

The CCRE 'Wake Up Call' Bulletin No. 36

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Related Items

CCRE - Centre of Clinical Research Excellence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

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28 March, 2008

Dear all,

Please find below our latest CCRE Email Bulletin. Please let us know of any items you would like to include in the next issue.

Kind Regards,

*Glenn Giles,
CCRE Translation Officer*

Closing the Aboriginal health gap

20 March, 2008: NACCHO welcomes the statement of intent signed today by the Prime Minister and the 'Close the Gap' coalition committing to achieve equality in health status and life expectancy for Aboriginal peoples by 2030.

Dr Mick Adams, chair of National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) the peak body for Aboriginal Medical Services says his members are proud to be part of the 'Close the Gap' coalition.

The coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and mainstream health bodies, and non-government organisations have come together over the last two years to fight for equality in health for Aboriginal people including closing the 17-year life expectancy gap.

Coalition members met in Canberra over the previous two days in the first ever Indigenous Health Equality Summit. The statement of intent signed today with the Prime Minister is one outcome of those discussions.

The Summit also agreed on the commitments needed to fulfil the targets of the declaration.

"I am especially pleased on behalf of the Aboriginal community controlled health services by the statement in the declaration that, 'Crucial to ensuring equal access to health services is ensuring that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are actively involved in the design, delivery and control of these (health) services'" Dr Adams said.

"We welcome the commitment to ensuring that by 2018 there are 'primary health care services and health infrastructure for Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples which are capable of bridging the gap in health standards'.

There is also a significant commitment 'To supporting and developing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled health services in urban, rural and remote areas in order to achieve lasting improvements in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing'.

"Today is a major step forward for the Aboriginal community and Australia in general" Dr Adams said.

I also welcome the announcements by the Prime Minister of:

- a program to tackle Indigenous smoking rates - \$14.5m over four years
- \$19m over three years for indigenous workforce initiatives including facilitating more Aboriginal Health Workers to work in the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations as well as assisting the training and mentoring of more Indigenous doctors and nurses
- and the creation from June of a new Indigenous Health Equity Council to set goals to close the gap.

"We look forward to working with government and other stakeholders to achieving the 2018 and 2030 targets" Dr Adams said.

NACCHO Media Contacts:

Chairperson, Dr Mick Adams 04 0964 6952

CEO Dea Thiele 04 1704 6692

Media, Chris Hallett 04 0770 4788

The statement of intent text is available at http://www.hreoc.gov.au/social_justice/health/statement_intent.pdf

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Research & News Items

1. **articles on Indigenous Health from the Australian Journal of Rural Health**

There is a freely available virtual issue of the Australian Journal of Rural Health on Indigenous health (January 2008), with a significant number of articles available. Click on the link

<http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/loi/ajr?cookieSet=1>

2. **Health spending ratio between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians stays the same**

AIHW report: *Expenditures on health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples 2004-05 Expenditures on health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples 2004-05*, published 29 February 2008.

Media Release on the report includes this:

“Medicare benefits for medical services per person were estimated at just 46% of the non Indigenous average and those for the PBS (including special arrangements in remote areas) at 51%.”, and is at:

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/mediacentre/2008/mr20080229.cfm>

The full report, the fourth comprehensive analysis of expenditures on health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, is available at

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10546>

3. New articles in *Rural and Remote Health*

'Adolescent daily cigarette smoking: is rural residency a risk factor?

Tobacco is a rural contribution to the world, but the health impacts of tobacco have not been considered for certain rural populations such as adolescents. This article reviews important steps to addiction, the prevalence of the tobacco problem, and the characteristics of those at risk. The article has great relevance for those who hope to improve health care in teens and adults in rural areas or beyond.

<http://www.rrh.org.au/articles/showarticlenew.asp?ArticleID=875>

4. Utopia study outcome bucks trends, 4.3.08, The Age

Self-determination and a traditional hunting lifestyle dramatically improve the health of Aborigines, according to a definitive study of a remote Northern Territory community.

<http://news.theage.com.au/utopia-study-outcome-bucks-trends/20080304-1wpe.html>

[Also, on this study of the Utopia community in the NT, the following message was distributed from leading Aboriginal health researcher, Dr Ian Anderson; with a link below to a published article in the Medical Journal of Australia (MJA)]

Dear Friends

I thought I would take the opportunity to draw your attention to a significant study published in the *Medical Journal of Australia* that reports on the health outcomes for a 10 year cohort study drawn from the remote community of Utopia. The findings demonstrate that mortality rates for this community are 40% better than the average outcomes for Indigenous Australians in the Northern Territory. The study builds on earlier work on the risk factors for heart disease and in particular

focuses on mortality rates, hospitalization and primary health care records.

This study has significant implications for policy terms. It shows that not all remote communities are uniformly bad in terms of health outcomes. We suggest that the reasons for the better than expected health outcomes relate to factors in the social organization of this community: its decentralization, the effectiveness of its primary health care services, the quality of diet and physical activity and the degree to which people in this community have historically been able to exert forms of social 'mastery'. In terms of macro social indicators, such as housing or employment, Utopia is similar to other Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory. This suggests that investing in housing and local economic development has the potential to further extend the health gain that we have already documented.

This is a multi-centre collaborative study in which the Utopia community has been a key partner.

Yours truly,

Professor Ian Anderson

Research Director of the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health and Director of the Onemda VicHealth Koori Health Unit

Link to the MJA article :

http://www.mja.com.au/public/issues/188_05_03/0308/row10886_fm.html

5. The role of social workers as human rights workers with Indigenous people and communities, 12.2.08

By Tom Calma, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission

Social Work Orientation Week Seminar, Australian Catholic University
12 February 2008

from Mr Calma's introductory comments: "...Sometimes working in human rights, it seems like I am surrounded by lawyers and caught up in the big picture processes like the United Nations, legal cases and legislation. All of this is crucially important, but sometimes it seems a long way from what I learnt at university as I was preparing to go out into the world as a social worker. What I want to talk to you about today is actually how close these two worlds are."

http://www.humanrights.gov.au/about/media/speeches/social_justice/2008/20080212_socialwork.html

6. The latest edition of Flinders Aboriginal Health Research e-news is now available for down loading at

<http://aboriginalhealth.flinders.edu.au/Newsletters/2008/News0308.html>

7. Prisoner health in Australia : contemporary information collection and a way forward.

Al-Yaman, F. ; Belcher, J. Dec 2007, Australian Institute of Health & Welfare (AIHW),

From the description on the AIHW web-site: "The prison population is known to have relatively poor health, with the poor mental health of prisoners a particular concern. A significant proportion of people in the prison system are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Despite the needs of prisoners, and the association between prisoners' health and the health of the wider community, there is remarkably little national information available on prisoners...."

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10454>

8. Expenditures on health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples 2004-05

Deeble, J. ; ... [et al.], published February 2008, Series: Health and welfare expenditure series, no. 32

Australian Institute of Health & Welfare (AIHW)

The AIHW web-site description of the report:

"This report, the fourth comprehensive analysis of expenditures on health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, examines expenditure in 2004-05 on health for Indigenous Australians and compares this with health expenditure for the rest of the Australian population. The report examines health resource distribution and funding by levels of government, the private sector, by region and by primary and secondary/tertiary health care. Estimates of health expenditure in 2004-05 are compared with estimates for previous years. The analyses presented here enable a better understanding of the different patterns of health service use by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10546>

9. Indicators for chronic diseases and their determinants

Australian Institute of Health & Welfare (AIHW), published February 2008

The AIHW web-site description of the report:

" 'Indicators for chronic diseases and their determinants, 2008' is the third in a series of reports on chronic disease released by the AIHW. It is the first report that aligns information about chronic diseases with selected national health indicators. Importantly,

the report highlights where indicators for chronic diseases do not exist, and where data to report against current indicators are lacking. The report is a vital resource for policy makers, researchers and others interested in chronic diseases, their associated risk factors, and the indicators that enable them to be measured in Australia.”

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10385>

10. Inquiry into Stolen Generation compo, 21.3.08, news.com.au

A BILL that aims to pay compensation to victims of the stolen generations will be examined by a Senate committee.

<http://www.news.com.au/story/0,23599,23361841-29277,00.html>

11. Racism 'weakens indigenous health', 14.3.08, The Age

“RACISM towards indigenous people undermines their health, a new paper says.

“Studies show that three out of four Aborigines experience racism in everyday life, and that racist experiences are associated with depression, psychological distress and substance abuse.”

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/national/racism-weakens-indigenous-health/2008/03/13/120512611249.html>

12. Compensating Canada's 'Stolen Generations'

By Linda Popic, The Indigenous Law Centre
Linda Popic writes in the Indigenous Law Bulletin on the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement and compensation in Canada in the context of Australia's Apology to the Stolen Generations.

Click on the Centre's homepage, or on the direct link to the pdf file of the paper (160 kb)

<http://www.ilc.unsw.edu.au/>
[http://www.ilc.unsw.edu.au/news & events/documents/Popic%20Article.pdf](http://www.ilc.unsw.edu.au/news_and_events/documents/Popic%20Article.pdf)

13. Marcia Langton: A new agenda for indigenous relations; ABC Radio Away! 15 March, 2008

[from the Away! Web-site, which has an audio of this] We present a talk by Professor Marcia Langton, who's just written an essay for the Griffith Review in which she argues that the everyday suffering of Aboriginal people has become a kind of visual and intellectual pornography.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/away/>

14. Indigenous pneumonia rate the highest in world, 25.03.08 ABC Radio, The World Today

New research suggests that Aborigines in northern Australia have the highest rates of pneumonia in the world - more than that seen in much of Africa.

<http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2008/s2198485.htm>

15. Australian Bureau of Statistics – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics from 2006 Census: released 27 March 2008

4713.4.55.001 - Population Characteristics, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, South Australia, 2006

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/4713.4.55.001?OpenDocument>

4713.0 - Population Characteristics, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2006

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/4713.0?OpenDocument>

16. New Report on The Impact of Racism on Indigenous Health Launched in March

“A new report entitled *The Impact of Racism on Indigenous Health in Australia and Aotearoa: Towards a Research Agenda*, was launched as part of the CRCAH Parliamentary Showcase.

“The report summarises findings from a symposium on racism and Indigenous health held in November last year. It presents clear evidence that racism has a detrimental impact on the health of Indigenous peoples in Australia and New Zealand and highlights the need for further research to understand the extent and nature of racism, and to determine how it can be effectively addressed.”

The text above is directly from the CRCAH (Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health) web-site, where you can access a “Policy Brief” and the full report. The link is to the home page of the CRCAH – scroll down that page to find this item, with links to the 2 documents

<http://www.crcah.org.au/>

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Note:

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Conferences / Forums / Workshops

1. 'Engaging Researchers, Communities and Agencies for Change'

Flinders Aboriginal Health Research Unit cordially invites you to attend a workshop on Monday, 31 March, 2008 from 12.30pm until 2.30pm.

To be held in Room N110, Sturt North Wing Faculty of Health Sciences, accessed from Car Park 14.

The workshop topic will be:

'Engaging Researchers, Communities and Agencies for Change'

presented by Yvonne Helps.

Please RSVP Theresa Leach (8201 5890, theresa.leach@flinders.edu.au) (Lunch will be provided).

Kind regards

Theresa Leach

2.

3. Population Health Congress 2008 A Global World – Practical Action for Health and Well-being

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre
July 6-9 2008

Call for Papers (see web-site for more details; closing date is 28 February, 2008).

Major Themes:

Environment and Health, Social Cohesion, Social Capital and Health, Food and Health

Australasia's four population health professional organisations working together to strengthen the focus on Population Health in the region.

Come to Brisbane and join in Australia's population health event of the decade. For this inaugural event four organisations are working together to provide a line-up of international and national speakers that promises to be excellent.

As well as an exciting range of speakers, this congress will have major trade displays for

companies and products which will have a significant future role in addressing governmental and individual lifestyle responses to environmental and nutritional issues.

The Population Health Congress 2008 will be held in the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre - one of Australia's best conference venues.

Secretariat: Conference Co-ordinators
PO Box 139 CALWELL ACT 2905 AUSTRALIA
Tel: +61 2 6292 9000

Fax: +61 2 6292 9002

congress2008@confco.com.au

www.populationhealthcongress.org.au

Congress Registration

Registration will be available on-line or through the Congress registration brochure commencing January 2008.

To ensure you are kept up to date with Congress developments in the meantime, please register your interest on-line at

<http://www.populationhealthcongress.org.au/>

4. Psychology and Indigenous Australians: Teaching, Practice and Theory

Mon 14th - Tues 15th July 2008

Venue: UniSA City West Campus, Hawke Building

Followed by a two day workshop: 'Working with Indigenous Australians: Essential Foundations of Cultural Competence', Wed 16th – Thurs 17th July

Following the successful inaugural annual conference in 2007, and the workshops on Effective Teaching and Practice in 2005 and 2006, this conference will present current advances in teaching cultural competence in relation to Indigenous Australians. Featured themes for 2008 include:

- Indigenising psychology: What could a truly Australian psychology look like?
- Indigenising treatment: Can a combination of Indigenous healing practices and Western psychology work?
- Mapping the terrain of cultural competence training in Australia: Where do different models fit into the overall picture?
- Murky spaces: Exploring discomfort in teaching and training
- Barriers to systemic change
- What works, or doesn't work, in teaching and practice?

Abstracts are invited for papers addressing one of the above themes or any other paper relevant to teaching, practice, or theory. It is expected that papers will take 20-30 minutes, including discussion time.

Abstracts:

Abstracts should consist of

- The title of the paper

- Names and affiliations of all authors, with the presenting author's name underlined
- Contact details of the presenting author(s), including e-mail address
- The text of the abstract (150-200 words)

Deadline for submitting abstract: Friday April 18th 2008

Abstracts should be sent in an e-mail with the line 'conference abstract' to: Lisa.Hodgson@unisa.edu.au

Review Process

Submissions will be reviewed by conference planning committee members Wendy Nolan, Rob Ranzijn, and Keith McConnochie. You will be notified of the outcome by email before Wednesday April 30th

If you require more information about submissions please contact Lisa.Hodgson@unisa.edu.au

The conference brochure and registration form will be distributed by the end of May

5. Strong Foundations...Strong Future : CRIAH (Coalition for Research to Improve Aboriginal Health) is pleased to announce the 2nd Aboriginal Health Research Conference!

Tuesday 29 and Wednesday 30 April 2008

Dockside at Cockle Bay Wharf, Sydney

The conference will bring together Aboriginal communities, researchers and policy makers to consider how research can assist in improving the health of Aboriginal people.

Extension of Deadline for Call for Abstracts

Please note the deadline for abstract submissions has been extended to **Friday 29 February 2008**.

The Scientific Program Sub-Committee for the 2nd CRIAH Aboriginal Health Research Conference is pleased to invite abstracts about research across all areas of Aboriginal health. In particular, we encourage submissions from across a wide spectrum of people involved in research, including masters and PhD students, Aboriginal health and community workers, and experienced health researchers.

For further details please refer to the attachment or visit www.saxinstitute.org.au

Aboriginal Health Programs

The Sax Institute

Level 8, Building 10, 235 Jones St, Ultimo NSW 2007

PO Box 123, Broadway NSW 2007

Email: aboriginal.health@saxinstitute.org.au

Ph: (02) 9514 5950

Fax: (02) 9514 5951

The conference will showcase Aboriginal health research and promote community,

research and policy engagement and exchange in Aboriginal health, to allow communities to describe their health and research priorities and to provide opportunities for sharing information and establishing collaborations among Aboriginal community members, researchers and policy makers.

Confirmed speakers include:

Ms Sandra Bailey - CEO, Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW

Professor Sandra Eades - Director Aboriginal Programs, The Sax Institute

Professor Bruce Armstrong - Professor of Public Health and Medical Foundation Fellow, Sydney Cancer Centre

Professor Kerin O'Dea AO - Professorial Fellow, University of Melbourne and Baker Heart Research Institute

Professor Fiona Stanley AC - Director, Telethon Institute for Child Health Research

There will be a very engaging program around the conference themes:

- Child Health
- Chronic Disease
- Priorities in Aboriginal Health Research
- Building Systems for Linking Researchers and Communities

There will be keynote addresses, invited papers, proffered papers, joint presentations, forums, posters and opportunities to exchange ideas in less formal settings. Contributions from researchers who are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander are particularly welcome.

CRIAH is a partnership between the Sax Institute and the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council. Please see

The Sax Institute website for more information on CRIAH

<http://www.saxinstitute.org.au>

There is a conference page on this web-site – click on Aboriginal Programs, under 'Quick Links', and look for CRIAH 2008 Conference.

Also, you can register your interest or obtain further information by phone (02 9514 5950) Nicole Cockayne or email, aboriginal.health@saxinstitute.org.au

6. The Australian Association for Infant Mental Health Conference

Australian Association for Infant Mental Health and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perinatal and Infant Mental Health

Angels in the Nursery Conference

- Supporting Parent-Child Relationships
 - Supporting benevolent parental influences
- 5-8 November 2008

Adelaide Hilton Hotel

Themes

- Parent Infant Therapy
- Mentalisation

- Supporting Families/Communities/Carers/Cultures
- Healing/Reparation *Ghost busting in the Nursery*

Keynote Speakers:

- Prof Anthony W Bateman
- Julie A. Larrieu

For more details, see

<http://www.sapmea.asn.au/aaimh08/>

7. 2008 General Practice & Primary Health Care Research Conference – Health for All? & Call for Abstracts

4 – 6 June, 2008; Hobart, Tasmania

The aims of the conference are to address and reflect on what we have (and have not) done towards achieving the goal of Health for All?, whilst also acknowledging the significant 30 year anniversary of the Declaration of Alma-Ata.

Keynote speakers; Professor Trisha Greenhalgh OBE (Programme Director of the OLU at PCPS and Professor of Primary Health Care at The University College London), Dr Tikki Pang (Director, Research Policy & Cooperation Department, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland), Professor Frances Baum (Professor and Head of Department of Public Health at Flinders University and Foundation Director of the SACHRU), and Dr Mark Wenitong (the immediate past president and founding member of the AIDA and the medical advisor for Apunipima Cape York Health Council).

They will speak on

- 1) Health for All? and
- 2) how to have a greater impact on improving primary health care.

Call for abstracts are now OPEN on-line, closing Friday 22 February

(Check the web-site link, to submit on-line.)

Building on from previous conferences and taking into account the increase in primary health care research, we have provided more opportunities for presentations as well as providing some longer time slots for presentations of completed projects. We expect presentations at the Conference to build on the conference theme and topic areas for papers and posters.

Six pre-conference workshops have been confirmed:

1. Linkage & exchange: researchers and policy makers working together to improve health
2. Men's Health: A missing chapter in Australia's health narrative
3. How to improve evaluations of complex interventions in primary care
4. Youth Health Research

5. From evidence to practice: a multi-faceted approach to implementing evidence – a case study approach

6. Indigenous Research Capacity Building

Further information regarding the Conference, program, workshop details and the abstract submission process are all available on the PHC RIS website

<http://www.phcris.org.au/conference/2008/index.php>

8. Rural & Remote Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Chronic Disease Conference – Broken Hill, May 2008

Call For Papers: In May, Greater Western Area Health Service, Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation, University of Sydney Department of Rural Health, Broken Hill, Royal Flying Doctor Service and NSW Health will host a *Rural and Remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Chronic Disease Conference* in partnership with Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services in western NSW.

The conference will be held on Thursday 15 and Friday 16 May 2008 at the Broken Hill Entertainment Centre. It is anticipated that the two day Conference will attract 300 participants, predominantly from the health care sector.

The Conference will focus on the successes in managing the challenges of Chronic Disease for Aboriginal people in remote and rural settings, and provide an opportunity for health professionals to showcase success and share best practice.

The conference organising committee is keen for speakers to address a range of issues associated with the following areas.

- Early intervention/prevention
- Child health
- Primary health care
- Education
- Research
- Working with the community

If you have a passion for any of the above, or other associated areas and wish to inspire others with your experiences and knowledge then please register your interest by submitting an abstract.

Timeslots are 30 minutes which includes introduction by the session chair and a 5 minute question and answer period after your presentation. Presentations are not required in any particular format however use of **MS PowerPoint is encouraged**. You should allow a total 30 minutes for your presentation including question & answer time.

An abstract of 100 words for your paper is required by Thursday 20 March 2008. Please send your abstract to Bradley Hayden, Conference Manager, at

bradley@ccem.com.au. Any queries about the subject matter of presentations can be directed to Linda Williams Manager Aboriginal Health, GWAHS on 02 63638019 or Linda.Williams@gwahs.health.nsw.gov.au or Lynne Lambell, Project Officer at 02 63638027 or lynne.lambell@gwahs.health.nsw.gov.au

The conference organisers will advise respondents of the success of their submitted abstracts by Tuesday 1 April 2008.

9. Managing Co morbid Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders - 5 Day Intensive Workshop

being conducted - 28/4/08 to 2/5/2008

Participants may be eligible for an **NCETA Co morbidity Scholarship** to cover costs associated with the workshop.

There are two rounds for these scholarships – the second round is as follows :

Applications open: Monday 5 Feb 08

Applications close: Monday 3 Mar 08

Applications available from

<http://www.nceta.flinders.edu.au/projects/comorbidity.html>

For more information on the Workshop please do not hesitate to contact myself or Rachele Davies on 8404 2538.

Cheers, Gabby Sheppard

Administration Assistant

Mental Health Sciences Postgraduate Programs

<http://som.flinders.edu.au/FUSA/Psych/>

Chronic Conditions Self Management

Postgraduate Programs

<http://som.flinders.edu.au/FUSA/CCTU/home.html>

Flinders University

Phone 08 8204 3930

Fax 08 8404 2101

Hours: 8.30 - 3pm Monday-Friday

Mail address: Room 4T305, The Margaret Tobin Centre, Flinders University, GPO Box 2100, Adelaide, SA 5001

10. Health at the Heart of Australia Conference, 13 -15 August 2008

The joint Australian Cardiovascular Health & Rehabilitation Association & Chronic Diseases Network (NT) Conference will be held in Alice Springs on 4 & 15 August 2008, with the welcome function being held on Wednesday 13th August. The conference will attract multi-disciplinary health professionals involved in cardiac rehabilitation and secondary prevention and the management of chronic disease. Challenges for Indigenous health and remote health service delivery will be core underlying themes of the conference.

Abstracts are due by 31 March.

More information can be found at

http://www.thebestevents.com.au/html/index_curent.htm

11. CATSIN Annual Conference 2008

Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses (CATSIN)

Annual Conference – 10 - 12 September 2008

Adelaide - Mercure Grosvenor Hotel

The theme of the conference is: 'CATSIN DREAMING'

Abstract Submissions must be no longer than 200 words. If your presentation is selected, your allocated time will be 30 minutes (including 10 minutes for any questions).

Abstract submissions must contain the following information:

- Title of presentation
- Presenters/Authors (please indicate if the author/s differ from the presenter/s)
- Contact Details (including at least one telephone number, address and email address).

Abstract Submissions close COB 30th MAY 2008 (late submissions will not be considered)

Please forward your submission to: (Electronic submissions are preferred)

Roslyn Lockhart:

PO Box 124, Jerilderie NSW 2716

Phone/fax: (03) 5886 0505

Email: lockharr@bigpond.net.au

Contact: Susan Day - Wyeth Clinical Meetings Service, 17-19 Solent Circuit Norwest Business Park, Baulkham Hills NSW 1263

Tel: 02 8850 8317 Fax: 02 9024 4873 email: days@wyeth.com

Conference flier & registration forms available on : <http://www.indignet.com.au/catsin/>

Scholarships

1. Indigenous Small Grants

The Foundation for Young Australians is calling for applications for Indigenous Small Grants.

Indigenous Small Grants provide funding to Indigenous organisations and organisations that work with Indigenous young people and communities to develop new initiatives, as well as the expansion of existing successful initiatives. Indigenous Small Grants offer funds up to \$5,000 to successful applicants.

Applications for Indigenous Small Grants can be made at any time during 2008, with two funding opportunities throughout the year.

Applications need to be received by 12 May 2008 to be considered in the next round.

To find out more about Indigenous Small Grants log onto

<http://www.youngaustralians.org/>

Or call 03 9670 5436 or 1800 252 316

Applications open 8 January 2008. An Initiative Selection Committee will assess and select successful applications twice a year. Applications (and support letters) sent after 6pm (in your State/Territory) on the closing date will not be considered until the following grant round.

Closing dates are: 12 May 2008 and 14 October 2008.

Other Notices

1. **BBQ - A New Grandparents Support Group**

for Aboriginal Grandparents
BBQ - A New Grandparents Support Group
in Salisbury
for Aboriginal Grandparents
who are raising their grandchildren
Thursday 3rd April
11am - 2pm
Marra Dreaming
22 Commercial Road
Salisbury
Contact Sharon on 8284 0388
Or Marra Dreaming on 8285 2311
Childcare is available

Please circulate and promote the new Aboriginal Grandparents Support group.

We are forming a new support group which will initially be held on the 1st Thursday of the month at Marra Dreaming. Once a group is formed it will be held fortnightly.

Feel free to bring grandparents yourself, or encourage and invite them to come along themselves. We just need to get an idea of who will be coming each month for catering.

Sharon
Sharon Hoffmann
Northern Carers Network
130 Peachy Rd
Davoren Park SA 5113
Ph: 8284 0388
Fax: 8284 0399
Email: sharon@ncnw.org.au

2. **Art Competition/ Exhibition to celebrate the first World Hepatitis Awareness Day on 19 May 2008**

The Hepatitis C Council of SA is holding an Art Competition/ Exhibition to celebrate the first World Hepatitis Awareness Day on 19 May 2008 to raise awareness of hepatitis B & C in the SA community. Please see more information below.

We welcome entries from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, and as an additional incentive, we are also providing \$200 prize money for an indigenous artist, along with other prize monies detailed below.

Please circulate to interested 'artists' in your networks, and we hope to see you at the exhibition – more exhibition details will be circulated as the event is finalized.

Prizes to be won : Judges' prizes - \$250, \$150, People's Choice - \$100

To mark World Hepatitis Awareness Day in May, the Hepatitis C Council of South Australia is holding an Art Exhibition - My Lucky Number - using art to highlight issues around hepatitis C.

Artwork may include painting, photograph, poem, video, CD, collage, drawing, sculpture, sound or lighting design/installation or creative work in other media.

Issues to highlight could include: body art, injecting drug use, blood transfusion, depression, fatigue, isolation, support, disclosure, community, tooth decay, sore liver, interferon, etc. For more information about hepatitis C related issues see our [factsheets](#).

For more information, queries, or assistance in developing your ideas, contact Maggie: maggie@hepcouncilsa.asn.au or Tel: 8362 8443 / 1300 437 222

Registration needs to be in by 28 April 08 and works submitted by 16 May 08

Kerry Paterson

Manager

Hepatitis C Council of SA

Ph: 08 8362 8443 / 1800 021 133 (country callers)

Fax: 08 8362 8559

3. **Across the Lifespan: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Checks and Lifescripts**

Satellite TV broadcast and complimentary DVD or VHS video

Produced by the Rural Health Education Foundation

Tuesday 8th April 2008 at 8.00pm AEST

(Repeated Friday 11th April 12:30pm AEST)

Funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Program summary

This program explores the suite of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Medicare Health Checks (Child Health Check (item 708), Adult Health Check (item 710) and Older Person's Health Check (items 704 and 706)) and supporting *Lifescripts* tools.

Discussion is supported by three cases studies illustrating their successful use and implementation into health services. The three case studies are filmed in two locations,

Katungul Aboriginal Medical Service, Narooma NSW and Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service, Canberra ACT, depicting a model of delivery of the suite of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Medicare Health Checks.

Panel of Speakers

Chair: *Dr Norman Swan*, Presenter of the Health Report on ABC Radio National.

Dr Peter O'Mara, Vice President, Australian Indigenous Doctors Association & GP Tobwabba Aboriginal Medical Service, Forster NSW

Ms Nola Whyman, Manager, Maari Ma Primary Health Care Service, Broken Hill NSW

Associate Professor Noel Hayman, Clinical Director, Inala Indigenous Health Service, Brisbane and Secretary, Australian Indigenous Doctors Association

Dr Tim Williams, Senior Adviser, Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Department of Health and Ageing

Further program information, resources and detailed broadcast times can be found by clicking

<http://www.rhef.com.au/programs/807/807.html>

This program will also be available as a free DVD or VHS video. Contact the Rural Health Education Foundation via email rhef@rhef.com.au or telephone (02) 6232 5480.