided a virtual lecture on illicit drugs to second year medical students at the University of Notre Dame, received a 'Certificate for Reviewing' from the *International Journal of Drug Policy* recognising her reviewer contributions to the journal, and delivered a seminar on her PhD findings for the Victorian Substance Use Research Forum (VSURF).
- Professor Steve Allsop attended the Commission on Narcotic Drugs annual meeting at the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime Vienna as part of the Australian Government Delegation (technical advisor). He also attended the Global Alcohol Policy conference in Dublin in March.
- Anna Stearne presented the paper *International evidence of First Nations Peoples' Self-Determination in Alcohol-Related Policy Development* at the 6th Global Alcohol Policy Conference 2020 in Ireland in March. The paper was a brief review of how self-determination has been embedded in development and implementation of effective evidence-based alcohol policies.
- Professor Steve Allsop was appointed Chair of the National Ice Action Evaluation Strategy Evaluation Plan Advisory Group and became a member of the COVID-19 Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Community Services Taskforce (WA). He also took part in two WA Premier COVID-19 round tables: Mental Health and Alcohol and other Drugs, and Health and COVID-19.
- The 'Beyond Violence' research project with incarcerated women and Aboriginal girls was showcased in Curtin's *Future of Health, Public Health* publication.
- Professor Tanya Chikritzhs contributed to a Commentary in *Drug and Alcohol Review* outlining *The burden of alcohol on healthcare during COVID-19* with international colleagues from the United States, Canada and Sweden.

- Professor Steve Allsop was a reviewer for the World Health Organization (WHO) on resource materials developed in relation to *Helping Adolescents Thrive*, part of a program on which he was an expert advisor in 2019 on preventing and responding to mental health problems among adolescents.
- Dr Jodie Grigg's *Increasing trends in self-reported use of nitrous oxide among WA EDRS samples* became another example of NDRI research impact and how research outputs contribute to practice and policy changes. The EDRS Bulletin documented increasing rates, frequency and episode specific dosages of use of nitrous oxide, especially among WA respondents in the EDRS sample, and led to the issue being raised with the Drug Early Warning System group (see breakout box below).
- Dr Nyanda McBride was invited to contribute expertise and collaborate on a Telethon Kids Institute submission to the *Australian Department of Health: The Drug and Alcohol Program: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) – Consumer Resources* project. She was also invited to be an expert advisor on the FASD resource initiative funded by the WA Department of Health.
- The *Wild Butterfly* documentary highlighted stigma and discrimination around drug use. Professor Steve Allsop was involved in the film.
- Dr Julia Butt provided the Australian Government Department of Health with an updated version of her review on kava use among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, which was very well received by the Department. Dr Butt also presented the *What do we know about the impacts of cannabis use in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities?* webinar for the Alcohol and Other Drugs Knowledge Centre.
- Professor Steve Allsop joined the Advisory Group for the evaluation of *Sideeffect*, a school based drug education project, funded by the Department of Health and coordinated by Edith Cowan University. He was also part of the Monash University Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Science review panel for the Monash Addiction Research Centre.
- NDRI PhD scholar Julia Stafford had a paper published in the *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs* showing that almost all alcohol industry submissions to policy consultations in Australia over a five year period presented a distorted view of the scientific evidence, including misuse of evidence and denial of the effectiveness of strategies supported by evidence.
- Dr Nyanda McBride and her colleagues in the SHAHRP Brazil team had funding success for further work on SHAHRP Brazil through the European Varela.

Research informing practice: 'early warning' on nitrous oxide use

An EDRS Drug Trends bulletin led by Dr Jodie Grigg was publicly released in July on *Increasing trends in self-reported use of nitrous oxide among WA EDRS samples*.

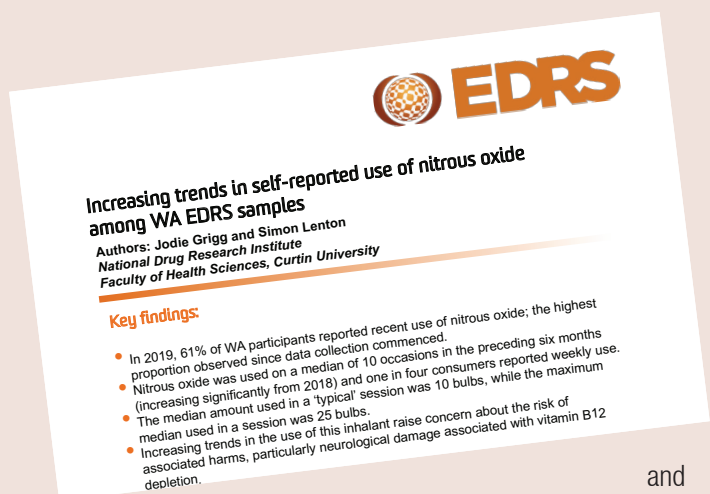
The Bulletin documented increasing rates, frequency and episode specific dosages of use of nitrous oxide especially among WA respondents in the EDRS sample.

Nitrous bulbs, or 'nangs', have often been seen as low risk but heavy use of nitrous is associated with vitamin B12 depletion and serious neurological consequences.

The bulletin documented up to 10 24/7 delivery services with a number of social media vendors providing nitrous along with balloons and masks 'for party use', many promoting bulk buy discount specials.

The bulletin was noted by our colleague Clinical Toxicologist Dr Jessamine Soderstrom of Royal Perth Hospital as it coincided with increased presentations in nitrous related spinal cord and neurological injury at RPH.

As a result, the issue was raised with the Drug Early Warning System group chaired by the Mental Health Commission. Dr Grigg is centrally involved with a view to providing urgent advice to clinicians



and potential users regarding risks, along with consideration of policy changes. Both Dr Grigg and Professor Simon Lenton sit on the steering group to help plan a multipronged approach, involving a warning system for clinicians, reviewing and possible tightening of regulation, and a targeted harm reduction campaign.

This is another example of NDRI research impact and how research outputs can be leveraged to contribute to practice and policy changes to reduce drug related harm.

Research Activities

The National Drug Research Institute (NDRI) is among the largest centres of alcohol and other drug research expertise in Australia. Since our inception in 1986, we have conducted novel, high quality, strategic research that aims to inform Australia's response to alcohol and other drug problems at local, state and national levels. NDRI focuses on research and other outputs that have policy and practice relevance and impact. We work in partnership and collaboration with Australian, state and local governments; with health, social and law enforcement services; and with communities. To ensure broad and enduring impact, capacity building is central to our work. Our researchers come from diverse backgrounds including psychology, epidemiology, biostatistics, sociology, anthropology, medicine and public health. A range of high level skills and a wealth of knowledge contribute to innovative, multi-disciplinary research approaches. The following pages list new, ongoing and completed projects undertaken by NDRI researchers during 2020, organised by key research priorities (listed below). Further project information can be found on NDRI's website at ndri.curtin.edu.au.

Key Research Priorities

NDRI's research priority areas align with the National Drug Strategy 2017-2026 and are responsive to current and emerging Australian Government priorities regarding alcohol and other drugs.

Our current focus is on conducting research and building capacity in the following six areas:

- Alcohol and other drug policy and strategies
- Needs of Aboriginal Australians
- Innovation in prevention and early intervention
- Social contexts of alcohol and other drug use
- Reducing harm among people who use alcohol and other drugs
- Innovation in the management of alcohol and other drug problems

Research Activities

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG POLICY AND STRATEGIES

Informing, evaluating and investigating policy to ensure the most effective evidence based measures are in place

Policy research takes a broad approach to alcohol and other drugs (AOD) that spans issues that influence social, health, regulatory and enforcement policy in Australia and overseas. It focuses on conducting targeted data collection and trend analysis and monitoring; and evaluating the impact of various models of regulatory and legislative controls and policies on AOD use and its consequences. It aims to inform activities across the sector, in particular government policies and strategies, and has a major focus on assessing the impact of changes in policy at national and international levels, investigating models of control in other countries to build the evidence base, providing strategic advice to government, and informing community debate.

New Projects

Alcohol's harm to others: patterns, costs, disparities and precipitants

NDRI Staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project Leaders: La Trobe University

Project Partners: Australian Institute of Family Studies; Central Queensland University; Foundation for Alcohol Research & Education (FARE); Monash Health

Funded by: ARC Linkage

COVID-19 and alcohol-related family violence in Western Australia

NDRI Staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, William Gilmore

Project Leaders: La Trobe University

Funded by: Unfunded

Examining the social and economic costs of alcohol use in Australia

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, William Gilmore, Robert Tait, Steve Allsop, Aqif Mukhtar

Project partners: South Australian Centre for Economic Studies, University of Adelaide; NCETA, Flinders University.

Funded by: AGDH

Ongoing Projects

Alcohol and cannabis: Intervention research

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project leaders: Karolinska Institute, Sweden

Project partners: Stockholm County Council; Stockholm Center for Dependency; MIC Lab AB; Boston University, USA; University of York, UK; Stockholm County Hospital; University of Victoria;

Funded by: Forte

Developing an interactive web based alcohol harm monitoring tool for Australia - Burden of disease analysis

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Eveline Lensvelt

Project partners: CISUR, University of Victoria, Canada

Funded by: NDRI

Developing health promotion messages to encourage responsible drinking practices

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project leaders: Curtin University

Project partners: Cancer Council Victoria; University of Newcastle

Funded by: Healthway

Does risk-based licensing of alcohol sales reduce alcohol-related harm?

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Eveline Lensvelt

Project partners: School of Psychology, Deakin University; Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Canada

Funded by: ARC

Drug Trends (IDRS & EDRS) WA

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Jodie Grigg, Seraina Agramunt

Project leaders: NDARC, UNSW

Funded by: AGDH

Impacts of Banned Drinkers Register re-introduction in Northern Territory

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project leaders: Deakin University

Project partners: Charles Darwin University; La Trobe University; Northern Territory Government; Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Aboriginal Corporation; University of New South Wales; Northern Territory Primary Health Network; Charles Darwin University; Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance NT Aboriginal Corporation; South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute; Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education; Monash University

Funded by: ARC Linkage

Research Activities

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG POLICY AND STRATEGIES *(continued)*

Investigating the impact of liquor superstores in Western Australia

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Wenbin Liang, William Gilmore
Funded by: Mental Health Commission (WA)

National alcohol indicators project (NAIP)

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, William Gilmore, Eveline Lensvelt
Funded by: AGDH

Peer Naloxone Education - Emergency Departments and St Patrick's Crossroads Program - Follow-up Interviews

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Seraina Agramunt
Funded by: Mental Health Commission (WA)

Review of methodologies used to estimate alcohol health harms, analysis of low alcohol doses on health protection and comparison of drinking and alcohol-caused harms in Australia and Canada

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
Project partners: CISUR, University of Victoria, Canada
Funded by: AGDH

Harm to children from others' drinking

NDRI staff: Anne-Marie Laslett, Tanya Chikritzhs
Funded by: NHMRC Early Career Research Fellowship

Quantifying the social and economic costs of cannabis and opioid use in Australia

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs, Robert Tait, Simon Lenton; Aqif Mukhtar
Project partners: South Australian Centre for Economic Studies, University of Adelaide; NDARC, UNSW; NCETA, Flinders University; CYSAR, University of Queensland; NSW BOCSAR
Funded by: AGDH

World Health Organization and Thai Health "Harm from others' drinking project: Phases 1 and 2"

NDRI staff: Anne-Marie Laslett
Project partners: Centre for Alcohol Policy Research, La Trobe University
Funded by: WHO and Thai Health Promotion Foundation

Completed Projects

Alcohol's harm to others: Multinational cultural contexts and policy implications

NDRI staff: Anne-Marie Laslett
Project leaders: Public Health Institute, USA
Project partners: University of California, USA; Ministry of Public Health, Thailand; University of Uyo, Nigeria; National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, India; UNESP, Brazil; University of Oslo, Norway; University of North Dakota, USA; Aarhus University, Denmark; Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Canada; Addiction Switzerland Research Institute, Switzerland; CAPR, La Trobe University; University of North Dakota, USA
Funded by: US National Institutes of Health



Research Activities

NEEDS OF ABORIGINAL AUSTRALIANS

Working with Aboriginal Australians to prevent and reduce alcohol and illicit drug harm

This research contributes to prevention and reduction of the burden of harm caused by alcohol and other drugs (AOD) among Aboriginal Australians. Research focuses on the inter-related topics of changing patterns of AOD use, factors related to harmful use, more efficient and effective provision of services, and improved policy responses. Research is based on well-established partnerships with Aboriginal community controlled health organisations, with Aboriginal community stakeholders and organisations actively involved in all aspects of research from planning through to translation into policy and strategies.

New Projects

Predicting and preventing child removals and optimising the child protection system for Aboriginal children in partnership with Aboriginal communities and health services

NDRI staff: Jocelyn Jones

Project leaders: Melbourne University

Project partners: Telethon Institute

Looking forward - moving forward project:

Transforming systems to improve mental health and drug and alcohol outcomes for Aboriginal peoples

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project leaders: Curtin University

Project partners: South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute; University of Western Australia; Mental Health Commission WA; Telethon Kids Institute, UWA; WA Department of Health

Funded by: NHMRC Partnership Grant

Ongoing Projects

A Centre for Research Excellence: Building Indigenous research capacity to find solutions to alcohol problems

NDRI staff: Anna Stearne

Project leaders: University of Sydney

Project partners: Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (SA); University of NSW; Inala Indigenous Health Service; Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney; University of Wollongong; University of Queensland; NSW Health

Funded by: NHMRC

Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women perpetrators of violence: A trial of a prison-based intervention (Beyond Violence)

NDRI staff: Mandy Wilson

Project leaders: Kirby Institute, UNSW

Project partners: Michigan State University; University of Newcastle; University of Sydney

Funded by: NHMRC

Australian Indigenous Alcohol and other Drugs Knowledge Centre

NDRI staff: Julia Butt

Project leaders: Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet, ECU

Project partners: NDARC, UNSW; NCETA, Flinders University

Funded by: AGDH

The sexual health and attitudes of Australian prisoners

NDRI staff: Mandy Wilson

Project leaders: Kirby Institute, UNSW

Project partners: Western Sydney University

Funded by: NHMRC

Completed Projects

Better methods to collect self-report data on alcohol use from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project leaders: University of Sydney

Project partners: Turning Point; University of Queensland; Aboriginal Health Council South Australia; National Centre for Epidemiology & Population Health, ANU; NDARC, UNSW; Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council (NSW)

Funded by: NHMRC

Cannabis and tobacco use among Aboriginal Western Australians - understanding patterns and pathways of use and identifying opportunities and barriers for prevention and health promotion

NDRI staff: Julia Butt

Funded by: Healthway Health Promotion Research Fellowship

Fighting, alcohol and offending: Interventions targeting Aboriginal girls

NDRI staff: Mandy Wilson, Julia Butt

Project partners: Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service

Funded by: Healthway

Research Activities

INNOVATION IN PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION

Innovative and effective ways to delay or prevent alcohol and other drug use and harm

This research aims to prevent early and problematic use of alcohol and other drugs (AOD) and adverse consequences, particularly during childhood and adolescence. It includes a focus on early intervention programs for high risk children, families and communities and incorporates research and evaluations of the social determinants of AOD use and the impact of AOD use during pregnancy. The research builds on international work exploring social and economic benefits of prevention and early intervention, particularly among marginalised populations, on more equitable health outcomes, reduced hazardous and harmful drug use, safer children and more cohesive communities.

Ongoing Projects

Australian parental supply of alcohol longitudinal study (APSALS)

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

Project leaders: NDARC, UNSW

Project partners: University of Newcastle; University of Tasmania

Funded by: Australian Rotary Health

Breaking the intergenerational cycle of mental disorder: A longitudinal study of the social determinants of childhood psychosocial adjustment problems

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project leaders: Deakin University

Project partners: UNSW; University of Sydney; University of Queensland

Funded by: Australian Rotary Health

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

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

Funded by: NDRI

Healthy, wealthy and wise: The long-term effectiveness of an online universal program to prevent substance use and mental health problems among Australian youth

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Steve Allsop

Project leaders: NDARC, UNSW

Project partners: Queensland University of Technology; Deakin University

Funded by: NHMRC

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

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

Funded by: NDRI

Paternal contribution to alcohol exposed pregnancies and fetal and infant health

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

Funded by: NDRI

Positive Choices drug and alcohol information online portal

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Nyanda McBride

Project leaders: NDARC, UNSW

Funded by: AGDH

School based program for alcohol misuse prevention: A study about the school context and an adapted version of SHAHRP to the Brazilian reality

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

Project leaders: Universidade Federal de São Paulo, Brazil

Funded by: National Council for Scientific and Technological Development, Brazil

The Healthy Lifestyles program: An innovative implementation model for online interventions to prevent common and emerging risk factors for chronic disease in young Australians

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Nyanda McBride

Project leaders: NDARC, UNSW

Project partners: University of Newcastle; University of Queensland; Northwestern University; University of Newcastle; Queensland University of Technology

Funded by: Paul Ramsay Foundation

The RADAR project: Identifying early warning signals on the pathways to alcohol use disorder

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

Project leaders: NDARC, UNSW

Project partners: University of Newcastle; Washington University; University of Melbourne; University of Queensland; University of Tasmania

Funded by: NHMRC

Research Activities

REDUCING HARM AMONG PEOPLE WHO USE ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

Informing policy, practice and strategies that aim to reduce harm to individuals, families and the community

This research informs policy, strategies and practice interventions that aim to reduce harm to individuals, families, organisations and communities for people who continue to use alcohol and other drugs. It includes interventions from the micro level, such as preventing harm for individual drug users and their peers, to the macro, such as contributing to effective drug treaties and international conventions.

New Projects

Reducing the key alcohol and other drug related harms in Australia

NDRI staff: Paul Dietze

Project leaders: Burnet Institute and NDRI

Funded by: NHMRC

Ongoing Projects

Drugs on the darknet: Assessing the global health risks of a rapidly expanding market

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton

Project leader: NDARC, UNSW

Project partners: California State University; Griffith University; Macquarie University; University of Queensland; University of Montreal; University of Manchester

Funded by: NHMRC

Evaluation of new take-home naloxone programs in WA emergency departments and a community outreach program

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Seraina Agramunt

Funded by: Mental Health Commission (WA)

Online survey of small-scale domestic cannabis cultivation - Part of an international research collaboration

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton

Project partners: Global Cannabis Cultivation Research Consortium (GCCRC) (collaborators from 22 universities and research institutes in 15 countries)

Funded by: NDRI

Peer naloxone education Acacia Prison - follow up interviews

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton

Funded by: Mental Health Commission (WA)

Promoting responsible drinking practices to drinkers to reduce the risk of alcohol-related harm

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project leader: Curtin School of Psychology

Project partners: Deakin University; University of Newcastle; Cancer Council Victoria

Funded by: NHMRC

The health, social and economic implications of risk-taking in adolescence over the life-course: a data linkage study of the Raine cohort

NDRI staff: Robert Tait

Project leaders: University of Sydney

Project partners: University of Melbourne; UWA; University of Technology, Sydney

Funded by: NHMRC

Completed Projects

Implementation and evaluation of take-home naloxone for opioid overdose prevention in drug and alcohol treatment and needle syringe program attendees

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton

Project partners: South Eastern Sydney Local Health District

Funded by: NSW Health Department

Research Activities

INNOVATION IN THE MANAGEMENT OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG PROBLEMS

New technology and other innovative ways to prevent and reduce use and harm

This research aims to improve clinical and other management of alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems by developing and trialling new and innovative treatment interventions; investigating applying new technologies to AOD related problems, such as online based brief interventions for at-risk alcohol and other drug consumers; and trialling applications and modifications of existing approaches to different AOD problems.

Ongoing Projects

Intranasal naloxone for the reversal of opioid overdose: A double-blinded, double-dummy controlled non-inferiority trial in Sydney's Medically Supervised Injecting Centre

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Paul Dietze

Project leader: Burnet Institute

Project partners: Uniting Medically Supervised Injecting Centre Sydney; King's College London; Deakin University; Cancer Council NSW

Funded by: NHMRC

National Centre for Clinical Research on Emerging Drugs (NCCRED)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Rebecca McKetin

Project leader: NDARC, UNSW

Project partners: St Vincent's Health Australia; NCETA, Flinders University

Funded by: AGDH

Novel interventions to address methamphetamines in Aboriginal communities, including a randomised trial of a web based therapeutic tool used to treat dependence in clinical settings

NDRI staff: Rebecca McKetin, Julia Butt

Project leaders: South Australian Health & Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI)

Project partners: Centre for Social Research in Health, UNSW; University of Sydney; Hunter New England LHD; Burnet Institute; Kirby Institute, UNSW; St Vincent's LHN

Funded by: NHMRC



Research Activities

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM

NDRI has an active postgraduate research program and welcomes enquiries from prospective Masters and PhD students who are interested in alcohol and other drug research. PhD candidates are attracted through scholarships and through collaborative supervision with other schools and universities.

New PhD Projects

Understanding why high dropout rates exist amongst alcohol and other drug (AOD) substance users during the critical first four weeks of a twelve-month therapeutic community (TC) program in Western Australia

PhD scholar: Susan Stevens

PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop and Robert Tait

Funded by: Research Training Program Scholarship

Ongoing PhD Projects

Alcohol policy and regulating availability: Impacts on population-level alcohol use and related disorders and diseases in Australia

PhD scholar: William Gilmore

PhD supervisors: Tanya Chikritzhs and Wenbin Liang

Funded by: Research Training Program Scholarship

Determinants of prenatal alcohol exposure among Aboriginal women in the Pilbara: Developing a statistically validated model of prenatal alcohol consumption for evidence based intervention development

PhD scholar: David Tucker

PhD supervisors: Nyanda McBride, Martyn Symons (Telethon Kids) and Roz Walker (Telethon Kids)

Funded by: Research Training Program Scholarship

Factors in determining development of problem gambling and motivation to change of offenders

PhD scholar: Bernard (Wai Shing) Fan

PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop

Funded by: Research Training Program Scholarship

Hepatitis C and its treatment in Australian custodial settings

PhD scholar: James Fetherston

PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Susan Carruthers (Adjunct), Tony Butler (Adjunct) and David Wilson (Kirby Institute, UNSW)

Inclusion of self-determination by First Nations Australian communities in alcohol related policy development in the Northern Territory

PhD scholar: Annalee Stearne

PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Anthony Shakeshaft (NDARC, UNSW) and Michael Wright (Curtin)

Funded by: Research Training Program Scholarship

Representation of commercial and health interests in alcohol policy processes in Australia

PhD scholar: Julia Stafford

PhD supervisors: Tanya Chikritzhs, Simone Pettigrew (Curtin) and Kypros Kypri (University of Newcastle)

Funded by: Research Training Program Scholarship

Completed PhD Projects

A mixed-methods study of drug use at outdoor music festivals in Western Australia and Victoria

PhD scholar: Jodie Grigg

PhD supervisor: Simon Lenton

Funded by: NDRI Commonwealth Scholarship

A multi-source investigation of issues arising from the implementation and evolution of a commercial, non-medical marijuana market in Colorado

PhD scholar: Todd Subritzky

PhD supervisor: Simon Lenton and Simone Pettigrew (Curtin)

Pathways in and out of prison for young men with a history of injecting drugs

PhD scholar: Shelley Walker

PhD supervisors: Simon Lenton, Mandy Wilson, Peter Higgs (Adjunct) and Mark Stooove (Burnet Institute)

Funded by: APA Curtin University Scholarship

Ongoing Masters Projects

Kadadjiny Dwank project: Otitis media from an urban Aboriginal perspective

Masters scholar: Rosemary Walley

Masters supervisors: Steve Allsop, Michael Wright (Curtin) and Deborah Lehmann (Telethon Kids)

Funded by: Curtin University Faculty of Health Sciences Scholarship

Staff

Professors

Simon Lenton (**Director**)
Steve Allsop
Tanya Chikritzhs
Paul Dietze

Associate Professors

Nyanda McBride

Senior Research Fellows

Julia Butt
Jocelyn Jones
Robert Tait

Research Fellows

William Gilmore
Mandy Wilson

Research Associates

Annalee Stearne
Aqif Mukhtar
Jodie Grigg
Seraina Agramunt

Research Officers

Deborah Olow
Anita Blackwell
Gail Jones
Kerry Stack
Nicole Edwards

Research Assistants

Megan Baker
Fiona McGregor
Lena Niklasson
Courtney Stewart
Jesse Whife

Business Services

Fran Davis, Business Manager
Jo Hawkins, Administration Officer
Paul Jones, Computer Systems Officer
Rachael Lobo, Communications Officer
Patricia Niklasson, Administration Officer
Vic Rechichi, Communications Officer

PhD Scholars

Bernard (Wai Shing) Fan
James Fetherston
William Gilmore
Jodie Grigg
Julia Stafford
Annalee Stearne
Susan Stevens
Todd Subritzky
David Tucker
Shelley Walker

Masters Scholars

Rosemary Whalley

Adjunct Appointments

David Hawks, Emeritus Professor
Tony Butler, Professor
Diana Egerton-Warburton, Professor
Sir Ian Gilmore, Professor
Kate Graham, Professor
Dennis Gray, Professor
Nicole Lee, Professor
Richard Midford, Professor
Peter Miller, Professor
David Moore, Professor
Moiria Plant, Professor
Sherry Saggars, Professor
Tim Stockwell, Professor
John Boffa, Associate Professor
Rebecca McKetin, Associate Professor
Neil Donnelly, Senior Research Fellow
Anne-Marie Laslett, Senior Research Fellow
Stephen Bright, Research Fellow
Susan Carruthers, Research Fellow
Michael Christmass, Research Fellow
Robyn Dwyer, Research Fellow
Adrian Farrugia, Research Fellow
Himanshu Gupta, Research Fellow
Peter Higgs, Research Fellow
Tina Lam, Research Fellow
Wenbin Liang, Research Fellow
Lynn Roarty, Research Fellow
Kate Seear, Research Fellow
Jesse Young, Research Fellow

Dissemination Activities

The National Drug Research Institute (NDRI) 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 publications, presentations and the media, 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.

Newsletter

Drug and Alcohol Research Connections - or *Connections* - is an online newsletter published jointly by NDRI and its sister organisations, the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) and the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction (NCETA). *Connections* covers the latest on research and publications, news and events from the three centres, with a focus on the translation of research into policy and practice. *Connections* is online at www.connections.edu.au.

Website

Further information about NDRI's research is available through our website at ndri.curtin.edu.au.

Media

Traditional, online and social media are important conduits for our research to reach the community and inform policy. NDRI has built a reputation as a reliable source of scientific information and expertise on a range of issues concerned with the prevention of alcohol- and drug-related harm.

NDRI received 1,315 mentions in the media during 2020, with the provision of expert comment and evidence based research further enhancing NDRI's efforts to disseminate its research findings widely and to inform and participate in alcohol and other drug policy development in Australia.

NDRI research and expert commentary appeared in local, national and international electronic and print media, including news and opinion websites, on a diverse range of subjects relating to alcohol and other drug use, reflecting the variety of expertise at the Institute. In addition, NDRI used its social media channels to disseminate research findings and media items to more than 2600 Twitter or Facebook followers. NDRI authors contributed 14 articles to *The Conversation*.

Topics that generated the most media interest included: the impact of COVID-19 on alcohol and other drug use; the social costs of opioid and cannabis use; NHRMC drinking guidelines; stigma and discrimination against people who use drugs; changes in cannabis policy in Australia and overseas; access to treatment; public education campaigns; fatal overdoses; and the risks of using alcohol as stress relief.



Dissemination Activities

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Abdelsalam, S., van den Boom, W., Dietze, P., Erbas, B. and Higgs, P. (2020). Adequate analgesia and oral care attendance in opiate dependent individuals (letter to the editor). *Journal of Dental Research*, 99, (12). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022034520948450>
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- Borschmann, R., dos Santos, M.M., Young, J.T., Andreoli, S.B., Love, A.D. and Kinner, S.A. (2020). Health, social and criminal justice factors associated with dual diagnosis among incarcerated adults in Brazil and Australia: a cross-national comparison. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*, 55, pp. 1355-1362. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00127-020-01832-w>
- Borschmann, R., Tibble, H., Spittal, M.J., Preen, D.B., Pirkis, J., Larney, S., Rosen, D.L., Young, J.T., Love, A.D., Altice, F.L., Binswanger, I.A., Bukten, A., Butler, T., Chang, Z., Chen, C., Clausen, T., Christensen, P.B., Culbert, G.J., Degenhardt, L., Dirkzwager, A.J., Dolan, K., Fazel, S., Fischbacher, C., Giles, M., Graham, L., Harding, D., Huang, Y., Huber, F., Karaminia, A., Keen, C., Kouyoumdjian, F.G., Lim, S., Møller, L., Moniruzzaman, A., Morenoff, J., O'Moore, É., Pizzicato, L.N., Pratt, D., Proescholdbell, S.F., Ranapurwala, S.I., Shanahan, M.E., Shaw, J., Slaunwhite, A., Somers, J., Spaulding, A.C., Stern, M.F., Viner, K.M., Wang, N., Willoughby, M., Zhao, B. and Kinner, S.A. (2020). The Mortality After Release from Incarceration Consortium (MARIC): Protocol for a multi-national individual participant data meta-analysis. *International Journal of Population Data Science*, 5, (1). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.23889/ijpds.v5i1.1145>
- Bright, S.J., Gringart, E., Blatchford, E. and Bettinson, S. (2020). A quantitative exploration of the relationships between regular yoga practice, microdosing psychedelics, wellbeing and personality variables. *Australian Journal of Psychology*. [In Press] DOI: <https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/zkpxe>
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- Champion, K.E., Gardner, L.A., McGowan, C., Chapman, C., Thornton, L., Parmenter, B., McBride, N., Lubans, D., McCann, K., Spring, B., Teesson, M., Health4Life Team and Newton, N.C. (2020). A web-based intervention to prevent multiple chronic disease risk factors among adolescents: Co-design and user testing of the Health4Life school-based program. *JMIR Formative Research*, 4, (7). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.2196/19485>
- Chikritzhs, T.N., Dangardt, F. and Pettigrew, S. (2020). Pregnancy, partners and alcohol warning labels. *Addiction*, 116, (8), pp. 1949-1951. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/add.15369>
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- Cumming, C., Butt, J.C., Hersi, A., Tohow, A. and Young, J.T. (2020). Khat Use and Perceived Health Problems Among African Migrants in Australia: An Exploratory Study. *Eastern Mediterranean Health Journal*. [In Press]
- de Andrade, D., Puljevi, C., Miller, P.G., Taylor, N., Curtis, A. and Ferris, J. (2020). The value of identification scanner technology

Dissemination Activities

PUBLICATIONS (*continued*)

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- Duko, B., Pereira, G., Betts, K., Tait, R.J., Newnham, J. and Alati, R. (2021). Prenatal alcohol and tobacco use and the risk of depression in offspring at age 17 years: Findings from the Raine Study. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 279, pp. 426-433. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2020.10.030>
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- Engel, L., Bright, S.J., Barratt, M.J. and Allen, M. (2020). Positive drug stories: possibilities for agency and positive subjectivity for harm reduction. *Addiction Research and Theory*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/16066359.2020.1837781>
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- Farrugia, A.C., Pienaar, K., Fraser, S., Edwards, M. and Madden, A. (2020). Basic care as exceptional care: addiction stigma and consumer accounts of quality healthcare in Australia. *Health Sociology Review*, 30, (2), pp. 95-110. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14461242.2020.1789485>
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- Foulds, J. and Young, J.T. (2020). Pharmacotherapy for incarcerated people with a history of violence: response to Commentary by Schofield et al. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, 54, (1), pp. 106-107. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0004867419885175>
- Franck, L., Midford, R., Cahill, H., Buergelt, P.T., Robinson, G., Leckning, B. and Paton, D. (2020). Enhancing social and emotional wellbeing of aboriginal boarding students: Evaluation of a social and emotional learning pilot program. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17, (3). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17030771>
- Gardner, L.A., Champion, K.E., Parmenter, B., Grummitt, L., Chapman, C., Sunderland, M., Thornton, L., McBride, N., The Health4Life Team and Newton, N.C. (2020). Clustering of six key risk behaviors for chronic disease among adolescent females. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17, (19). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17197211>
- Gibbs, D., Peacock, A., O'Keefe, D., Butler, K., Bruno, R., Lenton, S., Burns, L. and Larney, S. (2020). Use of alcohol swabs to clean injecting sites among people who regularly inject drugs in Australia. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 39, (1), pp. 83-92. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/dar.13006>
- Gilmore, W., Chikritzhs, T.N., McManus, H., Kaldor, J.M. and Guy, R. (2020). The association between the Australian alcopops tax and national chlamydia rates among young people – an interrupted time series analysis. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17, (4), pp. 1343. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17041343>
- Gould, D., Thuraisingam, S., Shadbolt, C., Knight, J., Young, J.T., Schilling, C., Choong, P.F. and Dowsey, M.M. (2020). Cohort profile: The St Vincent's Melbourne Arthroplasty Outcomes (SMART) Registry. *BMJ Open*. [In Press]

Dissemination Activities

PUBLICATIONS (*continued*)

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- Gubhaju, L., Williams, R., Jones, J., Hamer, D., Shepherd, C., McAullay, D., Eades, S. and McNamara, B. (2020). "Cultural security is an on-going journey ... "Exploring views from staff members on the quality and cultural security of services for Aboriginal families in Western Australia. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17, (22), pp. 1-13. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17228480>
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- Howard, R., McKeever, U., Young, J.T., Janca, E.K., Schupbach, M., Rushford, M., James-Nevell, S. and Clements, D. (2020). A Partnership Approach to Improving Health Outcomes for Adults Leaving Custody Through Integrated Primary Care Nursing. *Parity*, 33, (2), pp. 58-61.
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- Keric, D. and Stafford, J. (2020). Alcohol industry arguments for putting profit before health in the midst of a pandemic: The Western Australian experience. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 40, (2), pp. 201-204. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/dar.13147>
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Dissemination Activities

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- NDRI (2020) Submission to the Parliament of Victoria Legal and Social Issues Committee's Inquiry into Cannabis Use in Victoria.

Submissions

- Andreasson, S., Dangardt, F., Naimi, T.S., Chikritzhs, T.N., Holder, H. and Stockwell, T.R. (2020). Alcohol and Society 2020: Alcohol, pregnancy and infant health – a shared responsibility. Swedish Society of Nursing, SFAM, SAFF, CERA & IOGT-NTO, Stockholm. pp. 40. ISBN: 978-91-982220-5-0
- McBride, N. (2020). National Drug Research Institute's Submission to The Australian Government Department of Health, Public

Conference Presentations

- Andreasson, S., Dangardt, F., Naimi, T.S., Chikritzhs, T.N., Holder, H. and Stockwell, T.R. (2020). Alcohol and Society 2020: Alcohol, pregnancy and infant health – a shared responsibility. Swedish Society of Nursing, SFAM, SAFF, CERA & IOGT-NTO, Stockholm. pp. 40. ISBN: 978-91-982220-5-0

NDRI Seminar Series

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. Due to the restrictions of COVID-19, NDRI was only able to host one seminar in 2020.



The social costs of cannabis use to Australia

27 August 2020

Tech Park Function Centre, Bentley, Perth

Professor Steve Allsop, Dr Robert Tait and Mr Aqif Mukhtar

Dissemination Activities

PRESENTATIONS (*continued*)

McBride, N. (2020). National Drug Research Institute's Submission to The Australian Government Department of Health, Public Consultation, Draft National Stillbirth Action and Implementation Plan. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia.

McBride, N. and Ward, N. (2020). Senate Standing Committee, Senate Community Affairs Committee. Invited evidence to the 'Inquiry into effective approaches to prevention, diagnosis and support for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder'. National Drug Research Institute evidence: prevention. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia.

McBride, N., Tucker, D. and Stearne, A. (2020). Senate Standing Committee, Senate Community Affairs Committee. Invited evidence to the 'Inquiry into effective approaches to prevention, diagnosis and support for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder'. Response to questions on notice. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University: Perth.

McBride, N. and Stafford, J. (2020). Senate Standing Committee, Senate Community Affairs Committee. Invited evidence to the 'Inquiry into effective approaches to prevention, diagnosis and support for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder'. Response to witnesses and additional material. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University: Perth.

Workshops

Allsop, S. and Ali, R.L. (2020) ASSIST Brief Intervention. Presented at the ASSIST-BI Western Queensland 4 training workshops for remote health providers in local PHN, 25th November 2020.

Allsop, S. (2020) Brief interventions applied to tobacco and other drugs: Responses for Pharmacists. Presented at the UWA Masters Pharmacy, 17th June 2020.

Allsop, S. (2020) Responding to gambling problems. Presented at the 2nd Year Psychiatry, University of Western Australia, Perth, WA, 4th November 2020.

Grigg, J. (2020) Why do people use illicit drugs? Invited presentation at the Second year medical students at The University of Notre Dame Australia., Zoom Video Conference (due to COVID-19), 13th May 2020.

Lenton, S. (2020) Demand Driven Research & Impact: Two sides of the same coin. Invited presentation at the Faculty of Health Sciences Demand Driven Research Workshop, Curtin University, Australia, 29th October 2020.

Niklasson, L., Baker, M., Stewart, C. and White, J. (2020) Alcohol and Drug Prevention in Schools. Presented at the ACHPER State Health and Physical Education Conference, Edith Cowan University (ECU) Mount Lawley Campus, Mount Lawley, WA,

Australia, 23rd-24th November 2020.

Teesson, M., Slade, T., Allsop, S. and Sally, H. (2020) On the sauce: Lets talk about alcohol consumption in Australian Youth. Webinar presented at the University of Sydney, NSW, 16th August 2020.

Seminar and Forum Presentations

Allsop, S. (2020) Drug Law reform. Presented at the Hepatitis Victoria Podcast, 27th November 2020.

Allsop, S. (2020) Swimming with crocodiles: Lessons learned from 40 years of trying to influence policy. Presented at the NDARC Webinar, 10th September 2020.

Allsop, S. and Tait, R.J. (2020) The social cost of cannabis use to Australia. Presented at the NDRI Seminar, Technology Park Function Centre, Perth, WA, 27th August 2020.

Butt, J.C. (2020) What do we know about the impacts of cannabis in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities? [webinar]. Invited presentation at the What do we know about the impacts of cannabis in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities? [Webinar], 21st May 2020.

Grigg, J. (2020) A mixed methods study of drug use at outdoor music festivals: Moving beyond 'just say no'. Presented at the Mark Liveris Health Sciences Research Seminar 2020, Curtin University, Perth, WA, 11th May 2020.

Lenton, S. (2020) Growing practices and the use of chemical additives among a sample of small scale cannabis growers in three countries. Invited presentation at the Mental Health Commission (DAO)PD Workshop series, Moore Street Clinic, Next Step, Perth, WA, Australia, 28th October 2020.

McBride, N. (2020) Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs. (2020). Invitation to present evidence to the Inquiry on Effective approaches to prevention, diagnosis and support for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Invited presentation at the Senate Standing Committee, Virtual due to COVID-19 closedown, 19th May 2020.

Stearne, A. (2020) First Nations Australians health: The slow road to equity. Presented at the Lecture for Curtin University Online Unit HRIG5005 Indigenous Rights: Social Determinants of Health, 27th August 2020.

Stearne, A. (2020) Inclusion and incorporation of First Nations Australian Peoples' self-determination in alcohol-related policy development. Presented at the Centre of Research Excellence: Indigenous Health + Alcohol: 2020 Symposium Series, Webinar series, 20th August-19th November 2020.

Finance Report

RESEARCH GRANTS AND FUNDING

Summary of NDRI Research Grants and Funding Received in 2020		
Area of funding	Total grant awarded all years \$	Total grant received in 2020 \$
AGDH Alcohol and Other Drug Research - Core Grant	6,438,000	1,144,000
Curtin Support and Infrastructure	225,000	225,000
External Infrastructure	34,948	34,948
External Project Grants	4,349,603	1,232,207
Other	0	0
Total funding in 2020	11,047,551	2,636,155

NDRI Funding 2020			
	Funding source	Total grant awarded \$	Grant received 2020 \$
Alcohol and Other Drug Research - Core Grant 2019	AGDH	6,438,000	1,144,000
University Support and Infrastructure			
Curtin Strategic Support 2020	Curtin	25,000	25,000
Institutes Support	Curtin	200,000	200,000
Infrastructure Support			
Medical & Health Research Infrastructure Funds	WAHD	34,948	34,948
		6,697,948	1,403,948

Project Funding 2020			
Project	Funding source	Total grant all years \$	Grant received 2020 \$
Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women perpetrators of violence: Beyond Violence	NHMRC via UNSW	705,913	105,164
A centre for research excellence: Building indigenous research capacity to find solutions to alcohol problems	NHMRC via USYD	408,761	136,254
The health, social and economic implications of risk-taking in adolescence over the life-course: a data linkage study of the Raine Cohort	NHMRC vis USYD	98,832	15,234
AOD Knowledge Centre	AGDH via ECU	30,000	10,000
Reducing the key alcohol and other drug related harms in Australia - Fellowship	NHMRC	147,369	41,263
Drug Trends (formerly IDRS and EDRS) 2017-2022	AGDH via UNSW	575,000	160,000
Examining the social and economic costs of alcohol use in Australia	AGDH	509,870	509,870
Healthy, wealthy and wise: Effectiveness of online universal program to prevent substance use and mental health problems among youth	NHMRC via UNSW	137,756	54,439
Healthy lifestyles: An innovative implementation model for online interventions to prevent risk factors for chronic disease in young Australians	Paul Ramsay Foundation via UNSW	669,026	155,902
Increasing access to the hepatitis C cure: Can notification data be used?	AMSI via APR/UMelb	15,000	15,000
Online survey of small-scale domestic cannabis - The Global Cannabis Cultivation Research Consortium (GCCRC)	Universidad Catolica del Uruguay	2,995	0
Peer naloxone education - Emergency Departments and St Patrick's Crossroads program follow-up interviews	MHC	149,081	29,081
Quantifying social and economic costs of cannabis and opioid use in Australia	AGDH	900,000	0
		4,349,603	1,232,207

Appendix

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AGDH	Australian Government Department of Health
AMSI	Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute
APR	Australian Postgraduate Research
ARC	Australian Research Council
ECU	Edith Cowan University
Healthway	Western Australian Health Promotion Foundation
MHC	Mental Health Commission (Western Australia)
NDARC	National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of New South Wales
NDRI	National Drug Research Institute
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
SHAHRP	School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project
UNSW	University of New South Wales
USYD	University of Sydney
UMelb	University of Melbourne
WAHD	Western Australian Health Department
WHO	World Health Organization



Curtin University