

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 — 27 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

- * **Healing Our Spirit Worldwide, The Sixth Gathering**
- * **The Lowitja Institute newsletter and Congress Lowitja 2010 report**
- * **National Guide to Preventive Health Assessment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples**
- * **Conferences**
- * **Jobs**
- * **Media**
- * **Publications**
- * **Resources and Websites**
- * **Scholarships, Awards, Funding, Grants and Tenders**
- * **Seminars, Courses and Symposia**
- * **and Reminders**

HEALING OUR SPIRIT WORLDWIDE, THE SIXTH GATHERING

The Sixth Gathering was held in Hawaii from 3 to 10 September. It was a very successful meeting, hosted by the Hawaiian Indigenous health organisation Papa Ola Lokahi. The Gathering focused on the successes, best practices and common issues in health, healing and addictions in Indigenous populations. The Lowitja Institute provided financial assistance to 13 representatives from Australia and we look forward to including a report of their experiences in future editions of this bulletin, in the November edition of our newsletter, *Wangka Pulka*, and on our website (the latter will include more details about their presentations). We are especially proud to have supported an Australian Youth Representative, Gemma Benn. For more information: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/healing-our-spirit-worldwide>>.

REMINDER: The first edition of the Lowitja Institute's quarterly newsletter, *Wangka Pulka*, and the report of Congress Lowitja 2010 (held in Sydney on 23–24 March) are available from our website <www.lowitja.org.au>. The newsletter is at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/newsletters>> and the report at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/congress-lowitja-2010>>.

NATIONAL GUIDE TO PREVENTIVE HEALTH ASSESSMENT FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES

The National Faculty of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) have received funding from the Department of Health and Ageing to review and update the *National Guide to Preventive Health Assessment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples*, (the 'National Guide'). The National Guide was first published in 2005. The second edition of the National Guide will provide GPs and other health professionals with current evidence-based recommendations for preventive health care for their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients suffering, or at risk of, chronic disease. For further information, please contact Jill Dixon on T: 03 8699 0486 or E: <jill.dixon@racgp.org.au>.

CONFERENCES

2010 National SARRAH Conference (the 9th National Rural and Remote Allied Health Conference), in Broome WA, 20–23 October. For more information: <<http://www.sarrah.org.au/site/index.cfm?display=132162>>.

14th Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists Scientific Meeting, in Brisbane, 28–30 October 2010. The conference program has been published and sponsorship opportunities are still available: <www.anzmmh.asn.au/PRCP10>.

Please see our **and REMINDERS** section for upcoming conference for the remainder of the year.

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 In Indigenous Tobacco Control, in Melbourne, full-time, fixed-term. The Research Fellow in Indigenous Tobacco Control will be expected to take a lead role as a member of the project team responsible for the ongoing work of the Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Tobacco Control (CEITC), in the Melbourne School of Population Health, The University of Melbourne. The position will be expected to identify existing research gaps in the field of Indigenous tobacco control, and formulate a research plan to undertake research in these identified areas. Additionally, this position will take a lead role in providing advice on strategic research directions and formulate a research plan to the national Indigenous Tobacco Control Research Network and working group, as well as be responsible for the implementation of the CEITC research plan. Position description and selection criteria available at <<http://jobs.unimelb.edu.au/jobSearch.asp?stp=AW>> (search position number 0024643). **Applications close 10 October 2010.**

Project Manager, Genetic Associations with Rheumatic Heart Disease, in Darwin, full-time (18 months contract). The primary role will be the overall management and coordination of the genetic associations with rheumatic heart disease, including engaging the Aboriginal communities, establishing an Aboriginal Reference Group (ARG), consulting the participating Aboriginal communities and developing a research protocol with the scientist involved with the project. This will require efficient communication between all project stakeholders. The successful applicant will have demonstrated experience in managing complex projects to meet project milestones within defined timeframes. Highly developed cross cultural, interpersonal, oral and written communication skills are also essential as well as the ability to provide advice on complex issues to various audiences. This position requires a willingness to travel to remote Indigenous communities for up to two weeks at a time. **Vacancy closes 11 October.** For more information, contact Heather D'Antoine on T: 08 8922 6759 or E: <heather.dantoine@menzies.edu.au>

Research Officer, in Darwin, 6 month contract (0.2 FTE). The Project Officer will be undertaking work on the Healing and Resilience research program entitled "Aboriginal and Islander Mental Health Initiative (AIMhi - NT)". The main aim of the project is to develop, implement and evaluate improved ways of promoting mental health status and quality of life of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The successful applicant will have qualifications in mental health or a related discipline, knowledge of the determinants of mental health and understanding of the primary health care pathways for delivering primary clinical services and health promotion. Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, values and community protocols is also essential. This position would suit a Masters research student and there is a

possibility of extending the contract. Contact: Tricia Nagel on T: 08 8922 7944 or E: <tricia.nagel@menzies.edu.au>. **Vacancy closes 1st October.**

Aboriginal Patient Pathway Coordinator, in Melbourne, full time role at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital (RVEEH). The Coordinator will facilitate and support patient pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients of the hospital and project manage key links to improve identification and treatment of eye and ear disease within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. For more information: <<http://eyeandear.mhr.com.au/jobvac.asp>>. **Closing date is 1 October 2010.**

Indigenous Research Officer Level, in Melbourne, fixed-term part-time, at the School of Social Work and Social Policy, La Trobe University: <<http://jobs.latrobe.edu.au/jobSearch.asp?stp=AW&sLanguage=en>>, position number 50031277.

SNAICC Policy Project Officer, in Melbourne, full-time. The position will be responsible for supporting SNAICC's policy and advocacy activities by enhancing the organisation's research and policy development capacity. Application and selection criteria at: <<http://www.snaicc.asn.au/>>. For further information, contact SNAICC Manager Policy and Research, T: 03 9489 8099, E: <felicity@snaicc.asn.au>. SNAICC encourages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and non-Indigenous people to apply. **Applications close 4 October 2010.**

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 is 1 October.**

MEDIA

Improving Indigenous Health, *7.30 Report*, ABC TV, Rebecca Bailie. 'It is believed the production of more Indigenous doctors will help improve the appalling statistics on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health. Indigenous people are still lagging behind the rest of the country in terms of life expectancy, infant mortality and chronic disease...':

<<http://www.abc.net.au/7.30/content/2010/s3019291.htm>>.

More mums giving birth before reaching hospital: research, ABC News, 17 September 2010, by Charmaine Kane. 'A Queensland academic says the number of children born before their mothers could get to hospital has more than doubled in the past decade. The professor of midwifery at the Australian Catholic University, Sue Kildea, says the number has risen from 79 in 2000 to 359 in 2008. Professor Kildea told the Australian College of Midwifery conference on the Gold Coast about half of Queensland's non-metropolitan maternity services have closed in the same period... Professor Kildea says women from remote communities have to travel considerable distances and that is having serious consequences...' Full story: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/09/17/3014432.htm>.

PUBLICATIONS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Services Report, 2008-09: OATSIH Services Reporting, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2010, <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/11750>.

How Do We Know? Evidence-Based Research and Knowledge Transfer, J. Zelmer 2010, Open Access Journal, *Healthcare Policy*, vol. 6(1): 8–10: http://www.longwoods.com/content/21895?utm_source=Longwoods+Master+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=7499e0571a-HealthcarePolicy+6+1+TOC+alert&utm_medium=email.

Evaluating Policy and Service Interventions: Framework to guide selection and interpretation of study end points, R. J. Lilford, 2010, *British Medical Journal*, vol. 341:c4413, doi: 10.1136/bmj.c4413. The effect of many cost effective policy and service interventions cannot be detected at the level of the patient. This new framework could help improve the design (especially choice of primary end point) and interpretation of evaluative studies: <http://www.bmj.com/content/341/bmj.c4413.full?paper=etoc>.

Handbook on Impact Evaluation: Quantitative Methods and Practices, S. R. Khandker, G. B. Koolwal & H. A. Samad 2010, The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, The World Bank. "...This book reviews quantitative methods and models of impact evaluation. The formal literature on impact evaluation methods and practices is large, with a few useful overviews. Yet there is a need to put the theory into practice in a hands-on fashion for practitioners. Available online PDF [262p.] at: <http://bit.ly/b5x0b4>.

A Critical Appraisal of Standard Guidelines for Grading Levels of Evidence, P. C. Gugiu 2010, *Evaluation and the Health Professions*, vol. 33(3): 233–55: <http://ehp.sagepub.com/content/33/3/233.abstract?etoc>.

How Much Is Too Much? Alcohol consumption and related harm in the

Northern Territory, S. J. Skov, T. N. Chikritzhs, S. Q. Li, S. Pircher & Steven Whetton 2010, *Medical Journal of Australia*, vol. 193(5): 269–272:
<http://www.mja.com.au/public/issues/193_05_060910/sko10932_fm.html>.

Ross Ingram Memorial Essay Competition: Cultural Safety in Health for Aboriginal People: Will it work in Australia?, R. van den Berg 2010, *Medical Journal of Australia*, vol. 193(3): 136–7:
<http://www.mja.com.au/public/issues/193_03_020810/van10073_fm.html>.

Closing the Gap — Better health intelligence is required (letter), A. D. Merritt, A. R. Roberts-Witteveen & D. N. Durrheim, *Medical Journal of Australia*, vol. 193(5): 309.

Feasibility and Effectiveness of Nurse-delivered Smoking Cessation Counselling Combined with Nicotine Replacement in Australian General Practice, N. A. Zwar, R. L. Richmond, G. Forlonge & I. Hasan 2010, *Drug and Alcohol Review*: <<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1465-3362.2010.00243.x/abstract>>.

Increased Educational Attainment and its Effect on Child Mortality in 175 Countries between 1970 and 2009: A systematic analysis, E. Gakidou, K. Cowling, R. Lozano & C. J. L. Murray 2010, USA, *The Lancet*, vol. 376(9745): 959–74: <<http://bit.ly/bfINy4>>.

Assessing Equity in Systematic Reviews: Realising the recommendations of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health, P. Tugwell, M. Petticrew, E. Kristjansson, V. Welch, E. Ueffing, E. Waters, J. Brockhoff, J. Bonnefoy, A. Morgan, E. Doohan, M. P. Kelly 2010, *British Medical Journal*, vol. 341:c4739, doi: 10.1136/bmj.c4739: <<http://bit.ly/9IUUV7k>>.

Mapping Social Cohesion 2010 – Summary report, A. Markus 2010, Monash Institute for the Study of Global Movements:
<<http://www.apo.org.au/research/mapping-social-cohesion-2010-summary-report>>.

Through APO:

Constitutional Reform and Indigenous Peoples, D. Lino & M. Davis 2010, Indigenous Law Centre: <http://www.apo.org.au/research/constitutional-reform-and-indigenous-peoples>.

=====

Partnerships for Indigenous Development: International Development NGOs, Aboriginal Organisations and Communities, J. Hunt 2010, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research (CAEPR):

<<http://www.apo.org.au/research/partnerships-indigenous-development->

international-development-ngos-aboriginal-organisations>.

=====

Strengthening Culture, Strengthening Identity, S. Larkins 2010, Australian Family Relationships Clearinghouse, *Family Relationships Quarterly* No.17. This article describes some of the keys to healing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people and securing their social and emotional wellbeing: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/strengthening-culture-strengthening-identity>>.

=====

Commonwealth Indigenous-specific Expenditure 1968–2010, J. Gardiner-Garden 2010, Information and Research Services, Parliamentary Library: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/commonwealth-indigenous-specific-expenditure-1968-2010>>.

=====

Healing Services for Indigenous People, C. Caruana 2010, Australian Family Relationships Clearinghouse, *Family Relationships Quarterly* No.17: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/healing-services-indigenous-people>>.

The latest edition of the Flinders Aboriginal Health e-News is available at <http://www.aboriginalhealth.flinders.edu.au/Newsletters/2010/News08_2010.html>.

Primary Health Care and Information Service (PHCRIS) RESEARCH ROUNDup is available at <<http://www.phcris.org.au/publications/researchroundup/>>. This RESEARCH ROUNDup investigates the concept of equity in health, endeavours to describe those who are most likely to be 'unreached' by primary health care services, and how they may be identified. The ROUNDup outlines a number of factors that contribute to health-seeking behaviours, such as personal and social constraints, and the availability, organisation and perceived effectiveness of health care services. Small area analyses using multiple data sources that examine the relationships between many variables may assist in identifying the 'unreached'. (précis by PHCRIS).

RESOURCES AND WEBSITES

Australia's Health 2010 Conference. The AIHW has made presentations from the Australia's health 2010 conference held in June 2010 available for download: <<http://www.aihw.gov.au/eventsdiary/ah10/presentations.cfm>>.

Australian Indigenous Cancer Survivors Forum – Survivorship DVDs from the Indigenous Cancer Survivors Forum held in May 2010: <http://www.m247consulting.com/forum.html>.

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, FUNDING, GRANTS & TENDERS

Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage. *Linkage Projects* supports research and development projects that are collaborative between higher education researchers and other parts of the national innovation system, which are undertaken to acquire new knowledge, and which involve risk or innovation. Proposals for funding under *Linkage Projects* must involve a Partner Organisation from outside the higher education sector. The Partner Organisation must make a significant contribution in cash and/or in kind, to the project that is equal to, or greater than, the ARC funding. Under the *Linkage Projects* scheme, the ARC provides opportunities for postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers to engage in industry-oriented research training and enables postdoctoral researchers to pursue internationally competitive research opportunities in collaboration with industry. Closing date for round 2 is 17 November 2010: <http://www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/lp/lp_default.htm>.

Small Grants – UN Trust Fund on Indigenous Issues. Indigenous peoples' organisations, associations and NGOs, academic and other nonprofit organisations and national committees for the Second International Decade can apply for the Trust Fund's Small Grants Program 2011. Projects can be proposed in the areas of culture, education, health, human rights, the environment and social and economic development. All projects should primarily be focused upon Indigenous peoples and they should directly benefit them. Applications close 1 October: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/second_trustfund.html>.

Indigenous Health Promotion VicHealth Contract: please see under JOBS.

PhD scholarship to research Indigenous justice issues broadly focused on postcolonial perspectives and criminology either in Australia or within an international context. Contact: Prof. Chris Cunneen, James Cooke University, E: Chris.Cunneen@jcu.edu.au, T: 07 4042 1896.

Funding opportunity to investigate Bowel Cancer. This PhD Scholarship is offered under a three-way financial commitment between a Rotary Club or District, Australian Rotary Health and the administering university or research institute: <<http://www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au/getdoc/b95f7ec6-5e80-46da-b95f-488e746c8a0f/PhD%20SCHOLARSHIPS%20NOW%20AVAILABLE.aspx>>. Applications close 3 December 2010.

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>>.

and REMINDERS

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: www.gp10.com.au/default.asp.

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>>.

Australian Health Promotion Association 20th National Conference, Cairns, 10–13 April 2011. The focus of the conference will be on the determinants of health: <www.healthpromotion.org.au>. Conference coordinators, T: 02 6292 9000, E: <ahpa@confco.com.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 CRAH, 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