

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 — 07 JUNE 2010

This fortnightly bulletin is prepared by the Lowitja Institute to provide you with information on issues of interest to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research. It has been forwarded to you as your address is on our database. If you wish to unsubscribe, please email <admin@lowitja.org.au>. A PDF version is available at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/newsletters>>.

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LAST EDITION OF GWALWA-GAI

The last edition of *Gwalwa-Gai*, the CRCAH and CRCATSIH tri-annual newsletter, has just been released (issue no 22, May 2010). It includes stories on the launch of the Lowitja Institute, Congress Lowitja 2010, Let's Start Early to Improve Kids' Education project, launch of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, Indigenous eye health, and many others. The newsletter is available at: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/gwalwa-gai-newsletter-may-2010>>.

If you have any difficulties viewing *Gwalwa-Gai*, or have any questions, please contact Johanna Monk at <monkj@unimelb.edu.au> or T: 03 8344 0884. If you wish to unsubscribe, please email <admin@lowitja.org.au>.

The Lowitja Institute will also have a regular newsletter, the first edition of which is due in August 2010. This publication will be distributed electronically through our database.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AUSTRALIA'S FIRST PEOPLES are currently establishing their offices and recruiting staff. In the meantime, their website is at <<http://www.nationalcongress.com.au>>.

LOWITJA INSTITUTE WEBSITE AND e-BULLETIN DISTRIBUTION

Please look at our updated website at <www.lowitja.org.au> containing staff contact details, Congress Lowitja presentations, news and events, and publications as well as the CRCAH website archive (the CRCAH website will be taken offline and redirected to the Lowitja Institute website midyear). This e-Bulletin will be available in PDF format at <www.lowitja.org.au/newsletters>. If you have queries about the website, please contact Johanna Monk, E: <monkj@unimelb.edu.au>.

CONFERENCES

14th Annual NT Chronic Diseases Network Conference, in Darwin, 9–10 September 2010. The theme for this year’s conference is ‘Health Literacy: Opening Doors to Health and Wellbeing’. The Conference will focus on discussing of the role and impact of health literacy on the prevention and management of chronic conditions and its importance in achieving positive health outcomes. For more information, visit the conference website: <<http://www.cdnconference.com.au>>.

NatStats Conference, in Sydney, 15–17 September 2010, presented by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the National Statistical Service. The overall theme for NatStats 2010 is **Measuring what Counts: Economic Development, Wellbeing and Progress in 21st Century Australia**, which will explore drivers of economic and related social change that are shaping Australia's progress. Full list of confirmed speakers, <<http://blog.abs.gov.au/Blog/natstats.NSF/dx/speakers.htm>>, program <<http://blog.abs.gov.au/Blog/natstats.NSF/dx/program-and-papers.htm>>, and registration <<http://blog.abs.gov.au/Blog/natstats.NSF/dx/registration.htm>>. More information at: <<http://www.nss.gov.au/natstats2010>>.

Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINM), 12th Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting, in Sydney, 29 September–1 October 2010. The conference theme, **Moving On**, encompasses several streams including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health. Abstracts are invited by 16 July for more information contact CATSINM at E: <catsin@bigpond.net.au>.

The 2nd Rural & Remote Mental Health Symposium ‘Winds of Change: New Perspectives on Rural and Remote Mental Health’, in Sydney, 29–30 September. The conference will explore new perspectives within the P4 parameters, policy initiatives, primary interventions, promoting recovery, preventing relapse. Call for abstracts is now open. Please see conference website: <<http://www.ausot.com.au/newsArticle.asp?id=208>>.

JOBS

Onemda Contracts Coordinator, in Melbourne, casual, fixed term. The position will play an important role in assisting the senior leadership team with the administration and management of the *Onemda* VicHealth Koori Health Unit. Primarily the position will be responsible for the coordination of research programs and contracts of the Unit and will work with the Manager of the Centre for Health and Society, and *Onemda* leadership, to ensure timely preparation of *Onemda*’s reporting against workplan requirements for funders, and other high level administrative support as required. In addition, the Contracts Coordinator will be required to assist the Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Tobacco Control (CEITC) in the preparation of its half yearly reporting. For enquiries only contact Meg McKay, T: 03 8344 0822, E: mckaym@unimelb.edu.au. Further information and to submit application: <www.jobs.unimelb.edu.au>, job number 651539.

MEDIA

Report Reveals Indigenous Disadvantage, AAP, 4 June 2010. 'Indigenous people remain profoundly disadvantaged in a national health system which in many areas rivals the best in the world, according to data released by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Reform Council. Indigenous men die 11.5 years earlier than non-Indigenous men who have an average life expectancy of 79.2 years. Indigenous women die 9.7 years earlier than non-Indigenous women whose life expectancy is 83.7 years. The Indigenous infant mortality rate of 9.7 per 1000 live births is double the non-indigenous rate, while 44.8 per cent of Indigenous people smoke, more than double the non-indigenous rate...': <<http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-national/report-reveals-indigenous-disadvantage-20100604-xif9.html>>.

Indigenous Women's Health Strategy, joint media release by the Hon. Jenny Macklin, Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and the Hon. Warren Snowdon, Minister for Indigenous Health, Rural and Regional Health and Regional Services Delivery, 20 May 2010. 'Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Jenny Macklin and Minister for Indigenous Health, Warren Snowdon, have welcomed the release of the *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Health Strategy*. The strategy, developed by the Australian Women's Health Network (AWHN) Aboriginal Women's Talking Circle, seeks to address the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous women's health...':

<<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr10-ws-ws048.htm?OpenDocument>>. Report available at: <<http://www.awhn.org.au/>>.

New Push to Extinguish Indigenous Smoking, ABC News, by Alison Middleton, 31 May 2010. 'The Federal Government will employ new workers in regions across Australia to tackle high rates of smoking among Indigenous people. Half of Indigenous people smoke, compared with one in six non-Indigenous Australians. The Minister for Indigenous Health, Warren Snowdon, says anti-tobacco workers will start working in 20 regions from July, with another 40 places to follow... Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs are among the first 20 regions to have the anti-tobacco workers.' Full text available at: <<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/05/31/2913816.htm>>.

PUBLICATIONS

The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Australian Bureau of Statistics (cat. no. 4704.0) and Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (cat. no. IHW 30). This publication provides a comprehensive statistical overview, largely at the national level, of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and welfare and comprises a series of articles produced by ABS and AIHW. This release focuses on mothers' and children's health, adult health and education and also includes an overview of demographic, social and economic characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Articles on social and emotional wellbeing, disability, mortality, housing circumstances and access to health and community services will be published later in 2010: <<http://abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/4704.0?OpenDocument>>.

Media release:

<<http://abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Latestproducts/4704.0Media%20Release12010?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=4704.0&issue=2010&num=&view=>>>.

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Health Strategy, by the Australian Women's Health Network (AWHN). The strategy was launched at the AWHN National Conference in May 2010 and was collaboration between AWHN and NACCHO funded by the Australian Government through the Women's Leadership and Development Program 2009. It was written by Bronwyn Fredericks, Karen Adams and Sandy Angus after extensive consultation with Aboriginal women from every state and territory. Full report available at: <<http://www.awhn.org.au/>>Summary, government media release and other material at: <<http://www.healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/about/news?nid=160>>.

National Indigenous Reform Agreement, Baseline Performance Report for 2008–2009, COAG Reform Council, Canberra. Available at: <<http://www.coag.gov.au/crc/reports.cfm>>.

'Study Protocol: National research partnership to improve primary health care performance and outcomes for Indigenous peoples', R. Baillie, D. Si et al., *BMC Health Services Research*, 2010, vol. 10/129, Open Access Journal. Building on the Audit and Best practice for Chronic Disease Extension (ABCDE) project that facilitated the implementation of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) approaches in Indigenous community health care centres across Australia, this article details a study protocol for new research on strengthening primary health care to reduce health inequity between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. [Abstract by PHC RIS]: <<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6963/10/129>>.

Australian Innovations System Report 2010, Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, Canberra. Available at: <<http://www.innovation.gov.au/Section/Innovation/Pages/AustralianInnovationSystemReport.aspx>>.

Aboriginal Knowledge and Intellectual Property Protocol, Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre, Alice Spring. Available at: <<http://www.desertknowledgecrc.com.au/socialscience/socialscience.html>>.

Through APO:

Linking Stories and Initiatives: A Narrative Approach to Working with the Skills and Knowledge of Communities, D. Denborough, Dulwich Centre Foundation:

<<http://www.apo.org.au/research/linking-stories-and-initatives-narrative-approach-working-skills-and-knowledge-communities>>.

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Contextual Factors that Influence the Achievement of Australia's Indigenous Students, L. De Bortoli & S. Thomson, Australian Council for Educational Research:

<<http://www.apo.org.au/research/contextual-factors-influence-achievement-australias-indigenous-students>>.

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Remote Indigenous Housing Procurement and Post-Occupancy Outcomes: A Comparative Study, P. Memmott, C. Go-Sam, J. Davidson, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute. This study an analysis of the economic, social, health and cultural outcomes of current and future housing policies and housing delivery programs: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/remote-indigenous-housing-procurement-and-post-occupancy-outcomes-comparative-study>>.

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Call for papers—Australian Social Policy Journal (no. 10)

The Australian Social Policy Journal is the annual publication of Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA). The journal is externally peer reviewed by renowned academics and presents research on a broad range of topic relevant to Australia's social

policy and its administration: <<http://www.apo.org.au/submission/call-papers>>.

The latest issue of **RESEARCHROUNDup**, of the Primary Health Care Research & Information Service, titled 'Continuity and safety in care transitions: communication at the hospital/community care interface' is available at

<<http://www.phcris.org.au/publications/researchroundup/index.php?promoid=329&stk=re>>.

Neonatal, Postneonatal, Childhood, and Under-5 Mortality for 187 Countries, 1970—2010: A Systematic Analysis of Progress towards Millennium Development Goal, J. Knoll Rajaratnam, J. R. Marcus, A. D. Flaxman et al., *The Lancet*, Early Online Publication, 24 May 2010, doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(10)60703-9: <<http://bit.ly/cAXevh>>.

RESOURCES AND WEBSITES

Please keep an eye on the **Lowitja Institute News and Events** page for the latest information on activities related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research within the Lowitja Institute, nationally and internationally: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements>>.

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, FUNDING, GRANTS & TENDERS

Fulbright Scholarships 2011. Applications for Fulbright Scholarships are now open and available to Australian citizens to engage in 8–12 months of research relevant to an Australian PhD; or undertake an approved course of study in an American higher degree or its equivalent. The Fulbright includes specific scholarships for postgraduate students, researchers, academics and mid-career professionals: <<http://www.fulbright.com.au/scholarships/australian.html>>. The postgraduate scholarships include one specific to Indigenous students:

<<http://www.fulbright.com.au/scholarships/australian/postgraduate.html>>.

SEMINARS, COURSES AND SYMPOSIA

Issues in Indigenous Health Research, in Darwin, 19–22 July 2010, offered by the Menzies School of Health Research. **Indigenous people seeking assistance with airfares: please contact Catherine Richardson, T: 08 8922 7873, F: 08 8927 5187.** This course will be co-facilitated by Robyn Williams and Paul Stewart. Robyn's fields of include cross-cultural curriculum development and program implementation, evaluation of community-based programs and qualitative research in Indigenous issues. Paul Stewart is a Taungurong man from Central Victoria whose research focuses on health research methodologies and ethics in Aboriginal Communities. Flyer and registration form:

<<http://www.menzies.edu.au/education-and-training/short-courses/workshops>

<<http://www.menzies.edu.au/education-and-training/short-courses/workshops>> >.

Diabetes Care at the Centre: Grassroots care and prevention, in Alice Spring, 13–14 August 2010. The main aim of the meeting is to create greater engagement between health professional, educators and researchers. This will provide the practitioners with an opportunity to learn about the latest treatment and care, empowering the health care professionals in the region. **Registration is free.** To obtain more information and registration details contact Priya Ranganath at T: 1300 738 900, E: <Priya.Ranganath@bakeridi.edu.au>, or visit W: <<http://www.bakeridi.edu.au/>>.

and REMINDERS

Inaugural National Indigenous Drug & Alcohol Conference (NIDAC 2010) 'Listening, Learning and Leading', Adelaide, 16–18 June: <<http://www.nidaconference.com.au/>>.

Australia's Health 2010 Conference, Canberra, 23 June 2010:

<<http://www.aihw.gov.au/eventsdiary/index.cfm#ah10>>.

2010 PHC Research Conference (formerly GP & PHC Research Conference) Primary health care research and health reform: Improving care, Darwin, 30 June–2 July:

<www.phcris.org.au/conference/2010>.

Aboriginal Health Conference, in Perth, 3–4 July 2010, Rural Health West:

<http://www.healthinonet.ecu.edu.au/health_resources/conferences?cid=414>.

SNAICC National Conference: For Our Children – Ampe Anwernekenheke, in Alice Springs, 27–29 July 2010. Registrations are now open; early bird rates available until 31 May:

<www.snaicc.asn.au/policy/conference> or Ian Sweeney, T: 03 9489 8099.

2010 'Are You Remotely Interested?' Conference, in Mount Isa, Qld, 20–22 August, with a particular focus on clinical practice in remote areas; population health including Indigenous health; workforce supply, education and training; and research outcomes such as innovation in health service delivery: <<http://micrrh.jcu.edu.au/conferences-workshops/2010-remotely-interested/>>.

The Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors Congress 2010 'Sharing Our Stories: Building Strength through the Circle of Knowledge Translation', in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada, 26–29 August, 2010, hosted by the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada:

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

9th World Indigenous Women and Wellness Conference, hosted by the Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation, Darwin, 22–25 August. More information from Jodie Farrow, Danila Dilba HS, E: <jodie.farrow@daniladilba.org.au> , T: 08 89435100, F: 08 89435101, W:

<www.daniladilba.org.au>.

Australasian Evaluation Society (AES) International Conference 'Reflecting on Evaluation', Wellington NZ, 30 August–3 September, conference grants for emerging Indigenous evaluators are available (closing 4 June): <<http://www.aesconference2010.org.nz/drupal/node/41>>.

British Sociological Association Medical Sociology Group Annual Conference 2010, Durham University, UK, 1–3 September 2010: <<http://www.britsoc.co.uk/events/medsoc>> and

<bsamedsoc@britsoc.org.uk>.

Financial Assistance to Attend the Healing Our Spirit Conference to be held in Hawaii, on 3–10 September 2010. The Lowitja Institute invites Indigenous researchers involved in Lowitja Institute and CRCATSIH research to apply for financial assistance to attend this conference. Applications close on 26 May: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/crcatsih-funding-healing-our-spirit-worldwide-conference>>.

Participatory Action Research and Action Learning: Appreciating our Pasts, Comprehending our Presents, Prefiguring our Futures: 2010 Action Research World Congress, Melbourne, 6–9 Sept. 2010: <<http://www.alara.net.au/worldcongress/2010/objectives>>.

ARMS 2010 Australasian Research Management Society, 12th Annual Conference, in Freemantle WA, 22–24 September: <<http://www.promaco.com.au/2010/arms/index.htm>>.

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

The inaugural National Indigenous Policy and Dialogue Conference ‘Indigenous Policy and Dialogue: New Relationships, New Possibilities’, in Sydney, 18–19 November. For more information: <<http://nipdc.arts.unsw.edu.au/>> or E: <<<mailto:nipdc@unsw.edu.au>>>.

The Sixth World Conference on the Promotion of Mental Health and Prevention of Mental and Behavioral Disorders, in Washington DC, 17–19 November 2010: <<http://wmhconf2010.hhd.org/>>.

Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs (APSAD) 2010 Conference, Canberra, on 28 November–1 December: <<http://www.apsadconference.com.au/program/call-for-abstracts/>> <<http://www.apsadconference.com.au/program/call-for-abstracts/>>.

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

Regards

Communications Team

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