

THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE
Australia's National Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Health Research
Incorporating the Cooperative Research Centre for
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
e-BULLETIN — 13 SEPTEMBER 2010

This fortnightly bulletin is prepared by the Lowitja Institute (www.lowitja.org.au/) to provide you with information on issues of interest to Aboriginal health research. It has been forwarded to you as your address is on our database. If you have received it by some other means and wish to subscribe directly, please go to <http://www.lowitja.org.au/node/add/profile>. To unsubscribe, E: admin@lowitja.org.au. A PDF version is available at <http://www.lowitja.org.au/newsletters>.

CONTENTS

- * **New Lowitja Institute Newsletter: *Wangka Pulka***
- * **Call for Expression of Interest: Program 2, Healthy Communities and Settings**
- * **Congress Lowitja 2010 Report**
- * **Conferences**
- * **Jobs**
- * **Media**
- * **Publications**
- * **Resources and Websites**
- * **Scholarships, Awards, Funding, Grants and Tenders**
- * **Seminars, Courses and Symposia**
- * **and Reminders**

NEW LOWITJA INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER: *WANGKA PULKA*

The first edition of the Lowitja Institute's quarterly newsletter, *Wangka Pulka*, is available at <http://www.lowitja.org.au/newsletters>. *Wangka Pulka* means 'Big Talk' in the Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara language of our patron Lowitja O'Donoghue's traditional lands in northern South Australia. It replaces *Gwalwa Gai*, the newsletter published by our predecessor organisation the CRC for Aboriginal Health.

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROGRAM 2, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES AND SETTINGS

Title: Scoping Study of Constructs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

Duration of project: 3 months, ideally to commence in October 2010

Overview: The Lowitja Institute is looking for a suitably qualified applicant to undertake a review of CRC for Aboriginal Health projects and other relevant literature addressing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Constructs of Health.

The successful applicant is expected to work independently, to timelines, and provide the Manager of the Healthy Communities and Settings Program with progress reports. This is a two-phased project. Phase 1 is the scoping exercise to review literature for activities undertaken to identify and define the constructs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health. Phase 2 is dependent on the outcomes of Phase 1 and work will have a focus on using the constructs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health in the identification and, where relevant, development of novel indicators relating to appropriate and applicable measures of community environments and service delivery. (Phase 2 will be the subject of a separate call for expressions of interest at a later date).

More information and application form:

<<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/call-expressions-interest-program-2-scoping-study>>.

Closing date is Friday, 17 September.

CONGRESS LOWITJA 2010 REPORT

The Lowitja Institute hosted the inaugural Congress Lowitja on 23–24 March 2010 in Sydney. This event provided an update on the research programs conducted by the CRCAH, outlined the new research agenda of the CRATSIH from 2010 to 2014, and detailed how organisations and institutions can be involved in, and benefit from, the Lowitja Institute. The *Congress Lowitja 2010 Report* provides a summary of the proceedings and outcomes and is available at: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/congress-lowitja-2010>>.

CONFERENCES

GP10 Shaping our Future, in Cairns, 6–9 October. The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners' conference will include a number of activities with an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health focus to be held on Friday, 8 October 2010. These activities will include the launch of the RACGP National Faculty of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and plenary sessions that explore Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health topics. For further information: www.gp10.com.au/default.asp.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Special Interest Group Workshop 'Advocacy for Action: Keeping Aboriginal Health on the National Health Reform Agenda', on Sunday 26 September in Adelaide, prior to the Public Health Association Australia (PHAA) 40th Annual Conference, Adelaide, 27–29 September. Workshop: <<http://www.phaa.net.au/atsih.php>>. Conference: <<http://www.phaa.net.au/40thPHAAAnnualConference.php>>.

Australian Health Promotion Association 20th National Conference, Cairns, 10–13 April 2011. The focus of the conference will be on the determinants of health, with a strong emphasis on the social determinants of health along with

solutions to strengthen action to address them. Abstract submissions close on 29 October. More information at <www.healthpromotion.org.au>. Conference coordinators, T: 02 6292 9000, E: <ahpa@confco.com.au>.

JOBS

Program Manager, Program 1: Healthy Start, Healthy Life, in Brisbane, full-time. The Lowitja Institute is looking for a highly motivated person with strong program management skills and the ability to facilitate change to join its Brisbane office as Program Manager for the Healthy Start, Healthy Life Program. This program is about making sure that primary health care and health-related services are able to access and use evidence-based innovations that will help them provide the best quality care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply. Position description available at:

<<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/job-vacancy-program-manager-lowitja-institute>>.

For more information contact Jenny Brands, T: 07 3010 3914, M: 0409284066. Closing date is Friday, 8 October.

Research Fellow: Child Wellbeing and Anti-Racism, in Melbourne. The Research Fellow will conduct research within the McCaughey Centre and the *Onemda* VicHealth Koori Health Unit, Melbourne School of Population Health, The University Melbourne, working on two projects that focus on addressing racism and promoting health and wellbeing for children and young people. One project is a two-year project to develop an intervention to promote effective racial socialisation strategies for parents and teachers of primary school aged children from diverse cultural backgrounds. The second project is for one year to hear the voices of Koori primary school children about their health and wellbeing. Closing date is 22 September 2010:

<<http://jobs.unimelb.edu.au/jobDetails.asp?sJobIDs=668793&IWorkTypeID=&ILocationID=&IPayScaleID=1154&ICategoryID=1800&stp=AW&SLanguage=en>>.

Chief Executive Officer, in Broome, at the Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services Council Inc. (KAMSC), an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service. Its functions include services and support to five independently incorporated ACCHOs across the Kimberly and the provision of primary health care in remote Aboriginal communities. KAMSC Inc also directly provides and supports renal services in the region. Special Requirement: Aboriginality as per Section 50 (d) of the Western Australian Equal Opportunity Act (1984). For information and selection criteria: <www.kamsc.org.au>, or Ms Johanna Cowdrey, Acting Chief Executive Officer, E: <johannac@kamsc.org.au>, M: 0427936043. Closing date: 30 September.

Indigenous Health Promotion, in Melbourne, 12-month contract. VicHealth is seeking a person with significant knowledge and experience (at least 5 years) in both Indigenous health and health promotion, with strong program management and planning skills. This project requires a range of inputs including research, policy, advocacy and program planning, and the development and extension of

relationships with internal and external partners. For further information contact Julia Galante, T: 03 9667 1376, or visit <<http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au>>. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander contractors are particularly encouraged to apply. Closing date: 1 October.

Clinical Counsellors with the Royal Flying Doctor Service (Qld Section).

Full-time positions available in the Cape York communities of Aurukun, Coen, Hopevale and Mossman Gorge. Due to the requirements of these roles, male and female applicants are encouraged to apply. For further information, contact Janet Biviano, HR Advisor, on T: 07 4040 0194 or E: <jbiviano@rfdsqld.com.au>.

Aboriginal Health and Access Worker (2 positions), Patient and Family Services, in Melbourne, full-time, at Alfred Health (job number 672885). The person will be instrumental in developing a strategic action framework to ensure appropriate systems are in place for culturally responsive service provision for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and their families. For more information contact Bridget Wall, Manager, T: 03 90763026.

Several positions at the Nganampa Health Council (NHC), in Alice Springs. NHC is an Aboriginal owned and controlled health service operating on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) lands in the far north-west of South Australia with an administration office based in Alice Springs. Currently available positions: Medical Officer, Locum Community Health Nurses, Medical Practice Coordinator, Social and Emotional Wellbeing Counsellor, Chronic Disease Project Officer. More information available at: <<http://www.nganampahealth.com.au/content/blogcategory/10/19/>>.

MEDIA

NGOs Slam Australia Over Indigenous Health, ABC, Radio Australia, 1 September 2010. 'The United Nations Conference on Advancing Global Health has come to a close after three days of spirited debate among more than seventeen hundred participants from NGOs around the world. It was the largest UN conference ever held in Australia and, among other issues, focussed attention on the problems in Australia's own back yard - namely, the gap in life expectancy between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians...': <<http://www.radioaustralia.net.au/asiapac/stories/201009/s2999984.htm>>.

It's Time for a Multi-Partisan Approach to Aboriginal Health Reform, media release by the Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council, 8 September 2010. 'Queensland's peak Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health body has called on the Gillard Government and Abbott-led Opposition to build on recent consensus negotiations with the Independents and Greens and enact long-overdue reforms to the health sector to better support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.'

CEO of the Qld Aboriginal & Islander Health Council, Mr Selwyn Button, said the new era of consensus politics in Canberra as political parties are forced to negotiate with Independents and minor parties can lead to a more constructive approach to reforms in delivery of health services for Indigenous people...'

Full media release available at: <<http://www.qaihc.com.au/index.php?page=media-releases>>. To read more on the complexity of Aboriginal health funding see the *The Overburden project – Funding and Regulation of Primary Health Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people* at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/crcah/overburden-project-funding-and-regulation-primary-health-care-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-is>>, including report and policy brief.

PUBLICATIONS

Assessing Cost-Effectiveness in Prevention report, T. Vos, R. Carter, J. Barendregt, C. Mihalopoulos, L. Veerman, A. Magnus, L. Cobiac, M. Bertram & A. Wallace, 2010, 2010, University of Queensland and Deakin University. This research underpins a comprehensive analysis of the value of many health advancement strategies to address the burden of preventable death and disease in Australia. It evaluated 150 health interventions and its findings demonstrate how to improve population health more efficiently through prevention: <http://www.phaa.net.au/documents/100907ACEPrevention_Sept2010_FINAL.pdf>.

Dictionary of Anatomy – Dhäruk mala ga mayali' rumbalpu. This dictionary translates medical and anatomical terms from English into Yolngu Matha, the main language used in east Arnhem Land. It also includes full colour graphics and examples of related pathology. Available from the Aboriginal Resource and Development Services Inc., 191 Stuart Highway, Parap Darwin NT 0804, T: 08 8982 3444, F: 08 8982 3499, E: <info@ards.com.au>.

Aboriginal People Travelling Well, Y. Helps, D. Moodie & G. Warman 2010, The Lowitja Institute, Melbourne: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/new-publication-travelling-well-report>>.

Improving the Identification of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in Mainstream General Practice, M. Kelaher, A. Parry, S. Day, Y. Paradies, J. Lawlor & L. Solomon 2010, The Lowitja Institute, Melbourne: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/new-publication-improving-identification-gp-services>>.

Recent publications by the Indigenous Eye Health Unit, Melbourne School of Population Health, The University of Melbourne:

Provision of Indigenous Eye Health Services, H. R. Taylor & E. Stanford 2010: <http://www.iehu.unimelb.edu.au/publications/provision_of_indigenous_eye_health_services_report>.

National Indigenous Eye Health Survey. Minum Barreng (Tracking Eyes), H. R. Taylor, J. Keeffe, A. L. Arnold, R. A. Dunn, S. Fox, N. Goujon, J. Xie, R. Still, A. Burnett, M. Marolia, T. Shemesh, J. Carrigan & E Stanford 2009:
<http://www.iehu.unimelb.edu.au/publications/the_national_indigenous_eye_health_survey>.

Outreach Eye Services in Australia, A. Turner, W. Mulholland & H. R. Taylor 2009:
<http://www.iehu.unimelb.edu.au/publications/outreach_eye_services_in_australia_report>.

Access to Eye Health Services Among Indigenous Australians. An Area Level Analysis, M. Kelaher, A. Ferdinand, S. Ngo, N. Tambuwla, H. R. Taylor 2010:
<http://www.iehu.unimelb.edu.au/publications/access_to_eye_health_services_among_indigenous_australians_report>.

Trachoma Resource Book, J. Hooshmand, H. R. Taylor & E. Stanford 2010:
<http://www.iehu.unimelb.edu.au/publications/trachoma_resource_book>.

Uptake of Medicare Chronic Disease Items in Australia by General Practice Nurses and Aboriginal Health Workers, E. J. Halcomb, P. M. Davidson & N. Brown 2010, *Collegian* vol. 12(2):57–61:
<<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20738057>>.

Empowerment and Indigenous Australian Health: A synthesis of findings from family wellbeing formative research, K. Tsey, M. Whiteside, M. Haswell-Elkins, R. Bainbridge, Y. Cadet-James & A. Wilson 2010, *Health and Social Care in the Community*, vol. 18(2):169–79:
<<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19804554>>.

NHMRC Research Funding Facts 2010:
<<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/publications/synopses/nh138syn.htm>>

Living Longer with a Greater Health Burden – Changes in the burden of disease and injury in the Northern Territory Indigenous population between 1994-98 and 1999-2003, Y. Zhao, J. R. Condon, S. Guthridge S, J. You 2010, *Australia and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*; vol. 34:S93–8.

Medicare Benefits Schedule and Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme Utilisation in the Northern Territory, 1993–94 to 2008–09, R. Malyon, Y. Zhao & S. Guthridge 2010, Department of Health and Families, Darwin:
<http://www.health.nt.gov.au/Health_Gains/Publications/index.aspx>.

Burden of Disease and Injury in the Northern Territory, 1999–2003, Y. Zhao, J. You & S. Guthridge 2009, Department of Health and Families, Darwin:
<http://www.health.nt.gov.au/Health_Gains/Publications/index.aspx>.

Synonyms in Health Services Research Methodology, M. L. Maciejewski, E. M. Weaver, P. L. Hebert 2010, *Medical Care Research and Review*, 30 July, Open Access Journal: <<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20675352>>.

Social Determinants of Diabetes and Challenges of Prevention, N. Unwin, D. Whiting, G. Roglic 2010, *The Lancet*, vol. 375(9733), 2204–05: <[http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(10\)60840-9/fulltext?_eventId=login](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(10)60840-9/fulltext?_eventId=login)>.

Mental Health Services in Australia 2007–2008, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2010: <<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/11415>>.

Medical Journal of Australia articles on Aboriginal health dating back to 1998 are available at: <<http://www.mja.com.au/Topics/Aboriginal%20health.html>>.

Through APO

Health Workforce Modelling, Northern Territory, R, Maylon 2010, Department of Health and Families: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/health-workforce-modelling-northern-territory>>.

=====

Working Together: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health and Wellbeing Principles and Practice, N. Purdie 2010, Kulunga Research Network: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/working-together-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-mental-health-and-wellbeing-principi>>.

RESOURCES AND WEBSITES

The Trachoma Story Kit was developed as a set of three kits: one each for clinics, schools and communities with the key message of **Clean Faces, Strong Eyes**. The Indigenous Eye Health Unit at the University of Melbourne together with the Katherine West Health Board & the Centre for Disease Control (Department of Health and Families NT) produced these best practice clinical, educational and health promotion materials with new culturally specific flipcharts, posters and interactive tools for use in remote Indigenous communities in Australia. All resources are easy to read and in user-friendly language realistic images of contemporary remote communities. The materials will assist Aboriginal Health Workers, clinicians, Elders and teachers talk with patients, community members and children about detecting, treating and eliminating trachoma. The three Trachoma Story Kits can be ordered online with some components available for free download: <www.iehu.unimelb.edu.au>.

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, FUNDING, GRANTS & TENDERS

Indigenous Health Promotion VicHealth Contract: please see under JOBS.

SEMINARS, COURSES AND SYMPOSIA

Education for Strong Health and Culture, 2010 AIDA symposium, in Launceston, 30 September to 3 October. The symposium explores the important role that education and culture plays in achieving better health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. For further information: <www.aida.org.au/2010Symp.aspx>.

Tropical Child Health Short Course, in Darwin, 5–8 October, presented by the Education and Training Division, Menzies School of Health Research. The course aims to cover issues affecting child health and development in tropical regions of the world and to provide an overview of the strategies that can be used to maintain and improve child health. For more information: <<http://www.menzies.edu.au/education-and-training/short-courses/workshops>>.

Youth Futures Symposium, Darwin, 21–22 September, at Charles Darwin University. Youth Futures is a two-day health symposium which aims to share current research in youth health, workshop future plans and discuss how research can link with the delivery of youth health services. It will involve and inform a variety of stakeholders in youth health, including service providers, researchers and service users: <<http://www.menzies.edu.au/education-and-training/short-courses/workshops>>.

and REMINDERS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Special Interest Group Workshop ‘Advocacy for Action: Keeping Aboriginal Health on the National Health Reform Agenda’, Adelaide, 26 September, prior to the Public Health Association Australia Conference. Workshop: <<http://www.phaa.net.au/atsih.php>>. Conference: <<http://www.phaa.net.au/40thPHAAAnnualConference.php>>.

2nd Australian Rural and Remote Mental Health Symposium, Canberra, 20–30 September: <<http://www.anzmmh.asn.au/RMH10/Default.ASP>>.

The 2nd Rural & Remote Mental Health Symposium, in Sydney, 29–30 September: <<http://www.ausot.com.au/newsArticle.asp?id=208>>.

Global Community Medical Education Muster, Barossa Valley SA, 18–21 October, co-hosted by Flinders University and Northern Ontario School of Medicine: <<http://gcmem2010.flinders.edu.au>>.

Evidence Based Healthcare Conference ‘Show the Impact’, Adelaide, 27–29 October 2010: <<http://www.alloccasionsgroup.com/EBHC2010>>.

14th Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists Scientific Meeting, in Brisbane, 28–30 October 2010: <<http://www.anzmmh.asn.au/PRCP10/Default.asp>>.

PHCRED WA Research Conference Primary Health Care Research, Partnerships in Practice, Perth, 12 November 2010: <<http://www.phcredwa.org.au>>.

The inaugural National Indigenous Policy and Dialogue Conference, in Sydney, 18–19 November: <<http://nipdc.arts.unsw.edu.au/>>.

Health and Wellness Conference 2011, University of California Berkeley, 20–22 January: <<http://healthandsociety.com/Conference-2011/>>.

Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs 2010 Conference, Canberra, 28 November–1 December. Conference draft program <<http://www.apsadconference.com.au/program/program/>> is now available. Registration <<http://www.apsadconference.com.au/registration/>> is also open with early bird closing Friday 24 September.

'Advancing Child and Family Policy Through Research' Conference, Canberra, 31 January–1 February 2011. The conference is jointly organised by the Research School of Economics, Australian National University, and the Center for Human Potential and Public Policy, University of Chicago. More information at: <<http://publicpolicy.anu.edu.au/events/other.php>>.

11th National Rural Health Conference, Perth, 13–16 March 2011: <<http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>>.

2011 Primary Health Care Research Conference, Brisbane, 13–15 July 2011: <<http://www.phcris.org.au/conference>>.

If you have any difficulties opening links, or other queries, please contact <cliley@unimelb.edu.au>. Archives of the CRCAH, CRCATSIH and Lowitja Institute e-Bulletins are available at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/newsletters>>.

To unsubscribe, please email <admin@lowitja.org.au>.

Communications Team

The Lowitja Institute
Australia's National Institute for Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Health Research
Incorporating the Cooperative Research Centre
for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

E: communications@lowitja.org.au

W: www.lowitja.org.au