

NATIONAL DRUG RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Preventing harmful drug use in Australia

WHO Collaborating Centre for Prevention and Control of Alcohol and Drug Abuse
(Joint Centres)

Annual Report 2003

Funded under the National Drug Strategy

National Drug Research Institute

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Foreword



Charles Watson

The past year has been an important one for the National Drug Research Institute. The Institute was reviewed by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing and the findings were very positive. It is clear that the performance of the NDRI has exceeded all of the expectations set in 1999 at the beginning of the last five year funding period. On account of the review, the Institute has been funded for a further five years. I congratulate the Director, Tim Stockwell and all the NDRI staff for their high quality work over the past five years. They have been properly rewarded with the renewal of funding.

I am very pleased that the new funding plan has allowed the NDRI to hire an anthropologist, David Moore. I believe that his ethnographic skills will add an important new dimension to the already excellent research carried out in the Institute.

While the renewal of funding was a vital achievement in 2003, the most significant event from a symbolic point of view was the move to new premises in Shenton Park. The move has, for the first time, provided the Institute with a permanent home in a Curtin building, and an opportunity for close interaction with other Curtin research groups. I was impressed with the way that Tim and all staff negotiated the refurbishing of the Shenton Park building, so that the Properties staff were able to produce a result that has pleased everyone.

It now seems a long time ago, but early in 2003 the Institute hosted an important international conference, which gave it an opportunity to demonstrate the international significance of the research work carried out at NDRI.

I am proud that the Institute is recognised as Curtin's most important research group, based on its performance over the past two decades. I am even prouder to know that its star is still in the ascendancy.

I thank Tim and the senior staff of NDRI for the role they play in academic and administrative leadership of the Institute. By creating and maintaining a supportive and friendly workplace, Tim has provided the best kind of opportunity for staff to do their best, and they have all responded enthusiastically.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles Watson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Professor Charles Watson
Chairman of the Board of Management

Executive Dean, Division of Health Sciences
Curtin University of Technology

Year in Review

2003 was an important and productive year for the National Drug Research Institute. In the course of a busy year some particular milestones stand out – a successful review, the hosting of an international conference, a new five year contract and a move to larger premises.

Firstly, the independent review of NDRI was conducted as part of a larger review of the three national drug research centres. The major outcomes of the review were that NDRI had:

- enhanced the quality of its research over the past five years;
- built a significant international and national reputation as a major contributor to the body of knowledge in the field of drugs and alcohol;
- wide recognition for its leadership role, particularly in relation to research on alcohol, research with and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, and cannabis.
- stakeholders who, with few exceptions, expressed a high level of satisfaction with the level of influence exercised by NDRI research programs on policies and practices.

These outcomes are a credit to the whole team at NDRI, both the researchers and the excellent administration and support staff.

The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing's decision to renew NDRI's contract up to June 2008 with an enhanced level of funding was most welcome. This decision has enabled us to expand our research program in several areas such as detailed below.

Renewed funding and a new location! In July, we moved to beautiful new premises at Curtin's new Health Research Campus in Perth's Western suburbs. The recently refurbished building has sufficient office space to house a growing number of staff and our highly valued resource library. It also has large meeting rooms for presentations and seminars. We are extremely grateful to Curtin for providing these fantastic facilities and to the many people on campus who planned the refurbishment and the move. Particular thanks to Professor Charles Watson, Executive Dean of Health Sciences, Ric Scott, Director of Planning, our Business Manager, Fran Davis, my secretary, Sue Wilson, and Media Liaison Officer, Rachael Lobo for ensuring that the move was made as smoothly as possible and with little disruption to our research activities.

Research, Policy and Practice

Following our successful performance review, a decision was made to redevelop the Institute's research priorities. Changes were made based on recommendations arising



Tim Stockwell

from the review, nationally identified priorities and our research strengths.

There is now a greater emphasis on enhancing the capacity of Indigenous community-controlled organisations to manage and conduct their own research. The Indigenous research team, lead by Deputy Director, Dennis Gray, has been working in collaboration with the Centre for Remote Health (a joint initiative of the Flinders University of South Australia and the Northern Territory University) to assist the Tangentyere Council to build its own research capacity. The Council is looking to establish a research hub, with training and assistance from university based researchers.

A new priority is to address the dearth of ethnographic research on drug use in Australia. Senior Research Fellow, David Moore, will conduct a series of linked ethnographic, qualitative or multi-disciplinary studies that aim to investigate the ways in which educational, legislative and regulatory strategies impact on social contexts to produce or reduce drug-related harm. In 2003, David completed three studies of heroin users in Victoria that will underpin recommendations for the management and/or regulation of heroin-related health problems.

It is always gratifying to see our research informing policy and practice. Senior Research Fellow, Simon Lenton, has been particularly influential in this area. His work has been instrumental in shaping Western Australia's newly adopted cannabis legislation (September 2003) and he has now turned his attention to the problem of repeat drink driving offenders. Simon's research underpins the recommended model for dealing with repeat drink drivers that is currently being considered by Western Australia's Road Safety Council. The model was presented to the Fourth International Symposium on Alcohol Ignition Locks held in Hilton Head, USA, where it was lauded by experts in the field as international best practice.

Nyanda McBride's School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP) has also had a significant

impact on practice and has generated a great deal of interest, both nationally and internationally. The two stage project commenced with research assessment of an evidence based harm minimization drug education program for secondary school students. The SHAHRP research program was so successful in influencing behaviour change that it has attracted the attention of three international organisations interested in replicating the study.

Stage two, Dissemination of SHAHRP, occurred throughout 2003. The program was made available to all education sectors in South Australia, Australian Capital Territory, Tasmania and Victoria through a “train the trainer program.” The project is considered a world first and has provided NDRI researchers with a number of invitations to contribute to national and international policy and practice.

2003 was also the year NDRI staff revisited a number of projects to determine their ongoing impact. Particular mention should go to Senior Research Fellow, Richard Midford, who returned to Geraldton to assess the impact of the Community Mobilisation for the Prevention of Alcohol Injury (COMPARI) project. Initiated in 1992, this community intervention significantly increased the community awareness of alcohol-related harm and contributed to a reduction in alcohol-related injury. Eleven years later the “legacy of COMPARI” is still being felt. Compared to the control community, Bunbury, Geraldton residents consume less alcohol and there is less harm associated with their consumption.

Numerous research projects were completed in 2003, far too many to mention here in detail. However, I would like to commend Dr Susan Carruthers for her contribution to understanding the injecting behaviour of drug users, and the implications of those behaviours for the spread of blood borne viruses, and to Associate Professor, Wendy Loxley, for guiding the Prevention Monograph to its final stages. The Monograph is a thorough review of the evidence base for 159 different prevention strategies covering supply, demand and harm reduction. It is anticipated that the Monograph, which was prepared in collaboration with the Centre for Adolescent Health, will be launched by the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy before the middle of 2004.

Symposia and Conferences

In February, we hosted a major research symposium, *Preventing Risky Drug Use and Harm: What are the best bets for policy?* The symposium attracted some of the world’s leading alcohol and drug experts with participants from the United States, Sweden and Australia. It provided a forum for Professor David Hawks to launch another review paper *What works in the area of Prevention of Psychoactive Substance Use?* The review was a collaborative effort between NDRI and the World Health Organization (WHO). Many of the papers from the symposium will feature in a forthcoming book to be published by John Wiley & Sons.

The Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs (APSAD) conference provided yet another opportunity to showcase NDRI’s work. A report on the epidemiology of alcohol, *Australian Alcohol Indicators, 1900-2001: Patterns of use and related harms in Australian states and territories* attracted an enormous amount of media and policy interest. This report was commissioned by the Australian Government and developed by NDRI and Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Inc. It was hailed by the Hon. Trish Worth, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing, as the most complete picture of patterns of drinking and related harms ever put together for all Australian jurisdictions. Special thanks go to Tanya Chikritzhs who coordinated the project.

Dissemination

The dissemination of NDRI’s research, through a variety of media, continued to be a major priority throughout 2003. A good rate of publication in refereed journals, books and monographs was maintained by staff and there were numerous presentations to conferences, symposia, seminars and workshops. It is pleasing to note that our efforts do not go unrecognised. This year, NDRI received the Division of Health Sciences Research Group of the Year Award (2002) for its significant contribution to the Division’s research activities. The award took into account number of publications, conference papers and presentations, research reports, grants, supervisions and public profile.

NDRI’s public profile grew substantially this year, reflected by a significant increase (58%) in media coverage. There were a total of 238 newspaper, radio and television news items referring to the Institute’s research and activities. NDRI’s website also attracted a record number of visitors and has proven to be a very effective tool for the dissemination of information. Of greatest interest to visitors were the symposium hosted by NDRI in February and the Australian alcohol usage report.

As always, I would like to thank all our staff, administrative and academic, for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. Their enthusiastic support for new initiatives and their commitment to team work has enabled NDRI to grow and to produce work of increasing quality. The support we have received from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and from Curtin University will ensure that NDRI has a bright future.



Professor Tim Stockwell
Director

About NDRI

The National Drug Research Institute, formerly the National Centre for Research into the Prevention of Drug Abuse, was established in March 1986 as one of two Centres of Excellence in Drug Research funded by the National Campaign Against Drug Abuse (now the National Drug Strategy). The Centre was formally designated an Institute at Curtin University of Technology in September 1999 by Professor Lance Twomey. The Institute's core funding is received from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and in addition further funds are sought from a variety of Australian Government and State granting bodies.

The mission of the Institute, stated simply, is to contribute to the overall aim of the National Drug Strategic Framework, which is; "To improve health, social and economic outcomes by preventing the uptake of harmful drug use and reducing the harmful effects of licit and illicit drugs in Australian society". The Institute does this by undertaking research designed to establish the preventative potential of a number of interventions: legislative, fiscal, regulatory and educational. It therefore complements the role of the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre whose primary focus is on treatment.

NATIONAL DRUG RESEARCH INSTITUTE

MISSION

"To conduct and disseminate high quality research that contributes to the primary prevention of harmful drug use and the reduction of drug-related harm"

KEY RESULT AREAS

- The conduct and dissemination of high quality research in order to contribute to the primary prevention of harmful drug use and the reduction of drug-related harm.
- Further building of the national capacity and expertise required to undertake research in the area of primary prevention of drug-related harms and dissemination of knowledge and information.
- Increasing the awareness of drug-related harms and effective preventative measures among policy makers, the public and those who might benefit from prevention strategies.

NDRI is one of the largest centres of drug research expertise in Australia, employing 22 research staff in 2003. The Institute also works in close collaboration with a number of relevant agencies and research centres in Western Australia and other Australian states.

In accordance with its key result areas, a number of key priority areas have been identified within which NDRI conducts and disseminates research and develops research capacity:

Key Priorities

- 1. National monitoring of alcohol and other drug consumption patterns and related harms.**
- 2. Partnerships in the prevention of alcohol and other drug misuse among Indigenous Australians.**
- 3. The prevention of the spread of blood-borne viruses and other harms among injecting drug users.**
- 4. The impact of educational, legislative and regulatory strategies to minimise alcohol and other drug-related harms.**
- 5. The development and evaluation of more effective school drug and education programs.**
- 6. The development and evaluation of more effective community drug education and prevention programs.**
- 7. Identifying fundamental, strategic and developmental research questions in the area of prevention of harmful drug use.**
- 8. Investigating the influence of structural determinants and the social contexts of drug use on the implementation of strategies designed to reduce and prevent harmful drug use.**

Following are details of projects undertaken by NDRI during 2003, organised under the eight key priority areas listed above.

1 National monitoring of alcohol and other drug consumption patterns and related harms

National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP)

Chief Investigators: T R Stockwell
 Co-Investigators: T Chikritzhs, P Catalano, S Donath and S Matthews
 Project Staff: D J Young
 Project Status: Continuing 2004

Collaborating Organisations: Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre Inc

There are currently a number of ways in which alcohol consumption and related harms are monitored in Australia: national surveys; alcohol beverage industry sales data; the application of aetiological fractions to health statistics regarding the incidence of conditions known to be alcohol-related; and a variety of other harm indicators. The majority of the statistics are recorded in all jurisdictions from the 1980s until the present time. NDRI has been funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, over a period of three years in the first instance, to access a number of these data sets with the intention of tracking trends in alcohol consumption and related harms from 1992.

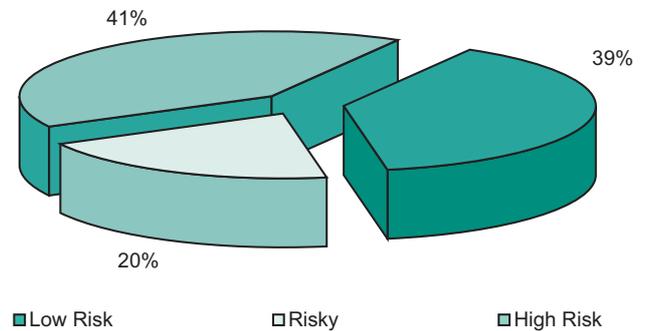
The data on alcohol-related harm and alcohol consumption patterns can be used to determine the magnitude (prevalence and incidence) of specific alcohol-related problems and to track changes and determine trends in these problems over time. In addition, time series data about specific sets of alcohol patterns can be used to evaluate the effects of policy or prevention interventions within Australia. These applications are the central focus of this project.

To date, a series of six statistical summary reports with accompanying technical reports have been produced by NAIP. These include: alcohol-caused deaths and hospitalisations to 1997 (Chikritzhs et al., 1999), alcohol-related road trauma to 1997 (Chikritzhs et al., 2000), patterns of risky alcohol use in 1998 (Heale et al., 2000), trends in per capita alcohol consumption to 1998/99 (Catalano et al., 2001) and trends in alcohol-related violence up to 2000/01 (Matthews et al., 2002).

The sixth and most recently published report (Chikritzhs et al., 2003) examined Australian health statistics and data from a range of indicators for all states, territories and the nation as a whole from 1990 to 2001. This is the first time this has been achieved for an Australian population.

Current NAIP focus and future directions include

a feasibility study to investigate the efficacy of expanding NAIP to specifically identify reliable and relevant indicators of consumption and related harms for Indigenous communities as well as the impact of legislative change on levels of consumption and harm throughout Australia, such as a re-evaluation of the Northern Territory's LivingWith Alcohol Programme.



Percentage of alcohol consumed at low, risky and high risk levels for acute (eg. injury) harm in Australia, 2001

NAIP Component Study: Analysis of trends in drinking patterns 1983-2003

Chief Investigators: T R Stockwell and S Donath
 Co-Investigator: T Chikritzhs

Project Status: Continuing 2004

The National Drug Strategy Household (NDSH) Surveys have been modified in various ways since their inception in 1983. Different sampling methodology, different methods of questioning and different response rates have been achieved, all of which can impact on estimates of the prevalence of alcohol and other drug use. The 2001 NDSH Survey introduced a new suite of questions on alcohol consumption but retained some older questions as well. There are also national surveys such as the National Health Survey which has, at regular intervals, enquired about alcohol consumption, again using different methodologies that have changed over time.

The purpose of this project will be to assess comparability between different surveys and different times and establish what trends have occurred in alcohol consumption for different age and sex groups in

Australia over the past 20 years. A particular focus will be on levels of compliance with current National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) drinking guidelines.

Expansion of the National Alcohol Indicators Project to include an Indigenous Australian component

Chief Investigators: T R Stockwell, D Gray and
T Chikritzhs
Project Staff: P Catalano

Project Status: Continuing 2004

In late 2002 the National Expert Advisory Committee on Alcohol (NEACA) received a request from the Indigenous Reference Group (IRG) to consider expanding the National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP) to develop specific indicators for Indigenous populations. A proposal was developed by the NAIP group in association with the NDRI Indigenous Australian Research Team. This was presented to a joint meeting of NEACA and IRG in November, 2002.

NDRI will be able to cover the majority of the costs for the first phase of this project from internal resources. This will involve examining databases held by NAIP to extract data specifically related to Indigenous people.

A methodology will also be developed for assessing levels of problems in "sentinel" communities with a high proportion of Indigenous residents. A national consultation process will occur to establish the utility and acceptability of the various indicators available and also the most appropriate means of their dissemination.

To date, a working party consisting of members of the Alcohol and Indigenous research teams has been convened, some progress has been made towards identifying the most appropriate regional distinctions for grouping Indigenous communities and data collection is underway.



Paul Catalano and Tanya Chikritzhs

Monitoring of alcohol-related violence and crime in NSW

Chief Investigators: D Weatherburn and T R Stockwell
Co-Investigators: N Donnelly and P McCarthy

Project Status: Continuing 2004

Collaborating Organisations: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research NSW, Attorney General's Department Drug Programs Bureau, NSW Health.

This collaborative venture represents a commitment to a long term program of research to establish policy-relevant monitoring and evaluation procedures with particular reference to alcohol-related violence and other crime.

The expertise developed by working on the Measurement of Alcohol Problems for Policy project, the WA Liquor Licensing Demonstration project and the National Alcohol Indicators project is being made available to the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, with a focus on local and regional areas of NSW. A preliminary stage involved the identification and collection of appropriate data sets following the model used in Western Australia and Victoria which provided local data on serious alcohol-related violence and crime. To date, five Alcohol Studies Bulletins have been published utilising this data. The Bulletins reported findings from: an extensive analysis of NSW police recorded crime data for 1999/2000; a study investigating problematic (violent) licensed premises in inner Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong; a telephone survey of 1,090 young adults in NSW aged 18-39 years; and an investigation of patterns of enforcement of NSW liquor laws. The underlying objective of this project, however, is to develop and define indicators to be applied in the NSW context for the evaluation of policy initiatives such as the enforcement of licensing laws, changes in trading hours and the introduction of Accords.

Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)

Chief Investigator: S Lenton
Project Staff: J Fetherston

Project Status: Continuing 2004

This study comprises the Perth arm of a research project to monitor illicit drug use trends in major cities across Australia. The project is coordinated nationally by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC).

The Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS) provides a coordinated approach to the monitoring of data associated with illicit drug use in Australia. The information collected is intended to act as an early warning system for the availability and use of four main drug categories:

heroin; amphetamines; cocaine; and cannabis. It has been piloted for two years in Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide.

The project has been funded in all states and territories in Australia during 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing (AGDHA). In the last three years additional funds were obtained from the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) to enable an injecting drug user survey component of the IDRS to be run in all jurisdictions. Thus, the methods employed in the Perth arm for the last three years included a survey of 100 injecting drug users, a qualitative study of key informants who work in the drug field (eg health, law enforcement, outreach, and research professionals) and an examination of existing indicators (eg survey data, health and police data).

An overview of the 2003 WA data was presented at the National IDRS Conference held in Sydney in November. The full report will be available in early 2004.



James Fetherston, Francoise Chanteloup and Simon Lenton

Investigation of issues around the national collection of alcohol sales data

Chief Investigator: T R Stockwell

Project Status: Completed in 2003

The InterGovernmental Committee on Drugs (IGCD) requested that inquiries be made to explore ways of reinstating the collection of wholesale alcohol sales data in all Australian jurisdictions in order to support national monitoring of alcohol consumption trends at the state, regional and local levels. A meeting was held with

the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), the Alcohol and Tobacco Section of Australian Government Health and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare to determine options for a statutory body to coordinate this collection. Recommendations to IGCD will be made on the basis of the quotes received.

Meetings have also been held with liquor licensing authorities in South Australia, Western Australia, Queensland and Northern Territory to discuss options for a nationally consistent data set collected at the individual jurisdiction level.

National consensus supporting the use of alcohol sales data for public health purposes appears to have been reached and NDRI's direct involvement in this project has now ended.

Party Drugs Initiative in WA 2003/2004

Chief Investigator: S Lenton
Project Staff: F Chanteloup

Project Status: Continuing 2004

This is part of a national study coordinated by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) and funded by the National Drug Law enforcement research fund (NDLERF). Its aims are to examine the demographic characteristics; patterns of ecstasy and other drug use; perceived harms associated with use; drug market factors such as price, potency, availability of ecstasy and other party drugs in Perth, Western Australia from a sample of regular users of ecstasy.

The study involves data from 3 sources: face-to-face interviews of 100 regular ecstasy users; telephone interviews with 20 key informants; and analysis of name de-identified existing databases from the health and law enforcement sectors. The three sources of data are triangulated against each other in order to minimise the weaknesses inherent in each one and to ensure that only valid emerging trends are documented. The objectives are to add this data to that collected in other Australian jurisdictions to monitor drug trends and inform strategies to reduce drug-related harm associated with the use of ecstasy and other party drugs.

An overview of the 2003 WA data was presented to the National IDRS Conference held in Sydney in November. The full report will be available in early 2004.

Evaluation of the Australian Drug Information Network (ADIN) project

Chief Investigator: F Lindsay

Project Staff: R Midford

Project Status: Completed in 2003

NDRI provided a consultancy on technical aspects of the Australian Drug Information Network (ADIN) project reevaluation. This project was funded by the Australian Government to develop a portal website with the capability of delivering relevant, reliable and authoritative drug information to the general community and to a range of professional groups.

Two major evaluation reports on the project have been submitted to the Australian Government. The most recent, submitted in December 2002, indicated that ADIN was performing well as an information portal, with steadily increasing use and overall user satisfaction.

2 Partnerships in the prevention of alcohol and other drug misuse among Indigenous Australians

A contemporary Aboriginal model of alcohol and other drug harm reduction

Chief Investigators: D Gray and S Saggars
Project staff: F Nichols

Project Status: Completed in 2003

This PhD research project was conducted in conjunction with Yuriny Aboriginal Culture Centre in Derby, Western Australia, in response to a request from Aboriginal people in the region for an alcohol healing centre program which focuses on contemporary Aboriginal cultural realities and the harm prevention which may come about as a consequence of cultural and socio-economic 'reconnection'. The project identified, via a process of representative and qualitative community consultation with West Kimberley Aboriginal people, the essential elements of a contemporary, culturally appropriate model of alcohol (and other drug) harm prevention and rehabilitation.

The project has been completed and Fiona Nichols was awarded a PhD for her thesis entitled: 'Identity, opportunity and hope: an Aboriginal model for alcohol (and other drug) harm prevention and intervention'.

Bibliographic database on Indigenous Australian alcohol and other drug use

Chief Investigators: D Gray and S Saggars
Project staff: B A Sputore, A E Stearne and P Stempel

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This web-based bibliographic database project aims to disseminate information about publications on Indigenous Australian alcohol and other drug use. It also forms an important part of the NDRI's research infrastructure. The database contains information on over 1000 publications which are keyworded by publication type, drug type, and geographic location.

In December 2002, the thesaurus was restructured to answer the five most commonly asked questions by users of the database. The additional programming was completed in January this year. The bibliographic database complements NDRI's database on Indigenous Australian intervention projects.



Ed Garrison, Sherry Saggars, Tuguy Esgin, Dennis Gray, Phillipa Stempel and Anna Stearne

Database on Indigenous Australian alcohol and other drug projects

Chief Investigators: B A Sputore and D Gray
 Co-investigators: S Sagers
 Project staff: P Strempel and A E Stearne

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This web-based database aims to disseminate information about alcohol and other drug intervention projects conducted by, or for, Indigenous Australians. It is updated on a regular basis and includes more than 490 current and completed projects. The database provides details of project objectives and strategies, and contact details for each of the organisations conducting the projects.

Building Indigenous research workforce capacity

Chief Investigator: D Gray
 Co-investigator: T Walley
 Project staff: T Esgin

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

The objectives of this project are to: create a three year research internship for an Indigenous Australian graduate; provide the person with 'on-the-job' research training in both a national research institution and an Indigenous community-controlled substance misuse agency; enable the intern to manage an intermediate size research project and to undertake two or three projects in his/her own right; and, to equip him/her to embark upon a career in the alcohol and other drugs field.

Funding for this project was approved in December 2002 and the contract with AERF was signed in June 2003. Mr Tuguy Esgin was offered the internship and he commenced work at NDRI in July

Education and training of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers in the illicit drug field: a literature review

Chief Investigator: D Gray
 Co-investigators: B Haines and S Watts

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This literature review was part of a larger project being undertaken by the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (ADAC) of South Australia to develop resources to enhance the education and training of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers in the illicit drug field. It provided a review of background materials to inform the development of training resources.

The review document has been submitted to the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (ADAC) and negotiations are underway for the joint submission of a journal article.

Evaluation of the COMGAS Scheme

Chief Investigator: A Biven
 Co-investigators: D Gray, G Shaw, A Mosey and A E Stearne

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This is a collaborative project with the ADAC of South Australia and aims to review the safety and effectiveness of the Comgas Scheme (the substitution of aviation fuel for regular petrol) in communities in which petrol sniffing is endemic.

The fieldwork for this project has been completed and it is anticipated that the final report will be available in early 2004

Evaluation of the 'Making Tracks' mobile petrol sniffing team project

Chief Investigator: D Gray
 Project staff: A E Stearne and D Kickett

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

The Making Tracks project is a four year intervention initiative developed by ADAC. The aim of the project is to travel to Aboriginal communities to assist them in developing strategies to deal with petrol sniffing and associated harm.

Regular process evaluation reports have been submitted to the ADAC of South Australia and the Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health since 1999. The fieldwork for the outcome evaluation was carried out in March 2003 and the final report will be presented in early 2004.

Heavy cannabis use in two remote Aboriginal communities

Chief Investigator: A Clough
 Co-investigators: D Gray, C Burns, R Parker and P d Abbs

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

In this study, which is being conducted jointly with the Menzies School of Health Research, patterns of cannabis use among Aboriginal men in three age groups in two Aboriginal communities will be described before and after an education intervention designed for local cultural and linguistic needs. Life history data to model

recruitment to, and ongoing involvement in, patterns of harm and cannabis use focuses on interactions with the justice and service systems.

Participant interviews were used to assess the intervention impact and to describe knowledge and attitudes to harm and cannabis use. Concurrence of attitudinal and behavioural models was also tested.

A journal article based on data collected in March 2001 has been submitted for publication and the final report is nearing completion

Indigenous Australian alcohol and other drug issues: research from the National Drug Research Institute

Chief Investigator: D Gray

Project Status: Completed in 2003

This project brought together, in one collection, 14 journal articles and book chapters written by members of the Indigenous Research Team. It covers topics such as liquor licensing, supply of alcohol, evaluation methods, and issues underlying Indigenous alcohol consumption.

The collection of articles has been published and distributed to all Indigenous organisations conducting substance misuse intervention projects and to various State/Territory and Commonwealth Government agencies.

Indigenous drug and alcohol programs: examples of best practice

Chief Investigators: D Gray and S Saggars
Project staff: P Stempel and A E Stearne

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

The aim of this project is to document, as case studies, five Indigenous Australian alcohol and other drug intervention projects that exemplify elements of 'best practice', and which could be used as suitable models for the development and implementation of similar projects by other Indigenous communities.

Site visits and data analysis have been completed and the final report is currently being drafted.

Loss and its consequences among town campers in Alice Springs: the role of alcohol and other drugs

Chief Investigator: J Ulrik
Co-investigator: D Gray

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This project aims to identify the impact of loss and grief on the ability of Aboriginal town campers in Alice Springs to function, work and to care for family, and the role of alcohol in this. In particular, it aims to describe the dimensions of loss and associated grief, to document how Aboriginal people perceive their situation, and to provide insight into the social and cultural milieu. Particular attention is paid to notions of resilience and vulnerability in this context.

It is a descriptive study, largely using qualitative research methods, but also including collection of some quantitative data. The identification of risk factors and the strategies people use to reduce the impact of loss and grief will enable the development of strategies to reduce the impact of alcohol and related harm within town camps. The project has been developed in conjunction with Tangentyere Council, an umbrella Aboriginal community-controlled organisation representing the Town Camps.

Field work for this project has commenced and additional funding obtained for research assistants to conduct interviews in town camps.

Night patrol monitoring and evaluation project

Chief Investigator: B A Sputore
Co-investigators: D Gray
Project staff: P Stempel

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

The aim of this project is to research and develop a low-cost computerised database that will enable Aboriginal community controlled organisations to monitor and evaluate their night patrols and warden schemes. The project is being undertaken jointly by NDRI, Tangentyere Council, Julalikari Council, and Kununurra-Waringarri Aboriginal Corporation.

Substance misuse and primary health care among Indigenous Australians

Chief Investigator: D Gray
Co-investigators: S Siggers, P Strempel and D Atkinson

Project Status: Completed in 2003

This review paper was commissioned by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing as part of an inter-departmental review of Indigenous primary health care. The review puts a primary health care approach to substance misuse into the context of patterns of use, the health harms associated with substance misuse, the underlying causes of higher levels of use in Indigenous populations, and the broader range of Indigenous substance misuse interventions. It makes a number of recommendations in the areas of: expansion of, and support for, the human resource base; workforce development; program development; primary prevention and early intervention; and integration of services and activities.

Survey of the attitudes of Aboriginal town campers to the Alice Springs liquor licensing restrictions

Chief Investigator: J Vadivelloo
Co-investigators: J Wakerman, J Sherwood and D Gray

Project Status: Completed in 2003

In conjunction with Tangentyere Council and the Centre for Remote Health, a survey was undertaken of the attitudes of Aboriginal town campers to liquor licensing restrictions introduced in Alice Springs in April 2003. It found that the majority of people in the camps were in favour of continuing or strengthening the restrictions.

The policing implications of petrol sniffing and other inhalant misuse in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' communities

Chief Investigator: D Gray
Co-investigators: P d Abbs, AMosey, G Shaw and C. Spooner

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This project was commissioned by the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund. The project aims to enhance the understanding of the law enforcement sector of the extent and nature of petrol sniffing and other inhalant misuse by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples predominantly in rural and remote, but also urban communities. The project will also seek to define best practice in addressing those issues.

The policy response to Indigenous petrol sniffing—and how to improve it

Chief Investigators: P d Abbs and D Gray
Co-investigator: M Brady

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This project, conducted jointly with the Menzies School of Health Research, utilised a policy analysis methodology to examine a number of case studies of attempts by various governments to respond to Indigenous petrol sniffing. Data collection included documentary sources and interviews with key informants.

The focus of the project was on the policy-making process, rather than on petrol sniffing itself. The findings will be used to make recommendations designed to improve the capacity of governments to respond more effectively, and thereby to reduce the harm caused by petrol sniffing.

Data collection for this project has been completed and Dr Peter d Abbs from the Menzies School of Health Research is currently preparing the final report.

Volatile substance misuse in an urban area

Chief Investigator: D Gray
Co-investigator: T Walley
Project staff: T Esgin

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This project is being conducted jointly with Noongar Alcohol and Substance Abuse Service. It aims to assess the prevalence of volatile substance misuse in the Perth Metropolitan Area and to assess the service need of those using volatile substances.

3 The prevention of the spread of blood-borne viruses and other harms among injecting drug users

Randomised controlled trial of an educational intervention designed to prevent the transmission of Hepatitis C amongst injectors

Chief Investigator: S J Carruthers

Project staff: K Arden

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

The hepatitis C virus is highly infectious and furthermore is highly prevalent among injecting drug users. Due to these two factors, the most subtle of injecting practices and the smallest of breaches of infection control are a risk for the transmission of hepatitis C.

Social and injecting drug use research over the past decade has demonstrated that the spread of hepatitis C among IDUs is unlikely to be reduced without substantial behaviour change. The generic messages about sharing, designed to address HIV/AIDS among IDU are inadequate when it comes to hepatitis C. Brief interventions, successful in reducing HIV/AIDS risk among gay men and injecting drug users, represent a potentially effective strategy for achieving such change.

The aim of the current project was to evaluate the efficacy of a brief hepatitis C prevention intervention using a randomised controlled trial method. Forty-five current injecting drug users were recruited from Perth, Western Australia and underwent pre- and post-test assessment injecting assessment using a Risk Assessment Checklist (RAC). The RAC is a five domain instrument addressing environmental, contextual, social factors as well as injecting behaviours.

Participants were randomly allocated to a control or intervention group and were followed-up at 4 weeks. The efficacy of the intervention was assessed by comparing the summed RAC scores.

The mean summed pre-test score for the control and intervention groups were 7.1 (median 7; mode 7; range 13) and 6.5 (median 7; mode 8; range 8) respectively. When these scores were compared no significant difference was detected ($F=0.435$; sig. =0.513). The mean post-test scores for the control and intervention groups were 6.6 (median 6.7; mode 9; range 12) and 5.0 (median 5; mode 5; range 10) respectively. The mean score for the intervention group was lower than that found for the control group at the 0.10 level ($F = 3.792$; sig. 0.058). Furthermore, the summed score for the specific domain covering injecting behaviours for



Susan Carruthers

the intervention group score was significantly lower than the control group scores at the 0.05 level ($F=6.18$; sig. = 0.017).

While the study group for this pilot study was small and the follow-up time limited to one month the findings indicate that the brief intervention as delivered was effective in reducing the risk of hepatitis C transmission from injecting drug use among the intervention group. While these findings are encouraging, further research with a larger study group and a follow-up period of between 3 and 6 months will be required before this intervention can be used on a wider scale.

The report is undergoing final editing and an article has been submitted to the Drug and Alcohol Review.

4 The impact of legislative, regulatory and educational strategies to minimise alcohol and other drug-related harms

An evaluation of the impact of changes to cannabis law in WA on cannabis use, the drug market, law enforcement, knowledge and attitudes, and cannabis-related harms

Chief Investigator: S Lenton
 Co-investigators: R Midford, T Chikritzhs and A Ferrante
 Project staff: J Fetherston, F Chanteloup, F Farrington, M J Barratt and A Sutton
 Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This project comprises a pre-post evaluation of changes to legislation and regulations for minor cannabis offences as a result of recommendations of the WA Community Drug Summit held by the WA Government in August 2001. The WA Government endorsed the Summit recommendations on 27 November 2001 and the Cannabis Infringement Justice Scheme comes into effect on March 22, 2004.

The evaluation is investigating: police implementation of the changes; drug market effects; impact on regular cannabis users, population prevalence, knowledge and attitudes regarding cannabis and the law; effect on school children; and effect on apprehended cannabis users.

Funding has been granted by the National Drug Law Enforcement Fund (NDLERF) to do the pre-phase (year 1) only. A separate application will be made to fund the post phase (year 3) at the completion of the first phase. It is expected that year 3 data collection will commence 18 months after the introduction of the proposed cannabis scheme in WA.

Driving after drinking on licensed premises

Chief Investigator: T R Stockwell
 Project Status: Completed in 2003

Collaborating Organisations: The WA Police Service, Liquor Licensing Division of WA Racing, Gaming and Liquor. Health Dept of WA

This project was part funded by the Road Safety Council and aims to develop and evaluate a system for monitoring the last place of drinking by drink-driving offenders as an aid to improved enforcement of both drink-driving and liquor licensing laws.



Simon Lenton

The project reviewed the historical pattern of drink driving associated with licensed premises and document the extent to which these data are used for policy, planning and local operational purposes, to provide case studies on local areas and on the operational use of the data and to create a geographic information system to assist analysis and dissemination of data for both liquor licensing and drink-driving enforcement purposes.

A report was provided to stakeholders and input has been made towards the development of a new database for recording road crash data in WA so that it might routinely include data on place of last drink. .

Evaluation of public health and safety impact of Extended Trading Permits for Perth hotels and nightclubs

Chief Investigators: T Chikritzhs and T R Stockwell

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

Doctoral student, Tanya Chikritzhs, chose this topic for her thesis under the supervision of Professor Tim Stockwell. Time series data regarding numbers of drink-driving offenders identified as having drunk last at particular premises were examined for trends before and after the granting of Extended Trading Permits (ETPs) to hotels and nightclubs in the Perth metropolitan area. Analysis was also made of number of assaults identified as occurring on, or in, the vicinity

of particular licensed premises before and after the granting of ETPs.

The ETP system permitted by liquor laws in Perth has some interesting and unique features. ETPs were granted to some but not all applicants by the director of Liquor Licensing over the study period. Typically, they permitted an additional hour of trading at peak trading times such as the early hours of Saturday and Sunday. Premises with a known poor record for compliance with liquor laws are unlikely to receive an ETP. Given the low levels of monitoring of licensed premises during this period, the net result was a natural experiment allowing for comparisons of problems before and after the granting of ETPs in both assault and drink-driving offences and with control establishments that either did not apply for or did not receive an ETP.

Liquor licensing sales data were examined to determine whether the granting of an ETP increased profitability of the premise. A time series analyses of trends in assaults on licensed premises granted ETPs found these increased substantially compared with normal trading hours

The technical report for this project has been completed and in 2002 an article was published in the Journal of Studies on Alcohol. Ms Chikritzhs has made substantial progress towards the completion of her PhD and she anticipates submitting her Doctoral thesis in December 2004.

NAIP Component Study: Re-evaluation of the public health impact of the Northern Territory's Living With Alcohol Program

Chief Investigators: T R Stockwell and T Chikritzhs
Co-investigator: P Catalano

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

One of the first applications of the National Alcohol Indicators developed by NAIP was an assessment of the health and economic impacts of the first four years of the Northern Territory's Living with Alcohol Program.

The evaluation found substantial reductions in alcohol-related deaths injuries and illnesses, substantial reductions in overall alcohol consumption, as well as a net economic benefit to the Northern Territory of \$31 million/annum. There was uncertainty as to what were the ingredients in the program that generated these benefits, eg. the rise in the price of alcohol caused by the special levy as opposed to the many new treatment and prevention programs funded.

It was also unclear whether external economic circumstances driving down alcohol consumption in the early 1990s may also have contributed to these apparent benefits. In late 1997, the special levy was discontinued

and some three years later the program itself, having been funded federally, was also discontinued.

It is proposed to re-examine trends in alcohol indicators for the Northern Territory during these latter years and contrast them with equivalent areas drawn from northern parts of Western Australia and Queensland. This will be a very powerful design to investigate the relative impacts of the alcohol levy, the Living with Alcohol Program and prevailing economic conditions.

To date, a working group has been convened to conduct the re-evaluation of the impact of the Living with Alcohol program. Data sources have been identified and a number of discussions held as to the most appropriate methodology for the evaluation.



Tanya Chikritzhs

Naloxone Trial - a proposal to scope the need and circumstances for a Naloxone trial in Victoria

Chief Investigator: S Lenton
Co-investigator: K M Hargreaves

Project Status: Completed in 2003

The main purpose of this project was to undertake a 'scoping exercise' to determine the need and circumstances for a naloxone trial to be undertaken in Victoria. This included: a review of the national and international literature; determining the current state of naloxone use in Victoria; investigating the potential to increase access to naloxone; determining whether a naloxone trial should take place and its form and costs.

Interviews were held with stakeholders from research, the emergency medical field (both hospital and

ambulance), drug and alcohol services, the Health Department and user groups were interviewed as key informants. These individuals provided assistance with the identification and clarification of the key issues relating to Victoria, potential problems that might result and possible solutions to these problems. The report was submitted in November 2003.

Preventing alcohol-related violence

Chief Investigator: B Haines
Co-investigator: T R Stockwell

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This project will investigate the key predictors of violence in licensed premises. A risk-factor assessment scale will be developed and extensively tested. This scale will allow a detailed examination of the relative contribution of overall levels of intoxication in contrast to other risk factors for violence in the environment, such as poorly trained and aggressive security staff. The research program will also contribute to the informed design of interventions targeting violence in licensed premises.

The application of criminal penalties for minor cannabis offences: A review

Chief Investigator: S Lenton

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This project comprises a review of the sociological and criminological theories and relevant research pertaining to the extent to which laws deter law breaking in general and the use of cannabis in particular.



Ben Haines

Criminologists have argued that the application of criminal sanctions to behaviours which are primarily matters of personal health and morality overburdens the criminal justice system, creates disrespect for the law, and thus impedes the ability of the law to influence behaviour, in this case deter cannabis use. Sociologists from the 'labelling perspective have argued that an official response to deviance may intensify the perceptions by self and others that the individual is deviant, and result in an escalation of the disapproved conduct.

Classical deterrence theory asserts that the probability of law-breaking varies inversely with the certainty, severity and swiftness of punishment. The success of such a legislative model will be determined by the behaviour (offending) not occurring. Two types of deterrence effects have been identified, general deterrence which is the prevention of criminal activity by others, and specific deterrence, the dissuasion of law breakers from further offending.

Research, which has compared surveys of self reported cannabis use before and after legal changes have occurred, casts doubts on the effectiveness of cannabis law as a deterrent to use for those who are not using. Classical deterrence theory has also been criticised for its over dependence on legal sanctions and a number of other social factors have been identified which may affect adherence to the law. In particular, deterrence effects are thought to be undermined where punishments are generally perceived as disproportionate to the crimes and there are low levels of social support for the specific law.

This thesis project was completed in December 2003, and the candidate, Simon Lenton, will be awarded a PhD in February 2004.

The impact of reducing criminal penalties for cannabis use on serious road injury in Australia

Chief Investigators: S Lenton and T Chikritzhs

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This study is based on the findings of some work conducted in the USA which suggests that there was a decrease in the number of alcohol-related serious injuries among young male drivers in states which removed criminal penalties for minor cannabis offenders.

Road crash data from South Australia and Western Australia has been collected and some preliminary findings presented to WA stakeholders.

5 The development and evaluation of more effective school drug and education programs

Evaluation of the School Drug Education Project's 'In Touch' program

Chief Investigators: R Midford and D Wilkes

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This project involves evaluating the impact of a program of staff training designed to improve school management of drug use incidents and students at risk from drug use.

A repeated measures control group design has been employed. Dependent measures are school policy and practice and individual knowledge, attitude and professional practice

An evaluation design has been formulated and data collection instruments trialled. Pre and post data collection from intervention and control schools has now been completed. Analysis of the data is currently underway.

SHAHRP 2000: An alcohol education program for senior secondary students

Chief Investigators: N McBride and F Farrington

Co-investigator: R Midford

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

Research evidence suggests that regular exposure to educational programs, that expand upon previous programs, and are provided at critical times in a students behaviour development, assists in maintaining previously adopted behavioural change in the exposed group. Local data indicates that the prevalence of alcohol use increases in young people as they come into their senior years of secondary school. Accordingly, the SHAHRP 2000 study followed the SHAHRP student cohort into their two senior years of high school and investigated the effects of an additional evidence-based 'booster' education program during these senior years.

A further intervention was implemented during the year 2000 when SHAHRP students were in year eleven. The students were then surveyed on knowledge, attitudes, context of use, consumption and harms associated with alcohol use situations in years eleven and twelve. Final analysis of results is currently being undertaken.

Secondary analysis of SHAHRP data to determine the effectiveness of the Western Australian School Drug Education Project

Chief Investigators: D Cross and G Hamilton

Co-investigators: T Shaw and M Hall

Others: N McBride

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

Edith Cowan University is conducting a retrospective analyses to explore the impact of the School Drug Education Project (SDEP) on drug use among WA school children. These analyses will use a 'dose-response' approach to establish if drug use outcomes are associated with process measures related to implementation of SDEP components.

Four data sets will be used to explore the impact of the SDEP: the Smoking Cessation for Youth Project (Western Australian Centre for Health Promotion Research), Australian Secondary School Alcohol and Drug survey 1999 and 2002 (Department of Health); and the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (National Drug Research Institute).



Nyanda McBride

SHAHRP dissemination project

Chief Investigator: N McBride
Project staff: F Farrington and C Kennedy

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

Past reviewers of school drug education have noted that effective school drug education programs are not readily available to teachers in a useable format (Foxcroft, Lister-Sharp, & Lowe: 1997; Tobler & Stratton: 1997; Paglia, & Room: 1998; Dusenbury, & Falco: 1995). This Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation community partnership grant will therefore aim to disseminate the SHAHRP education materials, which have proven effectiveness, by providing training to teacher educators from Government, Private and Catholic Education sectors in several states of Australia. A key aspect of this dissemination process will be the training of new and existing teacher educators so that a permanent skilled group of educators is available to train interested school-based staff in the use of the program.

To date, teacher training has taken place in the four states involved in the study: South Australia (three sectors); ACT (three sectors); Tasmania (three sectors) and the Goulburn North East District in Victoria. A second progress report has been submitted to the funders and the training of teachers will occur until mid 2004.

Book on drug education in schools

Chief Investigators: R Midford and G Munro

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This project involves producing an edited book on school based drug education, with an emphasis on Australian experience.

The chapter outline for the book has been accepted by the publishers IP Communications and authors have been recruited for all chapters. A publishing contract has been signed with submission of the manuscript planned for April 2004. Book chapters are currently being received from contributing authors.

Effective implementation practice in relation to school drug education

Chief Investigator: G Munro and P Snow
Co-investigator: R Midford and F Farrington
Project staff: A Murnane and B Rowlands

Project Status: Completed in 2003

This project represented a collaboration between two national drug prevention centres: the Centre for Youth Drug Studies (CYDS) at the Australian Drug Foundation

(ADF) and the National Drug Research Institute (NDRI). The research was undertaken in response to a tender by the Department of Employment, Science and Training (DEST) for a literature review and scoping study of illicit drug education practice, with a view to determining what works, what does not work and what holds promise.

The evaluation literature indicated that some of the more recent drug education interventions do stop or delay the onset of drug use in a small percentage of students under optimum conditions. Competent teachers, a supportive school and community environment and reinforcement from parents, will enhance the benefits that can be achieved by sound curriculum-based drug education programs.

This scoping study indicated that schools across the country are actively engaged in responding to issues associated with illicit drug use, through welfare, policy and classroom practices. There was strong support for the current National Drug Strategy framework of harm minimisation. However, schools have generally emphasised supply and demand reduction. The third arm of the framework, harm reduction, has been more difficult to implement in the school context because of issues of illegality and community sensitivity.

The final report for this project, which reviewed the literature on drug education and comprehensively audited actual drug education practice in Australia, was submitted in July 2002. DEST has yet to release this report. A journal article is currently being prepared.

Evaluation of a school leavers intervention 2001

Chief Investigator: R Midford
Co-investigator: F Farrington
Project staff: N A Young, Ms S Midford and J Tannenbaum

Project Status: Completed in 2003

This project is the third in a series of evaluations of how Western Australian holiday communities manage the annual school leavers celebrations. In 2001 evaluations were conducted of locally managed leaver celebrations on Rottnest Island and at Margaret River.

The particular issue being investigated this year was local sustainability. In the case of Rottnest, the local community had taken total management control of celebrations, where in the previous year considerable external support had been provided. In the case of Margaret River, the community had developed its own management strategy with external advice, but minimal resource support.

The evaluations gathered data from the respective communities and from the visiting leavers with the

aim of identifying those elements that were critical to successful local management of this event.

These evaluations have been completed and reports presented to the funding organisation, the School Drug Education project (SDEP). One journal article has been submitted for publication and another article is being prepared.

Review of the principles for drug education in schools

Chief Investigator: R Midford
Co-investigators: N McBride, G Munro and P Snow
Project staff: U Ladzinski

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

Collaborating Centre: The Centre for Youth Drug Studies (CYDS) at the Australian Drug Foundation (ADF).

This project has been undertaken in response to a Australian Government tender to review the 1994 "Principles for Drug Education in Schools". This seminal document was developed in the early 1990s as a collaborative initiative of the States, Territories and Australian Government, within the broader framework of the School Development in Health Education (SDHE) project. Since publication of the "Principles Document" it has been used by a number of state education jurisdictions to guide drug education policy and practice and is widely accepted around Australia as a succinct and authoritative summary of best practice in school based drug education.

An updated "Principles Document" and accompanying video, based on the research findings from this project, are currently being prepared by the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST).

School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)

Chief Investigators: N McBride and R Midford
Project staff: F Farrington

Project Status: Completed in 2003

The School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP study) was a longitudinal intervention research study that uses evidence-based, classroom alcohol education lessons to reduce alcohol-related harm in young people. The critical evidence-based features of the SHAHRP intervention were drawn from a range of health and drug education program and research literature, and in particular, published evaluation studies and research that demonstrated some potential for behaviour change in the target population.

The SHAHRP study was a harm minimisation study. It combined 13 harm minimisation classroom lessons, over a two year period, with longitudinal measures of alcohol-related harm to assess change in the study students alcohol-related experiences. The SHAHRP lessons assisted students by enhancing their ability to identify and use strategies that would reduce the potential for harm in drinking situations and that would assist in reducing the impact of harm once it has occurred.

Over the period of the study (from baseline to final follow-up three years later), students who participated in the SHAHRP program had a 10% greater alcohol-related knowledge, consumed 20% less alcohol, experienced 33% less harm associated with their own use of alcohol and 10% less harm associated with other peoples use of alcohol than did the control group.

These findings are important given that school based drug education is often criticised for not impacting on young peoples behaviour. In addition, the behavioural effect was maintained and/or increased up to one year after the final phase of the program. This suggests a latency effect of the program rather than a decaying of effect over time.

These results indicate that a relatively brief classroom alcohol intervention, that has a basis in evidence, can produce change in young peoples alcohol-related behaviours, particularly the harm associated with their own use of alcohol. Some of the key evidence based components seem to be: ensuring that lesson content and scenarios are based on the experiences of young people; testing the intervention prior to implementation; offering booster sessions in subsequent years; providing interactive activities; providing teacher training; and adopting a harm minimisation approach in both the intervention and in the measures of change.

A final report, for this project has been sent to the funding body. Publication writing and conference presentation will be ongoing for some time.

6 The development and evaluation of more effective community drug education and prevention programs

COMPARI revisited

Chief Investigator: R Midford

Project staff: K Wayne

Project Status: Completed in 2003

This small project involved identifying the long term benefits of a previous community mobilisation intervention designed to reduce alcohol harm. The previous project, Community Mobilisation for the Prevention of Alcohol-related Injury (COMPARI) operated as a research driven demonstration intervention in the Western Australian regional city of Geraldton from 1992 to 1995.

On completion of the National Drug Research Institute managed demonstration phase, the project was taken over at the local level and evolved into the region's sole alcohol and drug service provider. This long term follow up has been conducted in collaboration with the Combined University's Centre for Rural Health (CUCRH) and sought to identify the legacy of COMPARI, in particular the factors involved in the institutionalisation of the project as the local alcohol and drug service provider.

The community impact of licensing restrictions in Port Hedland

Chief Investigator: R Midford

Co-investigator: D Playford

Project Staff: D Young

Project Status: Continuing in 2004



Deidra Young and Richard Midford

This project seeks to evaluate the community impact of Liquor Licensing Restrictions in Port Hedland. A traditional experimental design has been employed, with pre and post intervention community data collection in the affected community, Port Hedland and a matched control community, Shire of Roebourne.

The pre intervention community survey and key stakeholder interviews were conducted in Nov/Dec 2003.

Carnarvon Health And Men Project (CHAMP) - Second Phase

Co-investigator: R Midford

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This community based project addresses the issues related to men's health identified by the Australian Government in 1999 (Connell et al) including alcohol abuse and suicide among men in the Gascoyne region, WA. NDRI is providing evaluation support.

Carnarvon partysafe project

Chief Investigators: R Midford and K Boots

Project staff: M Cooper and J Jaeger

Project Status: Completed in 2003

Partysafe was a community mobilisation project, conducted in the remote Northwest town of Carnarvon in Western Australia over a period of 18 months. The initial goal was to reduce alcohol-related harm associated with drinking in private settings. However, subsequent to the pre-intervention community survey, greater emphasis was placed on influencing males in the age range 25-45 years, because of the high risk drinking behaviour identified in this group.

The intervention comprised a number of components: local media advertising and advocacy; participation in high profile community collaborative campaigns; and use of a peer character cartoon strip to highlight alcohol issues and model behaviour change. On completion of the intervention phase, process and impact data were gathered from a number of community sources.

The major impact of the Partysafe project was heightened awareness of alcohol issues in the community. The project also contributed in a major way to institutionalising a collaborative Christmas

alcohol harm prevention campaign. Use of local media content was particularly effective in raising community awareness as to the project's message and garnering support for its aims

Evaluation of the National Illicit Drug Strategy Community Partnerships Initiative

Chief Investigator: W Loxley
Co-investigators: D Gray, R Midford and
T R Stockwell
Project staff: A Bolleter

Project Status: Completed in 2003

This project was an evaluation of the Community Partnerships Initiative (CPI) which was initiated by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

The purpose of the CPI was to contribute to the prevention and reduction of illicit substance use among young people by funding community-based projects. The evaluation included a literature review, finalisation of a comprehensive evaluation strategy, identification of Key Informants and the recruitment of a national Advisory Group. Process and impact evaluations of the stages of the CPI were undertaken by reviewing available documentation and interviewing Key Informants.

Project outcomes were primarily visible at a local level, and project staff and local informants were asked to assist in the identification of appropriate indicators against which the success of projects can be assessed. The success of the CPI as a whole was assessed by interviewing Key Informants at both the beginning and end of the evaluation period to establish whether perceptions of the value of the CPI changed.

The final report for this project is available through the Commonwealth's Community Partnerships Initiative web site.

7 Identifying fundamental, strategic and developmental research questions in the area of prevention of harmful drug use

Development of a prevention monograph and companion document to inform the evidence base of the National Drug Strategy Prevention Agenda

Chief Investigator: W Loxley
 Co-investigators: T R Stockwell, D Gray, R Midford and S Lenton
 Project staff: B Haines and K Scott
 Project Status: Continuing in 2004

NDRI, in collaboration with the Centre for Adolescent Health, was selected by the Australian Department of Health and Ageing to contribute to the development of a comprehensive Prevention Agenda for the National Drug Strategic Framework. This project involved the preparation of a major literature review to inform the evidence base of the National Drug Strategy Prevention Agenda. The review, known as the Prevention Monograph, identified: the full spectrum of prevention intervention measures and evaluated Australian approaches to the prevention of drug supply, use and harm; reviewed current application of prevention policy and strategy in Australia; gaps in prevention knowledge and effort; and recommended future prevention activity.

The review was informed by experts around Australia with a wide range of understandings of addiction, developmental issues, health across the life span, social policy, at risk populations, crime and law enforcement. The manuscript will be published by the Australian Department of Health and Ageing in early 2004.



Wendy Loxley

Do some drug users have less to live for? Examining the role of perceived life wealth in the extent to which young adults' drug use controlled or excessive

Chief Investigator: A Dale
 Supervisor: W Loxley
 Project Status: Continuing in 2004

While there is a burgeoning literature providing explanations of why individuals use drugs, there is a paucity of literature which accounts for the differences between controlled and excessive drug use. Indeed, much of the aetiological literature to date has reflected the societal notion that drug use belongs to the deviant, the homeless and the deranged. However, research indicates that the majority of Australians drink alcohol, a substantial minority experiment with marijuana and a smaller minority with other illicit drugs; but that drug use results in significant problems for only a small minority of these individuals. Despite this, the literature has failed to provide a theoretical understanding of the possible mechanisms that guide an individual's path towards controlled or excessive drug use.

There remains a missing link accounting for why drug use for some individuals remains largely controlled and non-problematic, whereas for others, it becomes a quagmire of difficulties and problems. The aim of the current research is to investigate the mechanisms underpinning different drug using patterns (controlled or excessive).

The relationship between non-fatal overdose of pharmaceutical medications, suicidality and depression

Chief Investigator: P Heale
 Supervisor: W Loxley
 Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This exploratory study focuses on both pharmaceutical and over-the-counter medication overdose. People who attend the emergency department of St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne in relation to such an overdose are invited to participate in a single interview about their experience. The interview covers a range of domains including demographic information, physical and mental health, the current overdose event, previous overdose

experiences, severity of suicidal ideation, depressive symptomatology, personal and family history of suicide attempts, pathways through the health care system (eg. prescribing of medications, experience of the emergency department, other help seeking attempts), recent life stress, alcohol and other drug use, and social support. The study aims to examine the relationship between depression, suicidal ideation and the overdose event at an individual level, as well as the broader context in which the overdose occurred.

Does moderate drinking prevent heart disease? A meta-analysis

Chief Investigators: T R Stockwell, T Chikritzhs and K Fillmore

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This project comprises, a meta-analysis of the published international research on the issue of drinking patterns and heart disease, and the application of these findings to the making of new estimates of alcohol's contribution to premature death in Australia.

The status of alcohol as a possible benefit to health, as well as contributor to harm, has major implications for prevention and public education about alcohol. The proposed research is a collaboration between NDRI, and the Department of Social and Behavioural Science, University of California. The project has the support of the Mental Health and Substance Dependence Department of the World Health Organization and several eminent international researchers who will serve as unpaid consultants.

Towards the end of the project WHO have undertaken to hold an international symposium to reassess the purported health benefits associated with moderate drinking and to disseminate the findings.

Early Risk factors for alcohol, tobacco and cannabis use, risk and harm—Australian Temperament Project

Chief Investigators: N McBride and T R Stockwell

Project Status: Completed in 2003

The Australian Temperament Study is a major longitudinal study following a cohort of Australians from birth to (so far) early adulthood. Measures of own and parents' alcohol, tobacco and other drug use have been taken in age appropriate ways throughout.

This collaborative project will seek to examine early risk factors for later drug use, risky use and actual harm. To date, such studies have focused on predicting whether

adolescents will use drugs rather than whether they will engage in risky levels of use. One focus will be to see whether the Prevention paradox applies to these data: will most use, risky use and harm be concentrated in a high risk group of (broadly) disadvantaged children or in the wider population of mostly low risk, well-adjusted children?

International research symposium. Preventing substance use, risky use and harm: What is evidence-based policy?

Project staff: T R Stockwell

Project Status: Completed in 2003

In partnership with:

The Centre for Adolescent Health (University of Melbourne)

The National Centre for Education and Training in Addiction (Flinders University)

The National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (University of New South Wales)

The Alcohol and Public Health Research Centre (Auckland, New Zealand)

Prevention Research Center, Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (Berkeley, California)

In February, NDRI hosted a Thematic Meeting of the Kettil Bruun Society, "Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?" The meeting was sponsored by the World Health Organization, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and the WA Drug and Alcohol Office. It was also supported by five other research centres variously from New Zealand, Australia and the USA. The 125 delegates included a selection of leading academics, prevention specialists and policy makers. The fields of injury prevention, mental health, child development, crime prevention, community action, the law, policing, education, health economics as well as drug policy and prevention were all represented.

Over 70 papers were presented and individually discussed over four days. The first day began with some context setting with the first Australian presentations of the new WHO estimates of the Global Burden of Disease for the year 2000 and the new economic cost estimates for drug "abuse" in Australia. Both of these major quantification studies indicate that health costs and associated disabilities are overwhelmingly contributed by tobacco and alcohol rather than by illegal drugs. In this respect, the major harms to be prevented are caused principally by the acute effects of heavy sessional alcohol intake and the chronic effects of long-term tobacco dependence. The extent of contributions from both macro social determinants (eg economic and social deprivation) and developmental

risk and protection factors to these risk behaviours were then considered.

The evidence basis underpinning a wide variety of intervention strategies was carefully considered over the next two days. Significant evaluations of specific strategies such as needle exchanges, school-based programs, community-based interventions, regulatory strategies and brief interventions in primary care settings were presented.

A major feature of the meeting was the presentation of several recent systematic reviews which attempted to summarise and distil what can be learned from the thousands of published studies that have appeared in the past decade and before. NDRI and the Centre for Adolescent Health at the University of Melbourne have collaborated on a major review known as the “Prevention Monograph” to be launched by the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy in 2004. This substantial piece of work will be informed by the proceedings of this meeting, particularly as some sections of the review were presented and critiqued there. NDRI also launched, during the conference, an earlier “selected” review of what works in prevention that was commissioned by the World Health Organization.

Harm minimisation as a component of prevention was discussed not only in relation to minimising the well-known harms associated with injecting drug use, but also in relation to reducing the social harms associated with applying criminal sanctions to the use of some drugs and also to the regulation of alcohol and tobacco. A major highlight acknowledged by many delegates was a presentation from the VicHealth Centre for Tobacco Control regarding a radical proposal to place the production, marketing and sale of tobacco products under government control with the sole objective of minimising the massive health problems caused by smoking. In relation to alcohol regulation, there were also powerful examples provided of the largely untapped potential within liquor licensing laws to reduce alcohol-related harm, now the major objective of such laws in nearly all Australian states and territories.

Repeat drink-drivers study

Chief Investigators: S Lenton and R Cercarelli
Project staff: J Fetherston

Project Status: Completed in 2003

The purpose of this study was to identify the characteristics of drivers with repeat drink-driving charges in order to determine the best mix of countermeasures aimed at reducing drink-driving in this group of high risk offenders. The study involved three components: a review of the international literature; an analysis of data on repeat drink-drivers in Western

Australia; and an in-depth interview study of 40 repeat drink drivers. Repeat drink-drivers were defined as those with two or more drink driving charges.

The report made a number of specific recommendations for improving responses for repeat drink-drivers. It suggested that as much as possible, ways should be sought to keep offenders within the system that consists of formal laws and informal social controls, rather than apply penalties in ways that undermine adherence to the law and reinforce further drink-driving.

The project report was launched in January 2003 and a working party, including NDRI staff, was established by the Road Safety Council to assist government to address its recommendations.

WHO international comparative study of emergency room data on alcohol and injury

Chief Investigator: C Cherpitel
Co-investigators: T R Stockwell, S MacDonald,
N Geisbrecht and G Borges
Project Staff: D J Young

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

Collaborating Organisations: ARG, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, WHO.

This project has been funded by the US National Institute for Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse for a period of three years. Several countries have generated high standard data on the alcohol consumption of emergency room patients including the US, Australia, Canada, Spain, Mexico, Argentina and Poland. The aim of the project is to perform comparative analyses of relationships between demographic factors, consumption patterns and types of injury outcomes across these different cultural contexts.

Western Australian data has been provided to the project analyst and an analysis of the pooled data is underway. Two papers were presented at the annual Kettil Bruun Society symposium in Prague by collaborators in June, and seven others have been submitted for publication.

8 Investigating the influence of structural determinants and the social contexts of drug use on the implementation of strategies designed to reduce and prevent harmful drug use

An ethnographic study of heroin markets and health-related harm in Melbourne

Chief Investigator: D Moore
Co-investigators: G Rumbold and P Dietze

Project Status: Completed in 2003

The use of heroin is associated with several health-related problems, the most serious of which is overdose. However, there is little qualitative data on heroin-related health problems. In order to rectify this absence, this ethnographic project aimed to investigate the social, cultural and economic factors shaping heroin use and heroin-related harm in the St Kilda area of Melbourne.

This research provides greater knowledge of the factors contributing to heroin-related health problems, in general, and overdose, in particular, through an increased understanding of the relationship between the characteristics of heroin markets and the purchasing decisions and consumption patterns of heroin users. Such knowledge is essential to the formulation of appropriate health policies and interventions concerning heroin use.

An investigation of retail heroin markets from a public health perspective

Chief Investigators: G Rumbold, J Fitzgerald, P Dietze, K Morgan, D Moore and C Fry

Project Status: Completed in 2003

This research project employed a multi-site, multi-method approach to understanding retail heroin markets from a public health perspective. Key topics of investigation included: a comparison of the characteristics of street heroin markets in 6 areas of Melbourne; an examination of the dynamics of these markets and their relationship to health outcomes; and identification of the relationships between market characteristics, consumer behaviour and health outcomes.

This research provides an improved understanding of the public health implications of retail heroin markets through examination of the dynamic interaction of the various processes that constitute these markets. It will lead to recommendations for the management/regulation of heroin-related health problems.

Injecting drug users: Social networks and molecular epidemiology of Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)

Chief Investigators: N Crofts, D Moore and S Locarnini

Project Status: Completed in 2003

HCV infection is a major public health problem in Australia, with an estimated 11,000 new infections per year occurring predominantly (>95%) among IDUs. The basic epidemiology of HCV among IDUs in Australia is well understood, but despite many findings being common across groups, rates of HCV transmission vary widely in different groups of IDUs. Individual behavioural risk does not explain these differences, and it may be that the explanation lies with the nature of IDU social networks.

This research employs complementary social research/ethnographic and molecular epidemiological approaches to characterise fully the determinants of HCV transmission among IDUs. This improved knowledge of social network dynamics and their influence, and contact between risk networks, will be immensely valuable in combating HCV transmission.



David Moore

Social, cultural and economic processes in illicit drug markets and their public health consequences

Chief Investigator: R Dwyer

Co-investigator: D Moore

Project Status: Continuing in 2004

This research focuses on street-level illicit drug use amongst Vietnamese Australians and the implications for public health. It aims to develop an in-depth understanding of the social, cultural and economic processes of illicit drug markets and their relationships to drug-related harm.

Key topics for investigation include: drug market participants' perceptions of risk and how these are socially and culturally constructed; the relationship between risk perceptions, trust and drug-related harms (eg. overdose, transmission of blood-borne viruses); the relationships between illicit drug markets, social and economic marginalisation and drug-related harm; and the interactions between Vietnamese street-level drug users and other sub-populations of illicit drug users (eg. those of Anglo-Celtic descent).

Activities Supporting Key Result Areas

Collaborations

Collaborating Centres

NDRI enjoyed formal Collaborating Centre status with the following organisations during 2003:

- Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council, South Australia
- Australian Institute of Criminology, Australian Capital Territory
- Centre for Youth Drug Studies at the Australian Drug Foundation, Victoria
- Drug and Alcohol Services Council of South Australia
- New South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
- National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction, South Australia
- National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, New South Wales
- Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre Inc., Victoria

Collaborative Links

Each year NDRI maintains and establishes collaborative links with a number of community bodies relevant to its activities. In 2003 they included:

Within Curtin University of Technology:

School of Psychology
School of Public Health

Local Bodies:

Alcohol Advisory Council of Western Australia
Crime Research Centre, University of Western Australia
Combined Universities Centre for Rural Health
Cyrenian House
Drug and Alcohol Office of Western Australia
Health Department of Western Australia
Hepatitis Council of Western Australia (Inc)
Injury Control Council of Western Australia
Injury Research Centre, University of Western Australia
Liquor Licensing Division, Office of Racing, Gaming and Liquor
Noongar Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services

Palmerston Drug Research and Rehabilitation Association
Road Safety Council of Western Australia
School Drug Education Project
Sellinger Centre, Edith Cowan University
Western Australian AIDS Council
Western Australian Police Service
Western Australian Substance Users Association

National and Interstate Bodies:

Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council of South Australia
Alcohol and Drug Council of Australia
Australian Drug Foundation
Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations
Australian Hepatitis Council
Australian Intravenous League
Australian National Council on HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis and Related Diseases
Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs
Australian Psychological Society
Australasian Society for HIV Medicine
Centre for Adolescent Health, University of Melbourne
Juilalikarri Council Aboriginal Corporation
Menzies School of Health Research
National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction
National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health
National Centre for HIV Social Research
National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre
New South Wales Department of Education and Training
Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Department of Health and Aged Care
Tangentyere Council Aboriginal Corporation
Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre

International Bodies:

Center for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto
Centre for Research on Drugs and Health Behaviour, London
Department of Social and Behavioural Science, University of California, San Francisco
Instituto Macional de Psiquatria and Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana, Mexico
National Addiction Centre, London
National Alcohol Research Centre, Berkeley, USA
National Institute for Alcohol and Drug Research, Oslo
Prevention Research Centre, Berkeley, California
Public Health Institute, Berkeley, California
Society for the Study of Addiction, London
World Health Organization, Geneva

Graduate Students

Alcohol and grief among Aboriginal people in Central Australia

NDRI Scholarship:
 Degree: Doctoral
 Student: Jane Ulrik
 Supervisor: Gray, D.
 Status: Continuing
 Date Commenced: 2000

An investigation of the effect of legislative and policy initiatives upon alcohol-related violence and driving offences

Degree: Doctoral
 Student: Tanya Chikritzhs
 Supervisor: Stockwell, T.R.
 Status: Continuing
 Date Commenced: 1996

Criminal penalties for minor cannabis offences

Degree: Doctoral
 Student: Simon Lenton
 Supervisor: Stockwell, T.R.
 Status: Completed 2003
 Date Commenced: 1998

Relationship between non-fatal heroin overdose, suicidality and depression

NDRI Scholarship:
 Degree: Doctoral
 Student: Penny Heale
 Supervisor: Loxley, W.
 Status: Continuing
 Date Commenced: 2000

Do some drug users have less to live for? Examining the role of life wealth in the extent to which young adults drug use is controlled or excessive

Degree: Doctoral
 Student: Ali Dale
 Supervisor: Loxley, W.
 Co-supervisor: Smith, L.
 Status: Continuing
 Date Commenced: 1997

Preventing alcohol-related violence in licensed premises

Degree: Doctoral
 Student: Ben Haines
 Supervisor: Stockwell, T.
 Co-supervisor: Graham, K.
 Status: Continuing
 Date Commenced: 2003

Reviews of Manuscripts and Grant Applications

Staff members in the Institute reviewed manuscripts for the following journals:

Addiction
 Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health
 Contemporary Drug Problems
 Drug and Alcohol Review
 Drugs Education, Prevention and Policy
 Health Promotion Journal of Australia
 Human Organisation
 International Journal of Drug Policy
 Of Substance The National Magazine on Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs
 The Medical Journal of Australia

Staff members in the Institute assessed grant proposals for the following organisations:

Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation
 Alcohol Education and Research Committee
 Curtin University Human Research Ethics Committee
 Health Research Council of New Zealand
 National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF)
 National Health and Medical Research Council
 Victorian Health Promotion Foundation

Prizes and Awards

- 2002 Research Group of the Year Award, Division of Health Sciences, Curtin University of Technology

Visitors to the Institute

32 staff and students of the faculty of Public Health, Mahidol University, Thailand including

- . Assoc Prof Paradee Temchareon
- . Assist Prof Chaiwat Wong-Asa
- . Assist Prof Surintorn Kalampakorn
- . Lecturer Pimsurang Techaboonsersak
- . Lecturer Kraisit Narukhatpichai
- . Lecturer Jongkol Podaeng
- . Lecturer Kraichat Tantrakarnapa

Mr Derek Hand
 Adviser to Daryl Melham MP, Federal Shadow Minister for Justice and Customs

Dr Perilou Goddard
 Professor, Department of Psychology, Northern Kentucky University, USA

Dr Catherine Spooner
National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University
of New South Wales

Ms Pamodinee Wijayanayake
Executive Director, Alcohol and Drug Information
Centre, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Ms Leanne Riley
World Health Organization, Switzerland

Professor Sally Casswell
Director, Centre for Social and Health Outcomes
Research and Evaluation (SHORE), Massey University,
New Zealand

Ms Nina Rehn
Management of Substance Dependence, World Health
Organization, Switzerland

Dr Martha Romero
National Institute of Psychiatry, Mexico

Dr Charles Parry
Director, Alcohol and Drug Research Group, Medical
Research Council, South Africa

Professor Robin Room
Director, SORAD, Stockholm University, Sweden

Mr Peter Davidson, University of California, San
Francisco, USA

Professor Ann Roche
National Centre for Education & Training on Addiction
(NCETA)

Kormain Noor
DOSH, Malaysia

Annah Pickering
NZPC, New Zealand

Media Liaison

Throughout 2003, the National Drug Research Institute continued to project itself as a source of reliable scientific information on a range of issues concerned with the prevention of alcohol and drug-related harm. The Institute sought to ensure that this information was balanced and based on research evidence, in order to encourage accurate reporting.

Media launches in 2003

26/02/03
A selected review of what works in the area of prevention of psychoactive drug use.

17/11/03
Australian alcohol indicators, 1990-2001, patterns of alcohol use and related harms in Australian states and territories.

Media releases in 2003

20/02/03
World leading alcohol and drug experts head to Fremantle

25/02/03
Regular strength beer and spirits account for bulk of risky drinking by young people

24/02/03
Most benefits from school-based anti-drug efforts come from cuts in tobacco and alcohol use, not illicit drugs

25/02/03
Tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs responsible for seven million preventable deaths worldwide

26/02/03
New report identifies best ways to prevent drug problems

28/02/03
New research reveals the key to successfully teaching kids about drugs

15/05/03
Proposed WA cannabis scheme bears no resemblance to 'Lambeth Experiment'

20/08/03
Cap on cannabis notices misguided

25/09/03
Spread of hepatitis C can only be reduced by engaging injecting drug users, say researchers

17/11/03
High cost to community from misuse of alcohol and amphetamines
(Government media release)

04/12/03
University institute receives \$8.5 million for drug & alcohol prevention research
(Curtin University of Technology media release)

Media coverage in 2003

During 2003, approximately 238 media items were recorded. The Institute's research findings and comments on issues were covered in major national, regional and local news media.

Breakdown of media coverage:

- 57 stories in the print media, including: the West Australian (14), the Sydney Morning Herald (13), the Alice Springs News (5), the Australian (4) and the Age (1).
- 141 interviews for radio news and current affairs programs, broken down as follows: International (1), National (5), Western Australia (55), New South Wales (37), Victoria (18), Queensland (13), Australian Capital Territory (5), Northern Territory (4), Tasmania (2) and South Australia (1).
- 40 television interviews, broken down as follows: International (1), National (6), Western Australia (26), Queensland (6), South Australia (1).

Main topics receiving media coverage included:

Alcohol consumption and young people
Alcohol use and related harms
Cannabis law reform
Drinking and driving
Drug and alcohol education
Hepatitis C prevention
Liquor licensing
Psychoactive substance use prevention

The development and maintenance of relationships with target media during 2003 continued to enhance the role of the National Drug Research Institute as an active participant in debate about, and development of, alcohol and other drug policy in Australia.

Organisational Structure and Funding

Board of Management

The role of the Board of Management is to assist the Director in the management of the Institute and to facilitate access to relevant government and other institutions. The Director reports to the Board of Management on a regular basis while day to day reporting is effected through the Executive Dean, Health Sciences, who chairs the Board of Management.

The Institute signed a funding agreement with the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing in mid 2003 giving the Institute five years of funding. The Board of Management comprises nominated representatives of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, the Drug and Alcohol Services Council in South Australia, the Health Department of Western Australia, the Western Australian Police Service, Curtin University of Technology and representatives of community based organisations.

During 2003 there were changes to the membership of the NDRI Board of Management. Dr Denzil McCotter was replaced by Associate Professor Steve Allsop and Mr John Griffiths, who retired, was replaced by Mr Max Montisci.

Membership of the NDRI Board of Management in 2003



Professor Charles Watson (Chairman)
Executive Dean, Division of Health Sciences
Curtin University of Technology



Mr Mel Hay
Assistant Commissioner, Crime Support,
Western Australian Police Service



Ms Jenny Hefford
Assistant Secretary, Drug Strategy Branch
Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing



Dr Denzil McCotter (To November 2003)
Executive Director,
Drug and Alcohol Office of Western Australia



Associate Professor Steve Allsop (From Nov 2003)
Acting Executive Director
Drug and Alcohol Office of Western Australia



Ms Pam McKenna
Director
Palmerston Drug Research and Rehabilitation Association



Mr Graham Strathearn
Chief Executive Officer
Drug and Alcohol Services Council of South Australia



Mr Scott Wilson (Retired Dec 2003)
State Coordinator,
Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (SA) Inc



Mr John Griffith (To July 2003)
Director, Financial Services
Curtin University of Technology



Mr Max Montisci (From July 2003)
Acting General Manager
Financial and Commercial Services
Curtin University of Technology



Professor Tim Stockwell
Director, National Drug Research Institute
Curtin University of Technology



Professor Michael Clinton
Head, School of Public Health
Curtin University of Technology

The Executive Committee, which is a sub-committee of the Board of Management, comprises Professor Charles Watson; Professor Tim Stockwell; Mr John Griffiths, who was replaced by Mr Max Montisci mid-year; and the NDRI Deputy Director, as an observer and who is responsible for assisting the Director in the day-to-day management of the Institute.

The Institute's staff have been organised into 'teams' with each team having responsibility for a particular area. Each team has a designated 'team leader' responsible for the day to day management of its activities and adherence to its timelines. 'Team leaders' meet once a fortnight to discuss research issues, progress on the Institute's strategic plan, and other issues that impact on the Institute's business. In 2003 the team leaders were Professor Tim Stockwell, Associate Professor Dennis Gray, Associate Professor Wendy Loxley, Dr Richard Midford, Mr Simon Lenton and Ms Fran Davis.

Staff

The Institute is staffed by a variety of social and behavioural scientists, a business manager, media liaison officer, computer systems officer, resource officer, secretary and clerical personnel. The Institute also employs research assistants and contracts casual research staff as projects demand. Staff members are involved in the supervision of masters and doctoral research students and there are several full-time PhD students at the Institute. There are several honorary and adjunct research staff. At December 2003, Institute staff numbered 41, including honorary and adjunct staff.

List of Staff during 2003

Research Staff

Professor Timothy Stockwell MA (OXON) MSc PhD
Director
Research Interests: Alcohol and other drug prevention policies • Indices of drug-related harm • Drinking locations and server responsibility • Liquor licensing • Drug overdose • Risk factors for adolescent drug use

Dennis Gray BA MA MPH PhD
Associate Professor and Deputy Director
Research Interests: Alcohol and other drug use among Aboriginal people • Aboriginal health

Wendy Loxley CertTchg BA(Hons) MPsych PhD
Associate Professor
Research Interests: Illicit drug use with particular reference to young people • HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne viruses and injecting drug use • Drug use and crime • Prevention of harmful drug use

Simon Lenton BPsych MPsych (Clin) PhD
Senior Research Fellow
Research Interests: Heroin overdose • Illicit drug use and harm reduction • HIV/AIDS and other blood borne viruses and injecting drug use • Impact of legislative options for cannabis • Drink and drug driving

Richard Midford BA BPsych MPsychl PhD
Senior Research Fellow
Research Interests: Community based prevention of alcohol and other drug-related harm • Workplace alcohol and other drug-related harm • School based alcohol and other drug education



NDRI Staff 2003

David Moore BA (Hons) MA PhD
Senior Research Fellow
Research Interests: Youth and drugs • street drug markets • recreational drug use • ethno-epidemiology • drug service provision

Paul Catalano BSc(Hon) MA MCrimJus
Research Fellow
Research Interests: Alcohol-related harm

Susan Carruthers BAppSci GradDipDiet MPH PhD
Research Fellow
Research Interests: Hepatitis C, HIV/AIDS and other blood borne viruses and injecting drug use

Tanya Chikritzhs BA(Hons) GradDipEpiBiostats (enrolled PhD)
Research Fellow
Research Interests: Alcohol policy and legislation • Alcohol-related crime • Liquor licensing • Licensed drinking environments

Ed Garrison BA (Anthropology) MEd
Research Fellow
Research Interests: Indigenous substance use • Indigenous health

Nyanda McBride DipTeach BEd PGD MPH PhD
Research Fellow
Research Interests: School health and drug programs • Adolescent drug use

Deidra Young BSc GradDipScEd MAppSc PhD
Research Fellow
Research Interests: Alcohol research

Francoise Chanteloup BA MA PhD
Research Associate
Research Interests: Cannabis law reform
Funded by: NDLERF

Tuguy Esgin BHSc BSc MHSc
Research Associate
Research Interests: Indigenous community health
Funded by: AERF

Dennis Kickett BA (Finished May 2003)
Research Associate
Research Interests: Indigenous issues

Hanh Ngo BSc (Hons) (Finished Feb 2003)
Research Associate

Brooke Sputore BHlthProm MPH
Research Associate
Research Interests: Aboriginal alcohol and other drug use, particularly among young people
• Evaluation of Aboriginal alcohol and other drug interventions

Anna Stearne BA GradDipEd
Research Associate
Research Interests: Alcohol and other drug-related issues among Indigenous Australians

James Fetherston BPsych Post Grad Dip ADAS
Research Associate (PT)
Research Interests: Repeat drink drivers • illicit drug trends • impact of legislative options for cannabis
Funded by: NDLERF

Fiona Farrington DipTeach BEd MEd
Project Officer (PT)
Research Interests: School based alcohol and other drug education
Funded by: AERF

Phillipa Stempel Grad Dip CCS
Research Officer
Research Interests: Alcohol and other drug-related issues among Indigenous Australians
Funded by: AGDHA

Monica Barratt BSc (Psych)
Research Assistant (PT)
Research Interests: Impact of legislative options for cannabis • illicit drug use and harm reduction • illicit drug trends
Funded by: NDLERF

Administrative Staff

Fran Davis GradDipBus
Business Manager

Rachael Lobo BSc (Hons)
Media Liaison Officer

Paul Jones BSc
Computer Systems Officer

Matthew Webb BA (Psych)
Resource Officer
Funded by: Research Performance Index, Curtin University of Technology

Susan Wilson
Secretary

Linda Matthews
Administrative Assistant
Funded by: Research Performance Index, Curtin University of Technology and Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Philippa Greaves
Clerical Officer
Funded by: RPI

Honorary Professorial Fellows

Emeritus Professor David Hawks BA(Hons) DPsych
MSc(Econ)PhD FBPsS CPsychol
E. Prof of Addictions, Curtin University of
Technology

Professor Colin Binns MBBS MPH
Professor of Public Health, Curtin University of
Technology

Adjunct Appointments

Professor Kathryn Graham BA MA PhD
Senior Scientist and Director, Social Factors and
Prevention Initiatives
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

Professor Eric Single BA PhD
Professor of Public Health Sciences and Sociology
University of Toronto, Canada

Dr Sherry Sagers BA MA PhD
Associate Professor
Head, School of Social and Cultural Studies, Edith
Cowan University

Dr Richard Fordham BA(Hons) MA PhD
Senior Research Fellow
Senior Research Associate & Director, NHS
Economics Support Programme, University of East
Anglia, England

Dr Toni Makkai BA MA PhD
Senior Research Fellow
Senior Research Analyst, Institute of Criminology,
ACT

Mr Kevin Boots BA MA
Research Fellow
Acting General Manager, Murchison Health
Service

Mr Neil Donnelly BSc MPH
Research Fellow
NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Honorary Staff

Dr Peter d Abbs BAMA PhD
Senior Research Fellow
Menziess School of Health, Darwin, Northern
Territory.

Mr Mike Phillips BSci(Hons) M Med Sci
Senior Research Fellow
Head, Dept. of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Senior Lecturer, School of Public Health, Curtin
University of Technology.

Dr Helen Jonas BSc MSc PhD
Senior Research Fellow
Senior Lecturer, La Trobe University, Victoria.

External Contributions of Staff

Susan Carruthers

Memberships:

- . Australian National Council on HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis and Related Diseases
- . National Hepatitis C Testing Policy Steering Committee
- . WA Viral Hepatitis Committee

Other:

- . Chairperson of Hepatitis Council of WA

Tanya Chikritzhs

Membership:

- . Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs

Fiona Farrington

Consultancies:

- . Centre for Health Promotion Research, Curtin University of Technology

Membership:

- . Australian Association for Research in Education

James Fetherston

Membership:

- . Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs
- . WA Substance Users Association

Dennis Gray

Consultancies:

- . Tangentyere Council

Memberships:

- . Australasian Epidemiological Association
- . Fellow of the Australian Anthropological Society
- . Public Health Association of Australia

Simon Lenton

Membership:

- . Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs
- . Australian Psychological Society
- . Hepatitis Council of Western Australia
- . International Harm Reduction Association
- . Ministerial Working Party on Drug Law Reform
- . WA Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies
- . WA Task Force on Drink, Drugs and Driving

Editorial:

- . Deputy Editor of the Drug and Alcohol Review

Wendy Loxley

Memberships:

- . Alcohol and Other Drugs Council
- . Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs
- . International Harm Reduction Association
- . National Hep C Resource Network, The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (Invited member)
- . WA Substance Users Association
- . Research Reference Group - ADCA
- . Scientific Advisory Committee, National Centres for HIV Social Research
- . WA Naltrexone Treatment Trust

Editorial:

- . Assistant Editor *Addiction*
- . Member of the International Editorial Board of AIDS Care

Nyanda McBride

Consultancies:

- . Centre for Health Promotion Research, Curtin University of Technology
- . Alcohol Concern, United Kingdom
- . Addiction Research Unit, Institute of Psychiatry, London, UK
- . NZ Ministry of Youth Development

Memberships:

- . Australian Association of Health Promotion Professionals
- . International Union for Health Promotion and Education
- . Public Health Association of Australia
- . Marijuana Education Project, Centre for Health Promotion Research, Management committee member

Richard Midford

Consultancies:

- . ADIN Project on evaluation matters
- . NSW Department of Education and Training
- . School Drug Education Project
- . NZ Ministry of Youth Development

Memberships:

- . Australian Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs
- . Injury Control Council of Western Australia, Board Member
- . International Harm Reduction Association
- . Alcohol and Other Drugs Council of Australia Research Committee
- . NSW Department of Education and Training Cannabis Education Project Reference Group
- . School Drug Education Task Force
- . Western Australian Alcohol Advisory Council
- . Healthway Research Sub-Committee

David Moore

Memberships:

- . International Harm Reduction Society
- . Australian Anthropological Society - Fellow

Editorial:

- . International Journal of Drug Policy

Tim Stockwell

Consultancies:

- . Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley

Memberships:

- . Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation
- . Australian Alcohol Guidelines: Campaign Reference Group
- . Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs
- . Drug and Alcohol Office, WA, Board Member
- . Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research on Alcohol
- . National Expert Advisory Committee on Alcohol
- . National Health and Medical Research Council Assessors Panel
- . Rio Tinto Child Health Partnership Advisory Committee
- . World Health Organization Strategy Advisory Committee on Alcohol

Editorial:

- . Assistant Editor *Addiction*

Other:

- . Treasurer to the Alcohol Advisory Council of WA Inc

Funding

The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing provided \$1,787,838 to the Institute's core funding for the period January to December 2003. Details of income and expenditure are as follows:

National Drug Research Institute - Core Income and Expenditure 2003		
	2003 \$	Total \$
<u>Income</u>		
AGDHA	1,383,378	
Sundry Research Income	64,620	
Curtin Contribution	88,691	
RPI Income	36,518	
Curtin R&D Contribution	105,000	
Trading Income	2,646	
Interest	4,160	
Surplus BF from Dec 2002	118,171	1,803,185
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Salaries	1,326,649	
Operating Costs	259,832	
Capital Costs	33,671	
PhD Scholarships	39,614	1,659,766
Surplus/(Deficit) at 31 December 2003		\$143,419

List of Acronyms

ADAC	Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council
ANCD	Australian National Council on Drugs
AGDHA	Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
DAO	Drug and Alcohol Office of WA
DEST	Department of Employment, Science and Training
HDWA	Health Department of Western Australia
NDLERF	National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund
SDEP	School Drug Education Project
WHO	World Health Organization

Additional Funding Sources in 2003

National Competitive Grants and Tenders

Project	Funder	Total Grant Approved (\$)	Grant Received in 2003 (\$)	Expenditure in 2003 (\$)
• Evaluation of the National Illicit Drug Strategy Community Partnerships Initiative (CPI)	AGDHA	112,465	12,465	1,625
• Mapping indigenous drug and alcohol programs - phase 2	ANCD	35,608	0	24,884
• Illicit drug reporting system (IDRS)	AGDHA	122,094	45,391	61,058
• Illicit drug reporting system - Party Drugs Initiative	AGDHA	44,694	22,348	44,338
• Prevention monograph	AGDHA	329,604	44,553	51,694
• Evaluation of changes in cannabis law in WA	NDLERF	177,426	12,448	64,381
• Prevention of alcohol-related violence - PhD scholarship	AERF	100,346	30,000	24,153
• SHAHRP dissemination	AERF	293,680	140,000	89,522
• Building Indigenous research workforce capacity	AERF	179,780	61,265	28,626
• Moderate drinking and deaths in Australia	AERF	215,900	147,741	0
		\$1,611,597	\$516,210	\$390,281

State Competitive Grants and Tenders

Project	Funder	Total Grant Approved (\$)	Grant Received in 2003 (\$)	Expenditure in 2003 (\$)
• Drinking after drinking	Road Safety Council	49,269	7,269	9,968
• CHAMP	Healthway	77,653	0	441
• COMPARI revisited	Healthway	4,980	0	8,460
		\$131,902	\$7,269	\$18,869

Other Grants

Project	Funder	Total Grant Approved (\$)	Grant Received in 2003 (\$)	Expenditure in 2003 (\$)
Town profiles of statistical data relating to alcohol-related harm	HDWA	17,750	6,750	6,750
Evaluation of the SDEP In Touch Program	SDEP Hlth Dept.	15,000	7,500	1,735
APSAD Conference 2004	DAO	12,400	12,400	0
Evaluation of Liquor Licensing in Port Hedland	HDWA	45,376	27,273	7,606
Evaluation of the COMGAS scheme	Aboriginal Alcohol & Other Drug Council SA	20,976	20,976	3,031
		\$111,502	\$74,899	\$19,122

Additional Funding Received in 2003

Funding Source	Grant Received (\$)
Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation Inc	379,006
Australian Government Dept of Health and Ageing	124,757
Australian Government Dept of Health and Ageing	12,448
Road Safety Council WA	7,269
Aboriginal Alcohol & Other Drug Council SA	20,976
Drug and Alcohol Office, Health Dept of WA	12,400
School Drug Education Project, Health Dept. of WA	7,500
WA Health Department	34,023
NDLERF	12,447
Total Funds	\$598,378

Summary of NDRI Funding in 2003

Area of Funding	Grant Received in 2003
Core Funding (AGDHA)	1,787,838
Curtin University of Technology (Rent Subsidy)	88,691
Curtin University of Technology R&D contribution	105,000
Research Performance Index (DEST)	106,938
Trading Income	2,646
Sundry Income	5,765
National Competitive Grants	503,763
State Competitive Grants	7,269
Other Grants	74,899
Total Funding Received in 2003	\$2,682,809

Dissemination - Publications and Presentations

Journal Articles

Bloomfield, K., Stockwell, T.R., Gmel, G. and Rehn, N. (2003). International comparisons of alcohol consumption. *Alcohol Research & Health*, 27, (1), pp. 95-109.

Briscoe, S. and Donnelly, N. (2003). Problematic licensed premises for assaults in inner Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 36, pp. 18-33.

Carruthers, S.J. (2003). The ins and outs of injecting in Western Australia. *Journal of Substance Use*, 8, (1), pp. 11-18.

Cherpitel, C., Bond, J., Borges, G., MacDonald, S., Stockwell, T.R. and Giesbrecht, N. (2003). Alcohol-related injury in the ER: A cross national meta-analysis from the Emergency Room Collaborative Alcohol Analysis Project (ERCAAP). *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 64, (5), pp. 641-649.

Cooper, M., Midford, R., Jaeger, J. and Hall, C. (2003). Reforming Andy Capp? How a Cartoon Character was Used in a Community Alcohol Project. *Health Promotion Journal of Australia*, 14, (2), pp. 114-118.

Donnelly, N. (2003). Signs of intoxication and server intervention among 18-39 yr olds drinking at licensed premises in New South Wales, Australia. *Addiction*, 98, (8), pp. 1287-1295.

McBride, N. (2003). A systematic review of school drug education. *Health Education Research Theory and Practice*, 18, (6), pp. 729-742.

McBride, N., Farrington, F., Midford, R., Meuleners, L. and Phillips, M. (2003). Early unsupervised drinking - reducing the risks. The School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 22, (3), pp. 263-276.

McLeod, R., Stockwell, T.R., Rooney, R., Stevens, M., Phillips, M. and Jelinek, G. (2003). The influence of extrinsic and intrinsic risk factors on the probability of sustaining an injury. *Accident Analysis & Prevention*, 35, (1), pp. 71-80.

Midford, R., Cooper, M. and Jaeger, J. (2003). The Partysafe project: Working with an Australian rural community to reduce alcohol harm. *Nordic Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*. (English Supplement), 20, pp. 69-80.

Stockwell, T.R. (2003). Book review: Alcohol control policies in public health perspective - 1975 edition. *Addiction*, 98, (8), pp. 1173-1174.

Stockwell, T.R. (2003) Commentary: Alcohol: No ordinary commodity. *Addiction*, 98, (10), pp. 1358-1359.

Weatherburn, D., Jones, C. and Donnelly, N. (2003). Prohibition and cannabis use in Australia: A survey of 18-29 year olds. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 36, pp. 77-93.

Unrefereed Journal Articles

Lenton, S. (2003). Policy from a harm reduction perspective. *Current Opinion in Psychiatry*, 16, (3), pp. 271-277.

McBride, N. (2003). School drug education: what way forward? *Centrelines*, 9, pp. 3-4.

McBride, N., Farrington, F. and Kennedy, C. (2003). The SHAHRP Dissemination Project. *Centrelines*, (10), pp. 5.

Midford, R. (2003). What is community mobilisation and how does it work to prevent alcohol and drug harm? *DrugInfo*, 1, (4), pp. 3.

Stockwell, T.R. (2003). Just say no sir. *Drug and Alcohol Findings*, (9), pp. 4-7.

Monographs, Books and Chapters

Carruthers, S.J. (2003). *Hepatitis C and Novice Injecting Drug Users. Monograph No. 6*. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology. National Drug Research Institute, Perth, Western Australia. ISBN: 1740672739

Gray, D. and Sagers, S. (2003). Substance misuse. In Thomson, N. *The Health of Indigenous Australians*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne. pp. 158-185. ISBN: 019551220

Midford, R. (2003). Alcohol and other drugs. In Wyatt, A. and Oxenburgh, M. *Managing Occupational Health and Safety*. CCH Australia Ltd, Sydney. pp. 64,081-64,115. ISBN: 186 903 9407

Technical and Other Reports

- ADAC, Shaw, G., Mosey, A., Gray, D. and Stearne, A.E. (2003). *They sniffed and they sniffed and it just wasn't there : an evaluation of the COMGAS Scheme*. Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (SA), Adelaide.
- Breen, C., Degenhardt, L., Bruno, R., Roxburgh, A., Duquemin, A., Fetherston, J., Fischer, J., Jenkinson, R., Kinner, S., Longo, M. and Rushforth, C. (2003). *Australian Drug Trends 2002: Findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)*. NDARC, Sydney, NSW.
- Briscoe, S. and Donnelly, N. (2003). *Liquor licensing enforcement activity in New South Wales*. *Alcohol Studies Bulletin, No. 4*. New South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research and National Drug Research Institute, Sydney, New South Wales.
- Carruthers, S.J. and Arden, K. (2003). *Hepatitis C prevention is a two way bet: the role positive injectors in preventing transmission*. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth.
- Chikritzhs, T., Catalano, P., Stockwell, T.R., Donath, S., Ngo, H.T., Young, D.J. and Matthews, S. (2003). *Australian Alcohol Indicators, 1990-2001; patterns of alcohol use and related harms for Australian states and territories*. National Drug Research Institute and Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre Inc. National Drug Research Institute, Perth, Western Australia.
- Farrington, F., McBride, N. and Kennedy, C. (2003). *School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP) National Dissemination Project. Progress Report*. National Drug Research Institute., Perth, Western Australia.
- Fetherston, J. and Lenton, S. (2003). *West Australian Drug Trends 2002: Findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)*. NDARC, University of New South Wales.
- Gray, D. (2003). *The impact of restrictions on the sale of alcohol on particular days of the week: with reference to proposed restrictions in Port Hedland and South Hedland*. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Western Australia.
- Gray, D. (2003). *Review of the summary evaluation of the Alice Springs Liquor Trial: A report to Tangentyere Council and Central Australian Aboriginal Congress*. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Western Australia.
- Gray, D., Siggers, S., Atkinson, D. and Strempel, P. (2003). *Substance misuse and primary health care among Indigenous Australians*. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Western Australia.
- Haines, B. and Stockwell, T.R. (2003). *Alcohol labelling and public health: A pilot study*. Funded by the WA Drug and Alcohol Office & the WA Health Department. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Western Australia. ISBN: 1 74067 259 3
- Hargreaves, K.M. and Lenton, S. (2003). *Naloxone for overdose: Consideration of a trial of naloxone provision for peer or worker administration in Victoria*. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth.
- McBride, N. (2003). *Early Childhood Interventions*. Consultation submission to the Australian Government Task Force on Child Development, Health and Wellbeing.
- Moore, D. (2003). *Progress Report on a Project Grant*. Victorian Health Promotion Foundation Research Program. Deakin University, Melbourne.

Conference, Seminar and Workshop Presentations

- Briscoe, S. and **Donnelly, N.** (2003) Liquor licensing enforcement activity in New South Wales. Presented at the *Controlling Crime ANZSOC Conference*, Sydney, NSW, Australia, 1st-3rd October 2003.
- Carruthers, S.J.** (2003) Preventing transmission from hepatitis C positive injectors. Poster presentation. Presented at the *APSAD 2003: The alcohol and drug conference*, Sheraton Brisbane Hotel, Brisbane, Qld, Australia, 16th-19th November 2003.
- Carruthers, S.J.** (2003) Intervening to prevent hepatitis C. Poster presentation. Presented at the *APSAD 2003: The alcohol and drug conference*, Sheraton Brisbane Hotel, Brisbane, Qld, Australia, 16th-19th November 2003.
- Carruthers, S.J.** (2003) 15 Years of blood. Keynote presentation at the *Anex Harm Reduction Conference: Practice, politics, policy*, Southbank, Melbourne, Vic, Australia, 18th-19th June 2003.
- Carruthers, S.J.** (2003) Why do we have it? Hepatitis C among injecting drug users. Invited presentation at the *3rd Indian Ocean Conference on Viral Hepatitis*, Fremantle Hospital, Fremantle, WA, Australia, 3rd May 2003.

- Carruthers, S.J.** (2003) Non-injecting drug use as a means to prevent hepatitis C: Attitudes and experiences of Perth injectors. Presented at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.
- Chanteloup, F.** and Lenton, S.R. (2003) WA drug trends 2003. Presented at the *Illicit Drug Trends Conference*, Masonic Grand Lodge, Sydney, NSW, Australia, 26th-27th November 2003.
- Donath, S.** and Stockwell, T.R. (2003) Beverage-specific contributions to risky alcohol consumption: scope for tax reforms to improve public health? Presented at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.
- Donnelly, N.** and Briscoe, S. (2003) What potential is there to better target alcohol-related crime prevention initiatives through improved liquor licensing and law enforcement information systems in NSW? Presented at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.
- Fetherston, J.** and Lenton, S. (2003) WA Drug Trends 2003. Invited presentation at the *2003 Illicit Drug Trends Conference*, Masonic grand lodge, Sydney, NSW, Australia, 26th-27th November 2003.
- Fetherston, J.**, Lenton, S. and Cercarelli, R. (2003) 2003 Road Safety Forum and Awards. Presented at the *2003 Road Safety Forum and Awards*, WA Maritime Museum, Fremantle, WA, Australia, 17th November 2003.
- Gray, D.** (2003) Conducting research with Indigenous community-controlled organisations: the NDRI experience. Presented at the *APSAD 2003: The alcohol and drug conference*, Sheraton Brisbane Hotel, Brisbane, Qld, Australia, 16th-19th November 2003.
- Gray, D.** (2003) Working with Local Organisations. Invited presentation at the *Alcohol and other drug symposium*: NT Department of Health & Community Services, 7th May 2003.
- Gray, D.**, Sagers, S. and d Abbs, P (2003) Liquor licensing restrictions and Indigenous alcohol use. Invited presentation at the *Preventing Risky Drug Use and Harm. What Are Best Bets for Policy?*, The Esplanade, Fremantle, WA, Australia, 28th February 2003.
- Gray, D.**, Sagers, S., Stearne, A.E. and Stempel, P. (2003) Indigenous alcohol and other drug use. Invited presentation at the *38th Central Australian Rural Practitioners Conference*, Centre for Remote Health - Alice Springs, 20th-21st June 2003.
- Gray, D., **Stearne, A.E.** and Kickett, D. (2003) An evaluation of the 'Makin Tracks' project. Presented at the *2nd National Drug and Alcohol Conference - Indigenous Substance Misuse Council - Healing the Spirits*, Quality Hotel South Park, Adelaide, SA, Australia, 12th-14th May 2003.
- Hawks, D.V.**, Scott, K., McBride, N. and Jones, P. (2003) A selected review of what works in the area of prevention. Plenary presentation at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.
- Lenton, S.** (2003) A framework for prevention. Presented at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.
- Lenton, S.** (2003) Criminal penalties to prevent cannabis use - low deterrence and high social harms. Presented at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003. [SY21]
- Lenton, S.** (2003) Models of cannabis control. Invited presentation at the *Meeting of WA Parliamentary Group for Drug Law Reform*, Parliament House, Perth, 14th March 2003.
- Loxley, W.** (2003) Drug courts and diversion: A better way to deal with offending drug users? Presented at the *Preventing Risky Drug Use and Harm. What Are Best Bets for Policy?*, The Esplanade, Fremantle, WA, Australia, 28th February 2003.
- Loxley, W.** (2003) Testing a harm reduction intervention. Presented at the *Preventing Hepatitis C Among Injecting Drug Users: Three approaches*, NDRI Boardroom, Shenton Park, WA, Australia, 25th September 2003.
- Loxley, W.** and Bolleter, A. (2003) Evaluating the community partnerships initiative - implications for prevention. Invited, Keynote presentation at the *4th International Conference on Drugs and Young People*, Wellington Convention Centre, Wellington, New Zealand, 26th-28th May 2003.
- Loxley, W.** and Haines, B. (2003) Alternatives to traditional judicial procedures for offending illicit drug users: the international and Australian experience. Presented at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.

- Loxley, W.,** Stockwell, T.R. and Toumbourou, J. (2003) What works to prevent drug-related use, risk and harm. Invited, Keynote presentation at the *DAO Seminar for Community Drug Service Teams and Regional Health Population Units*, Pagoda Convention Centre, Perth, 15th-16th May 2003.
- Loxley, W.,** Toumbourou, J. and Stockwell, T.R. (2003) The prevention of substance use, risk and harm in Australia: a review of the evidence. Presented at the *APSAD 2003: The alcohol and drug conference*, Sheraton Brisbane Hotel, Brisbane, Qld, Australia, 16th-19th November 2003.
- McBride, N.** (2003) A systematic literature review of school drug education. Presented at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.
- McBride, N.** (2003) Interventions for young people. Discussant. Presented at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.
- McBride, N.** (2003) Systematic literature review of school drug education. Plenary presentation at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.
- Midford, R.,** Munro, G., McBride, N., Snow, P. and Ladzinski, U. (2003) Principles that underpin effective school-based drug education. Presented at the *Preventing Risky Drug Use and Harm. What Are Best Bets for Policy?*, The Esplanade, Fremantle, WA, Australia, 28th February 2003.
- Midford, R.,** Munro, G., McBride, N., Snow, P. and Ladzinski, U. (2003) Principles that underpin effective school-based drug education. Presented at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.
- Midford, R.,** Wayte, K. and Catalano, P. (2003) The legacy of a community mobilisation project to reduce alcohol-related harm. Presented at the *APSAD 2003: The alcohol and drug conference*, Sheraton Brisbane Hotel, Brisbane, Qld, Australia, 16th-19th November 2003.
- Moore, D.** (2003) Chaos, rationality and IDU: Contradictions in overdose prevention. Presented at the *14th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug-Related Harm*, Chiang Mai, Thailand, 6th-10th April 2003.
- Moore, D.** (2003) Chaos, rationality and street-based injecting drug use: Contradictions in the prevention of overdose in Australia. Presented at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.
- Moore, D.** (2003) Chaos, rationality and street-based injecting drug users: An anthropological critique of drug overdose prevention. Invited presentation at the *School of Social and Cultural Studies*, UWA, 4th March 2003.
- Moore, D.** (2003) Illicit Drug Interventions (1). Discussant: Invited presentation at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.
- Moore, D.** (2003) Governing street-based injecting drug users: A critique of heroin overdose prevention in Australia. Invited presentation at the *Department of Sociology, University of Helsinki, Finland*, 10th September 2003.
- Moore, D.** (2003) Stories from St Kilda: Are Drug Users and Service Providers Talking Past Each Other? Invited presentation at the *Local Drugs and Community Partnerships Forum*, City of Port Phillip Local Drug Strategy, St Kilda Town Hall, 30th July 2003.
- Moore, D.** (2003) Street-Based IDU, Sex Work and Service Provision in St Kilda: Implications for Policy and Practice. Invited presentation at the *Drug Round Table, City of Port Phillip Local Drug Strategy*, St Kilda Town Hall, 7th August 2003.
- Moore, D.** (2003) Taking Drug Users Seriously: The Social and Cultural Aspects of Harm Reduction. Invited, Plenary presentation at the *3rd Annual Conference, The Substance of Youth: Alcohol and Drug Use Amongst Young People*, Addiction Research Centre, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, 4th September 2003.
- Stearne, A.E.** (2003) Partners in Research: The National Drug Research Institute and Indigenous Australian community organisations. Presented at the *Public Health Association of New Zealand Conference 2003 - Tino Rangatiratanga in Public Health - Working with Maori & Indigenous Values and Principles*, Turangawaewar Marae, Ngaruawahia, New Zealand, 2nd-4th July 2003.
- Stockwell, T.** (2003) National Priorities. Presented at the *National Alcohol Research Priority Setting Workshop*, Stamford Sydney Airport Hotel, Mascot, NSW, 6th March 2003.

- Stockwell, T.R.** (2003) Alcohol abuse in NSW and Australia: Causes, consequences and costs. Invited, Keynote presentation at the *NSW Summit on alcohol abuse 2003*, Parliament House, Sydney, NSW, Australia, 26th-29th August 2003.
- Stockwell, T.R.** (2003) Alcohol-related harm and its prevention in the Northern Territory and Australia as a whole. Invited presentation at the *Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory Select Committee on Substance Abuse in the Community*, Parliament House, Darwin, NT, Australia, 9th-10th October 2003.
- Stockwell, T.R.** (2003) Counting costs and tracking changes: The first 4 years of Australia's National Alcohol Indicators Project. Invited presentation at the *Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Addiction Research Foundation*, Toronto, Canada, 23rd June 2003.
- Stockwell, T.R.** (2003) National drinking patterns. Invited presentation at the *Alcohol and Drug Advisers Conference*, Kings Hotel, Perth, WA, Australia, 5th-6th March 2003.
- Stockwell, T.R.** (2003) Problems with pubs: Voluntary versus regulatory programs for the reduction of alcohol-related harm following drinking on licensed premises in Australia. Invited presentation at the *Society for Prevention Research 11th Annual Meeting - Research to Policy*, Hyatt Regency, Washington, DC, USA, 12th-14th June 2003.
- Stockwell, T.R.** (2003) Promoting health and preventing harm in national alcohol policy. Invited, Keynote presentation at the *College of Health Psychologists Forum*, Sheraton Hotel, Perth, WA, Australia, 2nd October 2003.
- Stockwell, T.R.** (2003) The Australian experience with liquor licensing to reduce alcohol-related harm. Invited presentation at the *Alcohol Research Group*, Berkeley, CA, USA, 6th June 2003.
- Stockwell, T.R.** (2003) The evidence base for Australia's National Prevention Agenda: Outcomes of a major commissioned review. Invited presentation at the *Prevention Research Center*, Berkeley, CA, USA, 10th June 2003.
- Stockwell, T.R.** (2003) What governments can expect from prevention. Invited, plenary presentation at the *APSAD 2003: The alcohol and drug conference*, Sheraton Brisbane Hotel, Brisbane, Qld, Australia, 16th-19th November 2003.
- Stockwell, T.R.** (2003) What works in alcohol prevention? A review of the international evidence. Invited presentation at the *Reconnecting Community: Australasian Therapeutic Communities National Conference*, The Esplanade, Fremantle, WA, Australia, 1st-3rd October 2003.
- Stockwell, T.R.** (2003) What works in drug and alcohol prevention? A review of international evidence. Invited presentation at the *WA Drug and Alcohol Office Executive Group*, WA Drug and Alcohol Office, Perth, WA, Australia, 6th November 2003.
- Stockwell, T.R.,** Toumbourou, J., Letcher, P., Smart, D. and Sanson, A. (2003) Risk and protection factors for different intensities of adolescent substance use: When does the prevention paradox apply? Presented at the *Preventing Substance Use, Risky Use and Harm: What is Evidence-Based Policy?*, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, 24th-27th February 2003.
- Weatherburn, D. and **Donnelly, N.** (2003) The impact of the heroin shortage on Crime. Presented at the *Controlling Crime ANZSOC Conference*, Sydney, NSW, Australia, 1st-3rd October 2003.

NDRI Seminar Series

- Carruthers, S.J. (2003) Let's not forget the already infected... What do they do to minimise transmission and what else should they do? Presented at the *Preventing Hepatitis C Among Injecting Drug Users: Three approaches*, NDRI Boardroom, Perth, WA, Australia, 25th September 2003.]
- Carruthers, S.J. and Loxley, W. (2003) Preventing hepatitis C: 3 approaches. *NDRI Seminar Series*, Presented at the National Drug Research Institute, Perth, WA, Australia, 25th September 2003.
- Goddard, P. (2003) Reforming US drug policy. *NDRI Seminar Series*. Presented at the National Drug Research Institute, Perth, WA, Australia, 18th August 2003.
- Midford, R. (2003) Gateway Theory. *NDRI Seminar Series*. Presented at the National Drug Research Institute, Perth, WA, Australia, 2nd May 2003.
- Moore, D. (2003) What kind of subject do we want? Drug policy and the construction of drug users. *NDRI Seminar Series*. Presented at the National Drug Research Institute, Perth, WA, Australia, 12th December 2003.
- Stockwell, T.R. (2003) National Surveys. *NDRI Seminar Series*. Presented at the National Drug Research Institute, Perth, WA, Australia, 28th March 2003.

