Preventing harmful drug use in Australia
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About NDRI

The National Drug Research Institute (NDRI) is based within the Division of Health Sciences at Curtin University of Technology in Perth, Western Australia. NDRI was established in 1986 as one of two centres of excellence in drug research by the National Campaign Against Drug Abuse, now known as the National Drug Strategy.

NDRI conducts research that contributes to the formation of effective policy and practice in Australia in relation to the prevention and reduction of harmful alcohol and other drug use and its consequences. The Institute’s research is complemented by the work of its sister organisations: the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) in Sydney, which focuses primarily on treatment research; and the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction (NCETA) in Adelaide, which is concerned with workforce development in the drug and alcohol field.

NDRI receives core funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, as part of the National Drug Strategy, with additional research funds obtained from a variety of national and international funding bodies. The Institute also receives support from Curtin University of Technology.

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.

Values
The work of NDRI is guided by the following values:

- Encouragement of academic excellence and productivity;
- Academic independence;
- Service to the community;
- Social equity and justice;
- Ethical conduct;
- Relevance to efforts to combat major health and social problems;
- The need for rigour and evidence in policy and practice development and implementation;
- Openness to other views from internal and external peer review;
- Fairness and equity for staff of all levels.

Key Result Areas
In striving to achieve its mission, NDRI has identified three ‘key result areas’:

- Conduct high quality research that will contribute to the primary prevention of harmful drug use and the reduction of drug related harm.
- Contribute to the building of national capacity for research in the primary prevention of drug related harm.
- Disseminate research findings to policy makers, practitioners, public health professionals, other researchers, community interest groups and the general public to increase awareness of drug related harm and assist in developing effective prevention strategies.
Board of Management

Mr Neil Guard (Chair)
Executive Director
Drug and Alcohol Office, Western Australia

Ms Ann Deanus
Chief Executive Officer
Women's Health Services

Prof Steve Allsop
Director
National Drug Research Institute

Mr Simon Cotterell (from April 2009)
Assistant Secretary
Population Health Division - Drug Strategy Branch
Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Prof Jill Downey
Pro Vice-Chancellor, Faculty of Health Sciences
Curtin University of Technology

Ms Virginia Hart (until April 2009)
Assistant Secretary
Population Health Division - Drug Strategy Branch
Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Prof Barbara Horner
Dean of Research and Graduate Studies
Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University of Technology

Ms Coralie Ober
Research Fellow, Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre (QADREC)
University of Queensland

Prof Dan Lubman
Associate Professor
ORYGEN Research Centre
University of Melbourne

Mr Michael Moore (from August 2009)
Chief Executive Officer
Public Health Association of Australia

Mr Tony Tate
Director, Research and Development
Curtin University of Technology

Mr Andrew Tovey
Detective Superintendent, Licensing Enforcement Division
Western Australia Police
This has been an exciting year. To ensure that our activities and outputs remain relevant, that we can respond to emerging challenges and opportunities, and that our work is efficient, we have commenced a revision of our strategic plan, commenced a review of our business services and built new areas of expertise. An independent external chair (Mr Neil Guard, Executive Director of the WA Drug and Alcohol Office) was appointed to our Board along with a new interstate member (Mr Michael Moore, CEO of the Public Health Association). We were redesignated as a WHO Collaborating Centre in August and celebrated prestigious awards to several colleagues. Collaboration has remained a centrepiece of our endeavours and, as can be seen in this annual report, we have developed new collaborations while maintaining activities with a broad range of national and international colleagues.

Over the past few years, Associate Professor Tony Butler has led the enhancement of our contribution to offender health research. This past year has seen substantial effort in this domain. Tony, along with NDRI colleagues and external collaborators, was successful in attracting a number of NHMRC and other funds to implement a range of capacity building and research projects. Supported by an NHMRC capacity building grant, Tony established the inaugural meeting of an Australia-wide group who have been funded to build research capacity in Indigenous offender health and health care delivery. The initial meeting was chaired by our colleague, and one of the chief investigators, Professor Mick Dodson. Tony has also led and collaborated on other successful NHMRC grants in offender health and is part of an overseas research collaboration, funded by AUSAID, to develop strategies to strengthen China’s response to HIV, TB and HIV/TB co-infection in labour camps. In 2009, in recognition of his high quality research contributions, Tony was awarded a prestigious Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellowship.

Similarly, Professor Sherry Saggers has collaborated with a range of New South Wales academics, clinicians and non-government services to develop measures that assess the impact of residential drug treatment services on young people. She is also a chief investigator on an ARC linkage grant that examines socio-cultural influences on the sexual health of young Indigenous people in collaboration with academics and services in the Northern Territory and Western Australia and a member of a national collaboration, funded through NHMRC, investigating responses to swine flu in Indigenous communities. Her contribution has focused on the training of Indigenous health researchers who are conducting the research, and the impact of alcohol and other drugs on responses to pandemics. International evidence has indicated that investments in the early years can lead to better school transitions and stronger family functioning, resulting in delayed alcohol and other drug consumption and better quality of life. Professor Saggers and her colleagues have been advancing work in this area, receiving a number of grants and contracts to evaluate the impact of a range of early childhood interventions in vulnerable communities across Australia.

To effectively deliver on our national brief, it is important we build strong collaborative networks and these were key elements of several new research projects. For example, Associate Professor Richard Midford was successful in obtaining an ARC Linkage Project grant in partnership with The Youth Research Centre, University of Melbourne and the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. Associate Professor David Moore was successful in another ARC Linkage Project grant which will examine drinking in Melbourne among young adults. Collaborators include colleagues from the University of Melbourne, Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre, VicHealth, local government and the Victorian Department of Health Services.

There was also cause for celebration in relation to one of our Curtin Tier 1 research colleagues, Professor Peter Howat, who is the Director of Curtin’s Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer Control, was awarded a Fellowship in the American Academy of Health Behaviour in recognition of his substantial and important contribution to health research. In this annual report we highlight the work of Peter and other Tier 1 colleagues who have completed an important research project which examined the impact of an online alcohol brief intervention available to students.
alcohol use on our hospital systems. In addition, Tanya and US and Canadian collaborators (including Canadian based Professor Tim Stockwell and US based Professor Kaye Fillmore, both NDRI adjunct staff) were successful in their bid for a highly competitive, National Institutes of Health (NIH) Challenge Grant in Health and Science Research to pursue research into alcohol use and disease outcomes.

The international impact of NDRI work is illustrated by the development of the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project, which is being employed around Australia and overseas. For example, this research program and associated resources, originally developed by Dr Nyanda McBride, Associate Professor Richard Midford and colleagues, are being developed for use in Irish schools, a development that complements widespread adoption across Australia.

NDRI has also been involved in important strategies to enhance responses to alcohol and cannabis related harm in Indigenous communities. In partnership with a number of community controlled, government health service, and academic organisations Professors Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggers and Associate Professor Ted Wilkes have led a national project to enhance responses to alcohol problems among Indigenous people. Similarly, as part of our contribution to the National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre (NCPIC) and funded by NCPIC, Professors Dennis Gray, Simon Lenton, Associate Professor Ted Wilkes and Dr Julia Butt have been working with community controlled organisations to enhance responses to cannabis dependence and related problems among Indigenous people.

A number of doctoral scholars completed their research in 2009 including Robyn Dwyer, Roslyn Giglia and Dada Su. Robyn received a letter of commendation from the Chancellor for her thesis which was officially passed without revision. Fredrik Welander, enrolled through Curtin’s Centre for International Health (CIH) and supervised by NDRI staff, was awarded his PhD this year. Susan Lee completed her CIH doctorate, co-supervised by NDRI staff.

As already mentioned, NDRI contributes to policy debate in many ways, including submissions to various inquiries. For example, in 2009 NDRI made submissions to the Senate Community Affairs Committee Inquiry into Ready-To-Drink Alcohol Beverages, the ‘Henry Review’ of Australia’s taxation system, the WA Legislative Assembly Inquiry into the Adequacy and Appropriateness of Prevention and Treatment Services for Alcohol and Illicit Drug Problems in WA, and the Senate Community Affairs Committee Inquiry into the Excise and Customs Tariff Amendment Bills. Contributions were also made through electronic and print media. For example Professor Simon Lenton facilitated debate about cannabis laws through a Health + Medicine feature, while Associate Professor Ted Wilkes enhanced debate and media commentary on the impact of the high rates of incarceration of Indigenous people. Our presence in policy discussions has been greatly enhanced through the excellent endeavours of our communications staff. In partnership with our information technology staff, they have raised our profile through our website, various publications, newsletters and seminars. In relation to the latter, this year’s seminar series had a strong national and international flavour, focussing on diverse topics including contingency management, the roles and needs of families, the argument for law reform and the nature and prevalence of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. The seminars were frequently oversubscribed.

A range of journal publications, books and reports have aimed to enhance policy, prevention and other responses to alcohol and other drug problems. We have also collaborated with the Drug and Alcohol Office (DAO) to produce an update of a counsellors’ training manual, a project led by our DAO colleague, Susan Helfgott. This resource has been used in training across Australia and overseas, including, in 2009, a WHO-sponsored workshop in Fiji. This annual training and clinical placement program is now conducted by DAO in partnership with NDRI.

We acknowledge the support of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and, within the University, the encouragement and support of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Office of Research and Development. All of the staff should be congratulated on a productive year. As in previous years, it is important that I draw attention to the fact that all of our outputs would not be possible without the strong support of our business services staff. In particular, we acknowledge the 20 years of fantastic service provided by Business Manager Fran Davis.

**Professor Steve Allsop**  
**Director**  
**National Drug Research Institute**
2009 highlights and achievements include:

- Associate Professor Tanya Chikritzhs and US and Canadian collaborators won a prestigious National Institutes of Health (NIH) Challenge Grant in Health and Science Research, personally approved by US President Barack Obama, to pursue research into alcohol use and disease outcomes.
- Professor Peter Howat, NDRI Tier 1 collaborator and Director of Curtin’s Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer Control, was awarded a Fellowship in the American Academy of Health Behaviour for his large volume of work in the field.
- Associate Professor Ted Wilkes and NDRI Board Member Coralie Ober were invited to Canberra to discuss establishing a new national Indigenous advisory body to government.
- Associate Professor Tony Butler was awarded a prestigious Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellowship. He also won a major NHMRC grant to investigate whether using specific anti-depressants can reduce repeat violent offending by reducing impulsive aggression.
- Papers from NDRI’s 20th anniversary international research symposium, *Responding to drug problems: lessons from the past, future challenges and opportunities*, were published in *Drug and Alcohol Review*.
- Five doctoral scholars – Robyn Dwyer, Fredrik Velander, Roslyn Giglia, Susan Lee and Dada Su – completed their PhD research. Robyn received a letter of commendation from the University Chancellor for her thesis, which was officially passed without revision.
- NDRI hosted its second annual NAIDOC Week event with Nyungar elder and NDRI researcher Associate Professor Ted Wilkes leading proceedings.
- Associate Professor Tanya Chikritzhs and collaborators from the US and Canada published a review and meta-analysis of alcohol use and prostate cancer which identified a significant relationship between the two.
- Associate Professor David Moore was among a collaborative team successful in an ARC Linkage Project grant application on drinking amongst young adults in Melbourne.
- Tier 1 colleagues completed a trial of Tertiary Health Research Intervention Via Email (THRIVE), an internet intervention aimed at reducing risky and high risk drinking by university students, with promising results.
- The Prevention, Early Intervention and Inequality team won competitive tenders to evaluate early childhood interventions initiated by Warlpiri communities in Central Australia and a three-year extension of an evaluation of the national Communities for Children initiatives in the East Kimberley.
- Professor Sherry Saggers is part of a team that won a $1m NHMRC Project Grant for the project, ‘Pandemic influenza containment strategies in Aboriginal communities: what is acceptable and feasible?’.
- Associate Professor Tony Butler was part of a research team funded by AUSAID to undertake a project strengthening China’s response to HIV, TB and HIV/TB co-infection in labour camps (Lao Jiao Suo) in Guangxi Autonomous Region.
- The National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP) Bulletin 12 outlining trends in estimated alcohol attributable deaths and hospitalisations in Australia 1996-2005 received tremendous interest in the health sector and extensive media coverage.
- Associate Professor Tanya Chikritzhs attended a World Health Organisation meeting in Spain which examined establishing alcohol monitoring and surveillance systems.
- NDRI researchers co-organised the WA Justice Health Research Forum: Past, Present and Future.
- With colleagues, Associate Professor Tanya Chikritzhs and Professor Steve Allsop co-authored an *EMJ* editorial – *The alcopops tax: heading in the right direction* – which stated that evidence shows that cost does affect alcohol consumption, and reducing consumption improves public health.
- NDRI made several submissions to Parliamentary Inquiries examining issues in the alcohol and drug field including the inquiry into the Alcohol Toll Reduction Bill 2007, the ‘Henry Review’ of Australia’s taxation system, and an Inquiry into the Adequacy and Appropriateness of Prevention and Treatment Services for Alcohol and Illicit Drug Problems in Western Australia.
- NDRI hosted several national and international presenters as part of its regular Seminar Series.
- Associate Professor Ted Wilkes, who is chair of the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC), played a key role in the launch of a NIDAC report on Indigenous incarceration.
- The inaugural meeting of the ‘From Broome to Berrima: building Australia-wide research capacity in Indigenous offender health and health care delivery’ capacity building grant was held in Canberra. 2009 Australian of the Year Mick Dodson is a Chief Investigator on the grant.
- Several senior NDRI researchers completed an analysis of Indigenous child death review cases, which was commissioned by the Western Australian Child Death Review Committee.
- A revamped Student Information Evening generated significant interest and resulted in two NDRI research scholarships being awarded.
- NDRI began its Strategic Planning process and a review of its Business Support Services.
- International and national uptake of the School Health Alcohol Harm Reduction Project continued internationally and across Australia.
Dr Lynn Roarty reviewed the provision of services to Culturally and Linguistically Diverse women with dependent children in WA who are experiencing co-existing mental health and drug and alcohol issues for the Women’s Health Services WA.

Two of NDRI’s Melbourne-based PhD students, Rachael Green and Amy Pennay, had their first publication accepted.

Christine Siokou’s NHMRC-funded PhD research on cultural changes in the dance party/rave scene in Melbourne informed Ravesafe’s (Harm Reduction Victoria) decision to change its name to ‘Dancewise’.

Associate Professor Richard Midford won an ARC Linkage grant in partnership with the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, and the Youth Research Centre at the University of Melbourne.

Professor Steve Allsop delivered training in Fiji using elements of the DAO Helping Change: the drug and alcohol counsellors’ training program, which he was involved in updating.

Professor Sherry Saggers is lead Chief Investigator on a successful ARC Linkage grant that is expected to enhance evidence-based treatment outcome measures in residential rehabilitation services and provide high-quality research training for alcohol and other drug service staff.

Professor Dennis Gray and Associate Professor Ted Wilkes were invited to Tasmania by the Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs Council of Tasmania to speak to a diverse range of audiences about Indigenous AOD issues.

Prestigious fellowship for ‘offender health’ researcher

NDRI researcher Associate Professor Tony Butler was awarded a prestigious Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellowship in 2009, one of only 200 fellowships awarded nationally.

The Future Fellowship scheme, established by the Federal Government, aims to address highly qualified mid-career researchers choosing to work overseas to further their careers due to lack of opportunities in Australia. It also aims to boost Australia’s research and innovation capacity in areas of national importance.

Professor Butler’s four-year fellowship will help him continue ground-breaking work exploring the health and drug-related problems experienced by prisoners and the causes of violent criminal behaviour.

His research has the potential to bring major social and economic benefits by helping to stop people committing criminal acts or re-offending, thus reducing the cost of imprisonment. It could also result in prisoners’ health problems being treated in prisons, reducing the transmission of disease when they are released and easing the burden on the health system.

Specifically, Professor Butler’s program of Future Fellowship research includes studies of reducing impulsive behaviour in repeat violent offenders; exploring relationships between head injuries and subsequent criminal behaviour; health and drug related problems suffered by Indigenous prisoners; and blood-borne virus infections among Australian prisoners.

“These are all areas where science can help us find out why people offend, and help to stop them re-offending,” Professor Butler said.

“Our findings can help reduce the huge amounts of money spent on imprisoning offenders by stopping some of them offending in the first place.”

Winning an ARC Future Fellowship secured Tony Butler and wife Tong Wan an invitation to the National Science Awards Ceremony in Canberra in October, where they rubbed shoulders with Prime Minister Kevin Rudd.

Professor Butler also won a $1.2m NHMRC Partnership for Better Health Grant in 2009 for a project aimed at reducing impulsive behaviour in repeat violent offenders. Working in partnership with forensic health groups in NSW, the research will investigate whether using specific anti-depressants can reduce repeat violent offending by reducing impulsive aggression.

A pilot study has shown reductions in impulsivity, irritability, anger and assaultive behaviour.

“Impulsivity has been linked to reduced levels of a brain neurotransmitter called serotonin,” Professor Butler said.

“This is potentially treatable using a class of anti-depressants called selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitors. By using this medication in a monitored way, we may be able to show that, in certain cases, impulsive and sometimes dangerous behaviour can be reduced.”
In 2009, NDRI worked in collaboration with a broad range of agencies and research centres locally, nationally and internationally. The Institute is a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

NDRI Collaborating Centres
- Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council of South Australia
- Australian Institute of Criminology
- Centre for Youth Drug Studies at the Australian Drug Foundation
- Drug and Alcohol Services Council of South Australia
- National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction
- National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre
- New South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
- Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre

Other Project Partners
- Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley, USA
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
- Beckley Foundation (UK)
- Broome Regional Aboriginal Health Service
- Cairns Base Hospital
- Centre for Addictions Research of BC, University of Victoria, Canada
- Centre for Epidemiology & Population Health Research, Burnet Institute
- Centre for Harm Reduction, Burnet Institute
- Centre for International Health, Curtin University of Technology
- Centre for Mental Health Studies, University of Newcastle
- Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation (SHORE), Massey University
- Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University
- Centre for Women’s Studies and Gender Research, Monash University
- Centre for Youth Drug Studies, Australian Drug Foundation
- Chemistry Centre of Western Australia
- City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Community Alcohol Action Network, Australian Drug Foundation
- Curtin University of Technology
- Deakin University
- Department of Corrective Services, WA
- Department of Public Health, University of Melbourne
- Derby Aboriginal Health Service
- Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Queensland
- Hunter New England Health
- Injury Research Council UWA
- Institute for International Research on Youth at Risk, National Development and Research Institutes, USA
- Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service Council
- Mission Australia
- Monash Institute for Health Services Research
- National Centre in Epidemiology and Population Health, ANU
- National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW
- National Centre for HIV Social Research, UNSW
- Rural Clinical School of Western Australia (UWA)
- St Bartholomew’s House, Perth
- Ted Noffs Foundation
- Telethon Institute for Child Health Research
- University of California, San Francisco, USA
- University of New South Wales
- Western Australian Health Department
- Western Australia Police
- Wollongong University
- Youth Research Centre, University of Melbourne

Memberships
- Addiction Journal, Seinor Editor
- Addiction Research and Theory Journal, Editorial Board
- Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia Research Committee
- Annex Research Advisory Committee
- Australian Indigenous Healthinfonet Reference Group
- Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs Board
- Cancer Council Australia, Alcohol Working Party Advisory Committee
- Commission for Occupational Safety and Health WA
- Dept of Community Development, Child Death Review Committee
- Drug & Alcohol Review Editorial Board
- Drug & Alcohol Office WA Board & Cannabis Consultation Group
- Drug Info Clearinghouse Prevention Research Reference Group
- Eastern Goldfields Sexual Assault Referral Centre Board
- Orygen Research Centre Expert Panel
- Goldfields Women’s Refuge
- National Drug Strategy Expert Panel
- Healthway Health and Brand Advisory committees
- Healthway Leadership Development in Health Promotion Programme
- Healthway Research Sub-Committee
- Hepatitis Council of Western Australia
- Independent Priority Assessment Cttee, Disability Services Commission
- Injury Control Council of Western Australia
- International Journal of Drug Policy, Editorial Board
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee
- National Prison Health Information Group Technical Expert Committee
- NHMRC Career Development Awards Population Health Panel
- NHMRC Indigenous Public Health Scholarship Review Panel
- NHMRC Public Health Scholarship Review Panel
- NHMRC Review of Australian Alcohol Guidelines Working Committee
- Orygen Research Centre MAIKINGtheLINK Schools Project Ref Group
- Prevention Research Reference Group, Centre for Youth Drug Studies
- Prisoner Health Special Interest Group, Public Health Assoc of Australia
- Public Health Consultative Committee, Edith Cowan University
- WA Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies (WANADA)
- WA Viral Hepatitis Advisory Committee, Health Department of WA
- WA Centre for Public Health Consultative Committee
- WA Child Dev Study Survey, Telethon Institute for Child Health Research
- Western Australian Community Alcohol Network
NDRI is amongst the largest centres of alcohol and other drug research expertise in Australia. Recognising that problems associated with drug use are complex, a multi-disciplinary approach to research is pursued and researchers are drawn from a range of disciplines including psychology, epidemiology, public health, sociology, medicine and anthropology.

The following pages give details of an illustrative selection of new, ongoing and completed projects undertaken by NDRI researchers during 2009, organised by eight key research priorities (listed below). Appendix 1 (page 37) lists all 2009 research projects, and further project information can be found on NDRI's website at ndri.curtin.edu.au.

**Key Research Priorities**

1. **National monitoring of alcohol and other drug consumption patterns and related harm:** Research conducted under key priority 1 aims to monitor Australians’ patterns of alcohol and other drug use and associated levels of harm over time, evaluate the impact of established harm minimisation strategies, and inform future policy development.

2. **Partnerships in the prevention of alcohol and other drug misuse among Indigenous Australians:** The focus of key priority 2 is research and evaluation that enhances the ability of Indigenous Australian communities to address alcohol and other drug misuse. Importantly, work in this area includes efforts to build Indigenous research capacity.

3. **Prevention of the spread of blood-borne viruses and other harm among injecting drug users:** Research under key priority 3 involves investigating the social and behavioural factors associated with the transmission of hepatitis C and other blood borne viruses among injecting drug users to inform policy and the development and implementation of prevention strategies.

4. **The impact of educational, legislative and regulatory strategies to minimise alcohol and other drug-related harm:** Key priority 4 involves the collection of data on the impact of various educational, regulatory and legislative models for drugs in Australia to inform the future implementation and modification of strategies to reduce alcohol and drug-related harm.

5. **Development and evaluation of more effective school drug and education programs:** Projects under key priority 5 involve the development, evaluation and dissemination of school drug education programs that are most likely to be effective in the Australian cultural context.

6. **Development and evaluation of more effective community drug prevention programs:** The aim of key priority 6 is to undertake innovative research in partnership with local communities to stimulate and inform the development of relevant, effective programs that target population level change as a way of reducing alcohol and other drug harm.

7. **Identification of fundamental, strategic and developmental research questions in the area of primary prevention of harmful drug use:** Key priority 7 involves identifying fundamental, strategic and developmental research questions in the prevention of drug use, risk and harm across the spectrum of licit and illicit drug use.

8. **Investigation of 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:** Research under key priority 8 involves investigating how educational, legislative and regulatory strategies impact on structural determinants and social contexts of alcohol and other drug use to produce or reduce harm.

**Context**

In conducting its research, NDRI follows the three pillars of Australia’s National Drug Strategy.

The three pillars are:

- **Supply reduction** - reducing and controlling the amount of drug available;
- **Demand reduction** - encouraging people not to use, to delay use, or to use less of a drug; and
- **Harm reduction** - helping to reduce harm arising from drug use for those who continue to use.
New Projects

Meta-analysis systematic and design errors: alcohol use and disease outcomes

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Christian Gardner
Project partners: University of California, San Francisco, USA; CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada
Funded by: Challenge Grant, National Institutes of Health, USA

This study aims to test hypotheses regarding possible systematic errors in epidemiological studies of alcohol as a risk factor for various chronic diseases. Meta-analyses will be used to determine whether different methods and designs in these studies can unduly bias results towards: (i) creating apparent protection from alcohol use against some diseases; (ii) masking potentially statistically significant associations; (iii) contributing to ‘mixed’ outcomes that defy a clear resolution; and (iv) influencing the size and significance for established alcohol disease associations.

Ongoing Projects

An investigation of the nature, extent and effects of point-of-sale promotions for alcohol beverages

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs, Clare Stevens
Project leaders: Wollongong University; SHORE, Massey University
Other partners: Cancer Council Victoria
Funded by: ARC

This project will systematically investigate the nature of point-of-sale promotions for alcohol beverages in both on-premise (eg pubs) and off-premise (eg liquor stores) venues; the effect of such promotions on drinking intentions and behaviours of people aged 18–25 years; and utilise the results to develop a proposal for revisions to regulation of alcohol promotions to reduce alcohol-related harm. Utilising a range of methodological approaches including observational, qualitative and experimental studies, it is the first systematic investigation – not only in Australia but anywhere in the world – of the nature and extent of non-advertising alcohol promotions and their effect on young people’s drinking intentions and behaviours.

Australian alcohol aetiologic fractions for emergency department presentations

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop, Christian Gardner
Funded by: AGDHA via DAO

The aim of this project is to develop reliable estimates (aetiologic fractions) of alcohol attributable and injury presentations to emergency departments (ED’s). The objectives are:

- To identify current levels of use of standardised electronic recording systems (ie includes ICD code classification) in public hospital emergency departments for each state/territory and to identify impediments to uptake;
- To review and analyse current scientific research evidence relating to estimating alcohol aetiologic fractions for ED presentations;
- To collate and analyse data from all Australian studies which have investigated the relation between ED presentations and alcohol;
- To apply a meta-analysis approach to estimate ED-specific population alcohol aetiologic fractions for alcohol-attributable conditions, with a focus on high prevalence injuries (eg interpersonal violence, road crashes, falls).

Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Candice Rainsford, James Fetherston
Project partners: NDARC
Funded by: AGDHA

This study comprises the Perth arm of a research project to monitor illicit drug use trends in major cities across Australia. The aims of the study are to examine the demographic characteristics, patterns of ecstasy and other ‘party drug’ use, perceived harms associated with use, drug market factors such as price, potency and availability of ecstasy and other party drugs in Perth, Western Australia from a sample of regular users of ecstasy. The project is coordinated nationally by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC), and has been conducted annually in WA since 2003.

Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Candice Rainsford, James Fetherston
Project partners: NDARC
Funded by: AGDHA

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. The project has been funded in all states and territories in Australia since 1999 by The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

National Alcohol Indicators Project - Bulletin 12
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal
Funded by: AGDHA

See box below.


In 2009, the twelfth bulletin from the National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP) was released. The bulletin documented trends in alcohol-attributable deaths and hospitalisations across all Australian jurisdictions between 1996 and 2005.

It showed that rates of alcohol-caused deaths are relatively stable while hospitalisation rates are increasing.

During the decade, an estimated 32,696 Australians aged 15 years and older died from alcohol-attributable injury and disease caused by risky/high risk drinking. An estimated 813,072 Australians aged 15 years and older were also hospitalised. The bulletin also included estimates of non-alcohol-attributable deaths and hospitalisations.

The research confirmed that alcohol continues to be a major preventable cause of death, injury and disease for many Australians. While the death rate due to alcohol declined in most regions, the number of hospitalisations from alcohol-caused injury and disease rose substantially in every state and territory.

The major cause of alcohol-attributable death was alcoholic liver cirrhosis and the leading cause of hospitalisations was alcohol dependence.

NDRI Associate Professor Tanya Chikritzhs said there are indications that the rising trend in hospitalisations – which saw the number of Australians hospitalised for preventable injuries and illnesses caused by risky drinking rising by a third over the decade – was set to continue, putting huge pressure on the healthcare system.

She said the most significant increases in rates of alcohol-caused hospitalisations occurred in Victoria, NSW, ACT and Tasmania. In the larger of these states, deregulation of the liquor industry has substantially increased access to alcohol over the decade, including dramatic increases in numbers of outlets and more 24-hour and late opening venues.

States with tighter controls on access to alcohol, such as Western Australia and Queensland, fared better.

Professor Chikritzhs said there were several reasons why alcohol-attributable death rates were decreasing while hospitalisation rates were increasing, including improved screening and treatment for alcohol-caused illnesses. Also, the most common conditions that put people in hospital (such as alcohol dependence, falls and assault) were different to those which more frequently resulted in death (such as alcoholic liver cirrhosis, road crash injury, stroke and cancer).

NAIP monitors and reports on trends in alcohol-related harm in Australia. The ongoing project, funded by the National Drug Strategy and completed by NDRI, arose from increasing concern over levels of alcohol-related harm in the Australian community, and the need for an efficient monitoring system on alcohol.

Other bulletins in the series have dealt with such topics as alcohol-caused morbidity and mortality; serious alcohol-related road trauma; risky drinking patterns and per capita consumption and alcohol and violence; youth alcohol consumption; under-aged drinking; alcohol and older Australians; and alcohol-attributable deaths for Indigenous Australians.

All NAIP bulletins are available on the NDRI website at ndri.curtin.edu.au.
From Broome to Berrima: Building Australia-wide research capacity in Indigenous offender health and health care delivery

Australia has one of the highest Indigenous incarceration rates in the OECD which impacts profoundly on Indigenous communities. With offender populations known to endure a greater health burden compared with the general community, there is a need to develop knowledge in this area, particularly in relation to Indigenous incarceration.

Indigenous and non-Indigenous academics from Western Australia, the ACT, New South Wales and Victoria received an NHMRC capacity building grant ($2.3 million over 5 years) to develop research capacity in Indigenous offender health research. A team of Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers will be supported to work on projects in areas critical to the health and wellbeing of Indigenous offenders.

This program of research aims to establish an Australia-wide health and criminal justice research network, and increased research capacity in key health areas affecting this population (blood borne viruses, mental health, and substance use). Collaborative research work, secondments to research centres and mentoring will be used to develop the knowledge and skills of a cohort of young researchers in three states.

This is an opportunity to create an Australia-wide network for sharing knowledge in this field, and to maintain Australia’s position as a world-leader in the area of offender health research. Outcomes will include better health services for Indigenous offenders, and more generally improved health and wellbeing for those in the communities from which they come, and to which they return. The project has the support of several national centres and a range of experts.

The Broome to Berrima research team

New Projects

From Broome to Berrima: Building Australia-wide research capacity in Indigenous offender health and health care delivery

NDRI staff: Tony Butler, Dennis Gray, Steve Allsop, Jocelyn Grace
Project partners:
Funded by: NHMRC
See box.

Ongoing Projects

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cannabis intervention

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Edward Wilkes, Steve Allsop, Simon Lenton, Julia Butt
Project partners: Indigenous community-controlled health services
Funded by: NCPIC

The cannabis intervention project is a two-year collaboration between NDRI and four Indigenous community controlled health services. The project aims to develop, pilot and disseminate cannabis intervention protocols for Indigenous primary health care settings. To date there have been few studies specifically focusing on cannabis use among Indigenous Australians. However, the limited evidence available indicates that consumption has increased significantly in the past decade, with a concomitant rise in both direct and indirect negative health consequences. Further, to date little has been written about cannabis interventions for Indigenous people. Thus, the project aims to address both a gap in research and in service provision.

Enhancing the management of alcohol-related problems among Indigenous Australians

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Steve Allsop, Sherry Saggers, Ted Wilkes, Violet Bacon
Project partners: Centre for Social Research, ECU; QUADREC
Funded by: AGDHA

This project is currently in the second stage of a three-stage program, being managed by NDRI, and aimed at enhancing the access of Indigenous Australians to quality treatment for alcohol-related problems. In stage 1, five independent research projects were commissioned: 

See Appendix 1 (page 37) for full list of research projects
Evaluating the management of alcohol-related problems among urban Aboriginal People in Western Australia: using an action research approach to enhance service delivery and collaboration for client care. 
Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service; Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service; Centre for International Health, Curtin University of Technology.

Multidisciplinary, self management rehabilitation care plans and case management to improve alcohol treatment for Aboriginal people in Alice Springs. Central Australian Aboriginal Congress; James Cook University; University of Sydney; University of Queensland.

“Where’s your country?” “Who are your people?” Asking the right questions when treating problematic alcohol use amongst Indigenous Australians. Muru Marri Indigenous Health Unit, University of NSW; National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University; Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Medical Service

The integration of brief intervention into Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services in five rural communities in NSW. National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre; Rural Clinical School, University of NSW; Durri Aboriginal Corporation Medical Service; Armajun Aboriginal Health Service; University of Queensland; University of Newcastle.

Identifying areas of greatest need in Indigenous substance misuse intervention

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne, Jennifer Dodd, Michael Doyle, Mandy Wilson
Funded by: NIDAC

The National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC) – a subcommittee of the Australian National Council on Drugs – was established to provide high level advice on the most appropriate and effective approaches to addressing Indigenous drug and alcohol issues. To facilitate its role in this area NIDAC has commissioned this project aimed at providing an in-depth report on:

- current alcohol and other drug services for Indigenous Australians;
- funding of current alcohol and other drug services for Indigenous Australians;
- the appropriateness of current services and funding for them; and,
- the identification and assessment of unmet needs.

Jaru Pirrjirdi suicide prevention project
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggers, Anna Stearne
Funded by: Mt Theo-Yuendumu Substance Misuse Program

This project is an evaluation of the Jaru Pirrjirdi Project, which is a part of the Mt Theo-Yuendumu Substance Misuse Program (MYSMAC). The Jaru Pirrjirdi Project serves as a significant mechanism for the empowerment of young adults aged 17-25 within Yuendumu community. The project aims to develop them as young community leaders, in turn preventing suicide and substance misuse, especially petrol sniffing. The evaluation will measure and evaluate the processes and the overall effectiveness of the program model.

Randomised controlled trial of an intensive smoking cessation intervention in Kimberley Aboriginal PHC settings
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray
Project partners: Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service; Cairns Base Hospital; Rural Clinical School of WA (UWA); Derby Aboriginal Health Service; Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service Council
Funded by: NHMRC

Aboriginal people smoke at much higher rates than non-Aboriginal people and smoking is an important contributor to increased disease, hospital admissions and deaths in Aboriginal populations. Quit smoking programs in Australia have not had the same impact on Aboriginal smokers as on non-Aboriginal smokers and Aboriginal people are twice as likely to smoke as non-Aboriginal people. It is important that improved techniques for assisting Aboriginal people to quit be developed and implemented as part of comprehensive strategies to improve Aboriginal health. A range of strategies have been used to encourage Aboriginal people to quit smoking however there have been few good quality studies that show what approaches work best. More evidence of strategies that could work more widely in Aboriginal PHC settings is needed if good policy is to be developed and implemented. This trial will be based in two major Aboriginal health services in the Kimberley region of Western Australia and run over three years. Participants who agree to participate will be randomly allocated to either a program following current Australian recommended primary care smoking cessation strategies or a more intensive supported quit smoking intervention.
Research Activities

Key Priority 3
Preventing the spread of blood-borne viruses and other harm among injecting drug users

Ongoing Projects

Hepatitis C and its treatment in Australian custodial settings (PhD project)
PhD student: James Fetherston
PhD supervisors: Tony Butler, Susan Carruthers, David Wilson
Funded by: AGDHA

This thesis attempts to explore some of the research gaps pertaining to HCV in custodial settings. Using both quantitative and qualitative methods, various aspects of the problem identified as areas of interest will be dealt with as a series of three related yet separate and distinct studies.

The first of these will employ mathematical modelling methods to determine likely number of incident infections whilst incarcerated. The second study employs qualitative methods using focus groups and in-depth interviews of ex-prisoners across several jurisdictions to explore understandings of HCV and perceived barriers to prevention and treatment initiatives, with specific regard to differences between mainstream prisoners and those identifying as Indigenous. The third will conduct an evaluation using health economics methodology to establish the costs and returns of implementing needle and syringe exchange programmes within prisons, comparing various models of such a scheme and using both cost-effectiveness and a cost-benefit analysis approaches.

MY-Peer project

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers
Project partners: WA Centre for Health Promotion Research, School of Psychology, and Centre for Developmental Health, Curtin University of Technology
Funded by: Healthway

The MY-Peer project (Marginalised youth - participation, engagement and empowerment through research) will establish good practice standards to support the recruitment, training, supervision, evaluation and sustainability of peer based outreach programs for marginalised youth. The outcomes of MY-Peer will support current peer-based health promotion programs working to reduce isolation and poor health outcomes experienced by marginalised youth. NDRI is involved in the identification of youth/peer based programs targeting drug users or potential drug users - this will assist in the overall evaluation of peer programs for marginalised groups.

Strengthening China’s response to HIV, TB and HIV/TB co-infection in labour camps (lao jiao su) in Guangxi Autonomous Region: developing a prevention model to inform national policy

NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Project partners: UNSW School of Public Health, National Center for AIDS/STD Control & Prevention, Beijing
Funded by: AusAID

The aim of this project is to: 1. Strengthen the partnership between China and Australia and the relationships between the Ministry of Justice and key sections within the MoH (China-CDC NCAIDS and China-CDC NCTB), and Australian universities, 2. Assess health service capacity in labour camps and identify issues associated with screening, follow-up and treatment for BBV, STIs, and TB in labour camps. 3. Develop resources to correctly screen, follow-up (pre-and post-test counselling) and treatment of BBV (HIV, Hep B, Hep C), STIs, and TB in labour camps. 4. Determine the prevalence of BBV (HIV, HCV, HBV), sexually transmitted infections (syphilis, gonorrhoea, Chlamydia), TB (and TB/HIV co-infection), and risk behaviours in labour camps. 5. Develop health strategies for labour camps based on national health policies and guidelines and associated national programs and use this evidence-based information to minimise the spread of infectious diseases in labour camps and prevent the further spread of disease from labour camps to the wider community.
Research Activities

Key Priority 4

The impact of legislative, regulatory and educational strategies to minimise alcohol and other drug related harm

Ongoing Projects

Data analysis reporting and dissemination of two sub-studies from the evaluation of the cannabis infringement notice scheme

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Jessica George
Funded by: DPMP; UNSW

This project entails conducting data analysis, writing reports and refereed journal articles, and giving conference presentations and other briefings for policy makers locally, nationally and internationally on two sub-studies from the Western Australian evaluation of the cannabis infringement notice (CIN) scheme. The first substudy of regular cannabis users examines pre-post qualitative and quantitative interview data from a sample of regular cannabis users. It explores the impact of the CIN scheme on patterns of drug use and acquisition, drug market effects, sale of hydroponic equipment, drug driving, and knowledge and attitudes towards the law. The second substudy of school students examines pre-post quantitative self completion survey data of year 9 and 12 secondary school students. It aims to determine whether the legal changes affected students' cannabis use, knowledge and attitudes to cannabis and the law, their experience of acquiring and supplying cannabis in the drug market, and any impacts on school drug education.

Identifying elements of alcohol TV ads that impact on underage youth

CBRCC/NDRI staff: Rob Donovan, Owen Carter
Funded by: Healthway

Alcohol advertising impacts on consumption and attitudes toward alcohol, particularly among young people. Many studies have focused on exposure to alcohol advertising which has been found to promote positive attitudes toward alcohol and the experience of alcohol consumption among young people. Theme elements contained in alcohol advertisements (ie cartoon characters, celebrities, music and humour) are appealing to youth and have been shown to predict overall ad liking and effectiveness in terms of purchase intentions. This one year Heathway funded study aims to identify the specific elements of television alcohol advertising that predict positive attitudes to the advertised brand and purchase/consumption intentions of underage viewers. It will also examine the relationship between advertising likeability and its influence on advertising effectiveness, and model the relationship between specific elements of alcohol advertising and advertising likeability using structural equation modelling.

In Australia, all alcohol advertising is required to comply with the Australian Association of National Advertisers (AANA) Advertiser Code of Ethics and the Alcohol Beverages Advertising Code (ABAC) which is self regulated by the Australian alcohol beverages industry. Currently, no code articles regulate theme elements such as animation; cartoon characters, etc that children find appealing. This study will provide evidence of such appeals to youth and the impact of these appeals upon intentions and consumption. Hence, the findings of this study will inform policy and regulation in Australia.

Training of health staff for the implementation of the Smoke Free WA health system policy

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Richard Midford, Owen Carter, Clare Stevens
Funded by: WAHD

The implementation of the Smoke Free WA Health System Policy requires staff to be trained in using evidence based screening tools and the delivery of sound advice on the use of Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) with the support of resources to assist patients accessing health services to consider their tobacco use and make informed decisions about the management of their nicotine dependence. Staff are being trained in the delivery of sound NRT advice that will provide them with the confidence to address the issue of NRT use and assist patients in making decisions on the management of their nicotine withdrawal. Staff will have the capacity to monitor the efficacy of the NRT prescribed and assess the level of nicotine dependence and evidence of withdrawal. Staff will have the capacity to provide brief intervention advice to assist patients who wish to remain abstinent after discharge. Staff will be able to encourage patients not willing to remain abstinent on discharge to consider quitting in the future.
Research Activities

Key Priority 5

The development and evaluation of more effective school drug education programs

Ongoing Projects

Continuing dissemination of the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride
Funded by: AGDHA
See box.

International dissemination of the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Clare Stevens
Funded by: AGDHA
See box.

School health and alcohol harm reduction project (SHAHRP)

The School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP) continued to receive global attention throughout 2009.

The project aims to reduce alcohol related harm among secondary school students.

A Google analysis of the SHAHRP website (pictured) showed that in 2009 there were more than 3,200 visits to the website from 79 countries. Interest came from a range of quarters, including schools wanting to implement the program, and research and health organisations requesting research materials.

For example, in 2009, there were international requests from the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada.

The RAND Corporation in the US used SHAHRP research and program materials to inform research projects related to adolescents and interventions. In the UK, the Alcohol and Drug Service used the SHAHRP program in developing materials to teach and train in alcohol harm reduction. In Canada, Health and Social Services, Government of Yukon used the SHAHRP program to assist in planning and working with adolescents with substance use issues; and the SHAHRP program and research supported the prevention work of Youth and Family Services, St Christopher House in Toronto.

In Australia, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Deinstitutionalisation of Status Offenders included the SHAHRP program in the best practices database, which is designed to help practitioners and communities in implementing prevention and intervention programs that target the needs of status offenders, provide alternative to detention and prevent recidivism.

Other Australian examples of application of the program included:

- Greater Western Area Health Service in NSW using SHAHRP program materials in planning secondary school drug and alcohol programs;
- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Hume Region, Victoria used the SHAHRP program to support schools teaching drug education.
- The Shire of Katanning in WA used the SHAHRP program in the Katanning Alcohol Prevention Project. Funded by the Department of Health and Ageing, the project is aimed at reducing the proportion of 12-24 year olds in the local area affected by binge drinking.

The SHAHRP program was also implemented in several Australian schools in 2009, including Tranby College and MacKillop Catholic College in WA; Forest Lake Senior High School and Hillbrook Anglican School in Queensland; Victoria’s East Loddon P-12 College and Hosanna International College in South Australia.
Research Activities

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

New Projects

Estimate of the direct and indirect economic costs of alcohol incurred by local government

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Rina Cercarelli
Project partners: Drug and Alcohol Office of WA, WA Local Government Association; Injury Control Council of WA
Funded by:

The problems associated with the excessive consumption of alcohol impact both directly and indirectly on the business of many Local Governments. Local Government authorities have existing legislative roles and already commit resources to managing alcohol-related problems such as property damage. In addition, many local authorities are becoming involved in issues such as crime prevention and community safety, issues that are strongly linked with alcohol misuse.

The aim of this project is to estimate the economic costs of alcohol incurred by Local Governments in Western Australia. There will be several benefits of determining this for Local Government. This includes increased awareness of the true costs of alcohol-related problems; an increased awareness of how much time and resources are being used to respond to alcohol-related matters; the ability to identify and quantify the efforts of Local Government to the community; and using the information to inform strategic planning processes.

Evaluation of Services to CaLD Women with Co Morbidity

NDRI staff: Sherry Saggers, Lynn Roarty
Funded by: Womens Health Services

The objective of this research was to provide an evaluation of services for culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) women with comorbid mental health and drug and alcohol issues in Perth, Western Australia. The evaluation aimed to better inform the development of evidence-based training resources to improve the capacity of Womens Health Services Consortium to deliver services to this client group, and to enhance the capacity for self-evaluation of services. The research provides an overview of the literature around, and service provider views about, the availability and efficacy of services for women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds who suffer with co-occurring mental health and drug and alcohol issues. The project provides an assessment of the range and availability of academic and ‘grey’ literature relevant to this client group; and some evidence, drawn from interviews, about the issues involved in and best practice approaches for working with CaLD women with co-occurring disorders.

Ongoing Projects

Alcohol use during pregnancy: formative intervention research

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Susan Carruthers
Project partners: NDARC

Exposure to alcohol during the prenatal period remains the leading cause of preventable birth defects and developmental problems in Australia and as such has generated increased attention from policy, research and health practitioners. A large proportion of women reduce or stop alcohol use when they find out that they are pregnant, however, there is a proportion of women who continue to drink in moderation, and an additional group who continue to drink to risky levels while pregnant. The Alcohol Use During Pregnancy – Formative Intervention Research Study is an explorative, descriptive study using both quantitative and qualitative methods. The study is designed to assess factors that contribute to alcohol consumption during pregnancy, and to identify potential intervention strategies to reduce alcohol consumption during pregnancy. The study targets pregnant women who attend public hospitals in Perth and who are in their second or third trimester of pregnancy. Participants have identified themselves as current alcohol drinkers, 18 years of age or older, and who have English as their primary language.

Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP)

NDRI staff: Richard Midford, Sherry Saggers, Fredrik Welander, Andrea Schineanu
Project partners: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Funded by: AERF

KAAP is a three-and-a-half year, whole-of-community initiative that seeks to prevent problematic alcohol use and remediate associated harm in a community that historically has had high levels of both. The project, which is a partnership between NDRI and the City of Kalgoorlie/Boulder, is implementing an integrated range of local intervention strategies that have been derived from sound research evidence. The project is simultaneously conducting a range of early intervention, coalition building, media marketing, community education, skills training, enforcement and high risk group programs that address the individual, social and structural determinants of alcohol consumption and harm at the community level.

For further information about the Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project visit: ndri.curtin.edu.au.
Research Activities

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

New Projects

Does traumatic brain injury lead to offending behaviour?

NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Project partners: Royal Rehabilitation Centre, Sydney; UWA
Funded by: NHMRC

The aims of this project are to: (1) Examine whether Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is associated with subsequent offending behaviour (e.g. repeat offending, severity of offence, violent offending, sanction severity). (2) Examine a range of potential confounders and effect modifiers (e.g. socio-economic status, residential remoteness, maternal health indicators, psychiatric illness, and substance use) on the relationship between TBI and offending.

Ongoing Projects

National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre (NCPIC)

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Dennis Gray, Simon Lenton
Project leaders: NDARC
Project partners: ORYGEN, AIC, Ted Noffs Foundation and Lifeline
Funded by: AGDHA

The National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre is a consortium of high quality organizations from around the country. The consortium is led by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) and is located at the University of New South Wales. In addition to the National Drug Research Institute, the other consortium partners are: Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC), Lifeline, Orygen Research Centre (ORYGEN), Ted Noffs Foundation (TNF), and National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction (NCETA).

Helping university students to THRIVE

The prevalence of unhealthy alcohol use among young adults (aged 18-24 years) is increasing in many countries. Young people at university have a particularly high prevalence of unhealthy alcohol use and have been found to drink more heavily and to exhibit more clinically significant alcohol-related problems than their non-student peers. Internet-based methods have been shown to produce high survey response rates in this population group, and can be used to deliver interventions that address risk taking behaviours such as risky and high risk alcohol and illicit drug use.

Curtin University recently trialed the use of an Internet intervention aimed at reducing risky and high risk drinking by university students. The electronic screening and brief intervention (e-SBI) called THRIVE (Tertiary Health Research Intervention Via Email) was funded by Healthway and involved a six month randomised control trial. Invitations were sent to 13,000 undergraduates (aged 17-24 years) to complete a web-based Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT).

The intervention group received 10 minutes of web-based motivational assessment and personalized feedback comprising: AUDIT score, risk feedback and peer comparisons; facts about alcohol; tips for reducing the risk of alcohol-related harm; and where medical help and counseling support could be found. The control group received only the screening. In total 7,237 students (56% of those invited) completed the screening; 2,435 (34%) screened positive for unhealthy drinking; 1,251 were randomly assigned to receive the intervention; 1,184 students served as controls.

Heavy drinkers who received e-SBI drank 17% less alcohol than controls 1 month after screening, and 11% less alcohol 6 months after screening. These differences in overall volume consumed were mainly driven by reductions in the frequency of drinking, though there were also small reductions in the amount consumed per drinking episode. There were small non-significant differences between groups in the incidence of acute alcohol-related problems. In addition to the direct effects of the intervention, participant self-report after the 6-month follow-up suggests that the intervention prompted students with unhealthy alcohol use to seek help to moderate their drinking.

Of those who completed the intervention, 99% found THRIVE easy to complete, 76% said it provided personally relevant information, 55% would recommend it to a friend with a drinking problem, and 30% sought additional information on support services through the site.

This study shows that a universal screening approach is feasible and that a web-based intervention developed in consultation with potential users, and with the support of administrators, is a viable means of accessing a large, high-risk population group. It is possible that the intervention could be implemented in other educational institutions as well as medical and community settings.

For more information and to view the e-SBI program visit: http://wachpr.curtin.edu.au/thrive/index.cfm.
The consortium is highly skilled in the provision of evidence-based drug information and intervention. These partner's functions and activities are to provide: consortium leadership, evidence-based information and intervention development and dissemination (NDARC); effective preventive and culturally appropriate responses (NDRI); high quality telephone information, support and intervention (Lifeline); cannabis use and criminal justice (AIC); mental health and substance abuse (ORYGEN); adolescent treatment responses (TNF); and workforce development issues (NCETA).

The consortium is an active network to achieve the NCPIC mission to reduce the use of cannabis in Australia by providing the community with high quality, evidence-based information, and by building the service provision to users, families, and the general public. It will harness the exemplary knowledge and experience of the consortium members on cannabis and service delivery to the community and workforce.

**Completed Projects**

**Review and meta-analysis of alcohol and prostate cancer**

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal, Tim Stockwell, Kaye Fillmore
Project partners: University of California, USA; CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada
Funded by: AGDHA

See highlight box.

**THRIVE (tertiary health research intervention via email) online alcohol intervention**

NDRI staff: Jonathan Hallett, Peter Howat, Alexandra McManus, Bruce Maycock
Project partners: University of Newcastle
Funded by: Healthway

See highlight box.

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**Alcohol and prostate cancer**

The relationship between alcohol and the development of prostate cancer is uncertain. Research study results have been mixed and most past reviewers have concluded no association. This review and meta-analysis of alcohol and prostate cancer included a comprehensive literature review and meta-analysis of the published literature on alcohol and prostate cancer with particular emphasis on outcomes as they relate to study design and methodology.

Researchers found that men who drank two or more standard drinks of alcohol a day are more likely to develop prostate cancer. The findings are in marked contrast to previous reviews that found inconclusive evidence of an association between alcohol use and incidence of prostate cancer.

The study was a collaborative project including Tanya Chikritzhs and Richard Pascal from NDRI; Professor Kaye Fillmore and Dr Alan Bostrom from the University of California San Francisco; and Professor Tim Stockwell, director of the University of Victoria's Centre for Addictions Research of BC.

The study showed that when all 35 available epidemiological studies examining the relationship between level of drinking and the risk of developing prostate cancer are analysed together, heavier drinkers (14 or more drinks a week) are about 20 per cent more likely to develop prostate cancer than abstainers or light drinkers.

All studies published in or before 2006 were included and were global in scope. The study also examined differences among the identified studies that might have contributed to the past confusion regarding drinking and prostate cancer incidence. Among the differences, the closer the proximity of the measurement of drinking to diagnosis, the more likely there was a significant association between drinking and prostate cancer. Some types of studies were also more likely to find the relationship ("case control" studies) and others less likely ("cohort" studies), which explains different conclusions reached by other researchers.

The study findings, published in *Molecular Nutrition and Food Research*, suggest that future studies utilise multiple measurements because both the drinking habits and health status of men are rapidly changing with increasing age, making it difficult to ascertain the relationship between drinking and disease outcome.

Of considerable importance is the fact that many men with the disease are never diagnosed. This means findings from studies that do not determine if their control groups have the disease may be in serious doubt.

There is irony to the study findings. Some research has suggested that if middle aged and older men use alcohol at the rate of about 14 drinks a week this may prevent coronary heart disease. In contrast, the new study finds that it is at about the same levels of drinking that alcohol use contributes to the incidence of prostate cancer.
Research Activities

Key Priority 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

Ongoing Projects

Understanding the barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine users in health services

NDRI staff: David Moore, Robyn Dwyer
Project partners: National Centre in Epidemiology & Population Health, ANU; Centre for Epidemiology & Population Health Research, Burnet Institute
Funded by: NHMRC

This research aims to map the social contexts and epidemiology of methamphetamine use, related harms and health service utilisation/provision amongst street-based injecting drug users; to integrate these diverse data to better understand the barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine injectors in specialist drug treatment and other health services; to make recommendations for appropriate interventions; and to further develop and supply an enhanced ethno-epidemiology framework to the Australian context.

Improving understanding of psychostimulant related harm in Australia: An integrated ethno-epidemiological approach

NDRI staff: David Moore
Project partners: Centre for Population Health, Burnet Institute; National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW; National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University; Institute for International Research on Youth at Risk, National Development and Research Institutes, USA.
Funded by: NHMRC

This research project aims to provide greater understanding of the individual, social and cultural factors associated with psychostimulant-related harms through an innovative combination and integration of anthropological and epidemiological approaches known as ‘ethno-epidemiology’. In order to access a diverse range of psychostimulant-using contexts, research is focusing on three urban sites: street-based drug users in Sydney, club drug users in Melbourne and home-based, recreational drug users in Perth. These groups were chosen because they have high prevalences of

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

Robyn Dwyer was awarded her PhD in September 2009. Her research involved an ethnographic study of an active and highly visible street-based heroin marketplace in Footscray, a suburb of Melbourne. Robyn’s thesis was concerned with the social, cultural and economic processes that constitute street-based illicit drug marketplaces.

Robyn’s ethnography revealed that the drug marketplace is constituted by complex and dynamic social processes and relations. With a focus on drug user/dealers, her analysis condensed to two major themes — those of agency and exchange. Throughout the thesis, Robyn showed how, and in what ways, drug marketplace participants act on the world, achieve diverse outcomes and, thus, express their agency. Robyn also demonstrated the complexities of heroin exchange in the marketplace, revealing that heroin is exchanged in multiple ways (eg through trade, barter and gifts) for multiple purposes and according to multiple and fluid classifications of social relationships. Robyn’s account showed the embeddedness of the Footscray drug marketplace — that it is shaped by its particular historical, social, cultural, political and economic context — and that market processes — such as exchange — are shaped by culturally patterned ideas.

Robyn’s thesis provides an alternative to the dominant approaches to understanding Australian drug markets and marketplaces. Accounts of drug markets tend to privilege an etic view that is theoretically underpinned by the neo-classical economic model of the market. Additionally, the quantitative methodological approaches that predominate in Australian drug market research tend to preclude considerations of process and temporality. In contrast, Robyn privileges an emic account of the drug marketplace. Influenced by theoretical frameworks drawn from anthropology, in her examination of the everyday lives of drug user/dealers, Robyn’s account stresses the importance of the social, political and cultural dimensions of these people’s lives and directs attention to the importance and creativity of personal agency.

Robyn has published a series of journal articles drawn from her doctoral research. She is currently employed at NDRI’s Melbourne Office as a Research Fellow in the Ethnographic Program. She is working on an NHMRC funded project investigating the experiences of treatment and other health service utilisation for methamphetamine users, from the perspectives of methamphetamine users and service providers.

See Appendix 1 (page 37) for full list of research projects
psychostimulant use. The ethnographic research is being conducted by three PhD students: Rachael Green (Perth), Suzie Hudson (Sydney), and Christine Siokou (Melbourne). The aims of the project are to:

1. determine the cultural meanings and social contexts of psychostimulant use in three social networks of young people: (i) street-based injectors (Sydney); (ii) club drug users (Melbourne); and (iii) home-based recreational drug users (Perth);
2. investigate the epidemiology of psychostimulant use and related harms in these social networks;
3. integrate social, cultural and epidemiological data in order to identify the dynamics of the three drug markets in which network members participate and how these dynamics affect specific harms associated with psychostimulant use (eg, risk of blood-borne virus transmission, violence);
4. recommend possible interventions for the prevention of psychostimulant-related harms based on improved understanding of the interaction of market dynamics and social networks.

The research project will provide important data that will inform future interventions, improve multidisciplinary models for drug research, and build Australia’s capacity to conduct cutting-edge public health research.

Completed Projects

A multi-site investigation of the social meanings of alcohol misuse among young adults in recreational settings

NDRI staff: David Moore, Jeremy Northcote, Jocelyn Grace
Funded by: AERF

See box.

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

PhD student: Robyn Dwyer
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Andrew Dawson (University of Melbourne)
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

See box.

A multi-site investigation of the social meanings of alcohol misuse among young adults in recreational settings

This research project focused on drinking amongst young adults in Perth. It involved participant observation in eight networks of young adults (aged from 18-25 years old), in-depth interviews with a subsample of participants, and stakeholder interviews with venue managers, policy makers, and alcohol and other drug agencies. It was found that while drinking alcohol was central to social interaction across the eight groups of young adults observed and interviewed, there was considerable diversity between them – in how much alcohol they consumed, their tastes in venues and music, whether they also used drugs other than alcohol and their alcohol-related risk practices.

While few of the interviewed participants had ever felt themselves to be in danger of being harmed when going out drinking, they were not unaware of the risks associated with doing so.

As with harm minimisation approaches to illicit drug use, identifying and reinforcing the strategies that are currently being used by young adults may hold potential for reducing alcohol-related harm. Those identified in this study include:

- planning transport, having a designated driver or using public transport;
- actively preventing, trying to prevent, and chastising friends for drink-driving;
- avoiding venues with violent reputations, and choosing venues where staff and patrons are relaxed and friendly;
- staying with, and looking after, friends and partners, including avoiding and defusing arguments and fights amongst friends, other patrons and/or security staff;
- eating before drinking and later in the night;
- drinking water between alcoholic drinks;
- if taking drugs, taking care in procuring them, and understanding their effects (eg, dehydration) and the risks associated with combining them with alcohol.

There is an need for culturally appropriate, evidence-based strategies that can be communicated in credible and effective ways to young adults. Delivering messages that acknowledge the agency of young adults, and that are relevant to them, is an essential complement to approaches that seek to reduce alcohol-related harm by reducing the overall availability of alcohol, improving the safety of licensed premises and providing adequate and safe public transport. The report is available on the NDRI website at ndri.curtin.edu.au.
NDRI has an active PhD program and works to identify opportunities to fund more postgraduate students. PhD candidates are attracted through scholarships and through collaborative supervision with other schools and universities. The NDRI Tier 1 group has successfully supervised a large number of international Masters and PhD students, with research projects engaging both students working within Australia and international students conducting projects ‘at home’.

Completed PhD Projects

A case control study of lifestyle factors in the aetiology of ovarian cancer
PhD student: Dada Su
PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

Alcohol consumption by women in Australia; changes with pregnancy and breastfeeding
PhD student: Roslyn Giglia
PhD supervisor: Colin Binns
Funded by: AERF, AGDHA and NHMRC scholarship

Social, cultural and economic processes in illicit drug markets and their public health consequences
PhD student: Robyn Dwyer
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Andrew Dawson (University of Melbourne)
Funded by: NDRI scholarship (See box page 20)

Ongoing PhD Projects

Alcohol and other drug use at school leaver celebrations in Western Australia
PhD student: Tina Lam
PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs
Funded by: OCY, OCP

An examination of injection drug use sites: The influence of social and physical context on drug-related harm and public health interventions
PhD student: Will Small (enrolled University of BC)
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Jean Shoveller, Mark Tyndall (University of BC, Canada)
Funded by: Canadian Institutes of Health Research

Health inequalities and chronic disease: the experience of disease of disadvantaged people living with type 2 diabetes in an urban community
PhD student: Beatriz Cuesta Briand
PhD supervisors: Sherry Saggers and Alexandra McManus (Curtin University)
Funded by: Curtin University scholarship

Hepatitis C and its treatment in Australian custodial settings
PhD student: James Fetherston
PhD supervisors: Tony Butler, Susan Carruthers, David Wilson
Funded by: AGDHA

New PhD Projects

The ethnography of party drug use and related harm in the Melbourne club/rave scene
PhD student: Christine Siokou
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Helen Lee (La Trobe University)
Funded by: NHMRC

The ethnography of recreational party drug use and related harm in Perth
PhD student: Rachael Green
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW)
Funded by: NHMRC

The ethnography of psychostimulant use and related harm amongst street-based injecting drug users in Sydney
PhD student: Susan Hudson (enrolled UNSW)
PhD supervisors: Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW) and David Moore
Funded by: NHMRC

The harms associated with concurrent alcohol and party drug use amongst young people: risk environments and the implications for prevention
PhD student: Amy Pennay
PhD supervisors: David Moore, Simon Lenton
Funded by: AERF scholarship

Use of online forums by Australian party drug users: making drug use safer or more dangerous?
PhD student: Monica Barratt
PhD supervisors: Simon Lenton, Matthew Allen (Curtin University of Technology)
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

An investigation into the nature of point-of-sale promotions for alcohol beverages: their effects on the drinking intentions and behaviours of 15-25-year-olds
PhD student: Samantha Karmel (enrolled Wollongong)
PhD supervisor: Sandra Jones (Wollongong) and Steve Allsop
Funded by:

“Chaotic”, “erratic” and “aggressive” clients?
Exploring the limitations and possibilities of service provision for methamphetamine users
PhD student: Nicola Thomson
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Suzanne Fraser (Monash University)
Funded by: NHMRC

See Appendix 1 (page 37) for full list of research projects
Staff

Director
Steve Allsop, BSc(Hons)(Stir), PostGradDip(Paisley), PhD(Curtin)

Professors
Robert Donovan, PhD(WAust)
Dennis Gray, BA MA(WAust), MPH PhD(Hawaii) (Deputy Director)
Peter Howat, DipTchg(Chch) DPE(Iлага) PhD(III)
Andy Lee, MMath(Wat), PhDBioStats(ANU)
Simon Lenton, BPsych, MPsych(Clin)(WAust), PhD(Curtin) (Deputy Director)
Sherry Saggars, BA(WAust), MA(Hawaii), PhD(Brown)

Associate Professors
Tony Butler, BSc(Hons), MSc(London), MSc InfoTech(Kingston), DipAppEp, PhD(UNSW)
Tanya Chikritzhs, BA(Hons)(Murd), GradDipEpidBioStats PhD(Curtin)
Bruce Maycock, MEd(WAust), GradDipBus(ECowan)
Richard Midford, BA BPsych PhD(WAust), MPsych(Tas)
David Moore, BA(Hons) MA PhD(WAust)
Edward Wilkes, BA(Curtin)

Senior Research Fellows
Julia Butt, BSc(Hons)(WAust), PhD(Qu)
Rina Cerarcelli, BA(Hons), PhD
Nyanda McBride, DipTeach BEd(WACAE), PGGradDipHlthProm MPH PhD(Curtin)

Research Fellows
Susan Carruthers, BAppSc, GradDipDiet, MPH, PhD(Curtin)
Owen Carter, BPsych(WAust), DPsych(Murd), BA(Ancient History)(WAust)
Robyn Dwyer, BA(Hons)(Macquarie), PhD(Curtin)
Ed Garrison, MEd(CalifState), BA(Harpur)
Jocelyn Grace, BSc(Hons)(WAust), PhD(Murd)
Geoffrey Jalleh, MPH(WAust)
Wenbin Liang, MPH(Curtin), PhD(Curtin)
Eva Malacova, BSc(Hons), MSc(Sheffield), PhD(UWA)
Andrea Schineau, BSc, PostGradDipBioSci
Mandy Wilson, BA(WAust), BA(Hons)(WAust), PhD(WAust)

Senior Research Officer
Paul Catalano, BSc(Hons)(WAust), MCrimJus(WAust), MA(Qu)

Research Associates
Michael Doyle, GradDiplHlthProm(Sydney)
Christian Gardner, BMedSci(UWA), MMedSci(Newcastle), MBBS(UWA)
Jessica George, BA(Hons)Psych(Murd), MPsych(Clin)(Curtin)
Richard Pascal, BSc(Hons)(Curtin)
Candice Rainsford, BA(ECowan)
Lynn Roarty, BA,GradDipEd(Canberra), BA(Hons),PhD(Murdoch)
Anna Stearne, BA(ECowan), DipEd(WAust), PGradDipPubHlth(Curtin)

Research Assistants
Michaela Evans, BA(Hons)(UWA), PhD(UNSW)
Katie Frances, BA(Hons)(Surrey), MA(London), PhD(ECU)
Jackie Sparrow

PhD Students
Monica Barratt
Beatriz Cuesta Briand
James Fetherston
Rachael Green
Tina Lam
Amy Pennay
Christine Sioikou
Nicola Thomson

Adjunct Professors
Kaye Middleton Fillmore, BA, MA, PhD(Rutgers)
Kate Graham, CertIT BA MA(SFraser), PhD(WOnt)
Tim Stockwell, MA(Hons)(Oxf), MSc(Sur), PhD(Lond)

Emeritus Professor
David Hawks, BA(Hons)(WAust), MSc(Econ), DPsych(Lond), PhD(Qu) FBPsS CPsychol

Adjunct Associate Professor
Nicole Lee, BSc(Hons), PhD(Qu)
Wendy Loxley, CertTch(Rhodesia), BA(Hons)(WAust), GradDiplPsych(WAIT), MPsych PhD(Curtin)

Adjunct Senior Research Fellows
Neil Donnelly, BSc(UNSW) MPH(Syd) PhD(UNSW)
Celia Wilkinson, BA(Hons), MSc(Curtin), PhD(Curtin)

Adjunct Research Fellows
Violet Bacon, BSW MHC(Curtin)
Richard Chenhall, BA(Hons)MeltbUni, PhD(LSE)
Jocelyn Jones, BA(Murdoch)

Business Services Staff
Fran Davis, Business Manager
Jillian Evans, Clerical Officer
Maggie Halls, Resource Officer
Jo Hawkins, A/Administration Officer
Paul Jones, Computer Systems Officer
Rachael Lobo, Communications Officer
Lee Meyer, A/Secretary/Admin Assistant
Patricia Niklasson, A/Administrative Assistant
Vic Rechichi, Communications Officer
Pauline Taylor-Perkins, Administrative Officer
The National Drug Research Institute widely disseminates its research findings to increase awareness of drug related harm and effective prevention strategies, and to inform community debate and public health policy and practice.

Research is disseminated through various means, including the media, publications and presentations, to policy makers, practitioners, public health professionals, other researchers, interest groups and the community. Further information can be found on NDRI’s website at ndri.curtin.edu.au.

**Publications**

Research findings are published in refereed journals, reports and monographs, which are widely circulated throughout Australia and internationally. The publication of NDRI’s research findings has played a significant role in research translating into policy and practice.

**Presentations**

Research findings are presented locally through the NDRI seminar series, and nationally and internationally through presentations at conferences, symposia, workshops, seminars and forums. NDRI also directly influences policy through frequent presentations and submissions to national and state policy bodies.

**CentreLines**

Produced alternately by NDRI and its sister organisation, NDARC, this bi-monthly newsletter presents the latest NDRI research and provides a platform for debate on issues affecting drug and alcohol policy.

**Research Bulletins**

The findings of the National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP) are disseminated in four-page colour bulletins. This ‘user friendly’ approach has proven effective in broadening the reach of NDRI’s research beyond the academic sphere.

**Website**

Further information about NDRI’s research is available through its website at ndri.curtin.edu.au. The site is a popular way for the community, the media and other researchers to access NDRI’s work, registering more than 500,000 hits annually.

**Media**

The media is an important conduit for NDRI’s research to reach the community. NDRI has built a reputation as a source of reliable scientific information on a range of issues concerned with the prevention of alcohol and drug-related harm. NDRI received more than 1600 mentions in the media during 2009, with the provision of expert comment and evidence based research further enhancing NDRI’s efforts to disseminate its research findings widely and to inform and participate in alcohol and other drug policy development in Australia.

NDRI research and expert comment appeared in electronic and print media on a diverse range of subjects relating to alcohol and other drug use, reflecting the variety of expertise at the Institute.

Topics that generated the most media interest revolved around alcohol restrictions, Indigenous incarceration rates, the impact of the increase in tax on alcopops, research outlining trends in alcohol-attributable deaths and hospitalisations, cannabis law reform, drug amnesty bins, alcohol-related cancers and the link between prostate cancer and alcohol.
Dissemination Activities

Publications

Monographs and Technical Reports


Published Articles, Chapters and Books


Dissemination Activities
Publications (continued)


**Conference Presentations**


Dissemination Activities

Presentations (continued)


Symposium Presentations


Seminar Presentations


Dissemination Activities

Presentations (continued)


Gray, D. (2009) Review of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Alcohol and other Drugs Sector in Queensland. Invited presentation at the Presentation to Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Queensland Health Staff, Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander H, Brisbane, 19 March 2009.


Meeting Presentations


Forum Presentations


Dissemination Activities

NDRI Seminar Series

**NDRI Seminar Series 2009**
The National Drug Research Institute hosts regular events as part of its Seminar Series. These seminars serve several purposes. They provide NDRI staff with an avenue to disseminate research findings; they help build the presentation skills of early career researchers; and they provide a forum for NDRI staff and others in the alcohol and drug field to hear from visiting researchers.
The NDRI Seminar Series program is available on the NDRI website at ndri.curtin.edu.au.

26 February 2009
**The Internet: the new battleground for tobacco control**
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Owen Carter, NDRI (Tier 1)

24 April 2009
**NDRI PhD Seminar - “Chaotic”, “erratic” and “aggressive” clients? Exploring the limitations and possibilities of service provision for methamphetamine users**
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Nicola Thomson, NDRI

11 May 2009
**Alcohol, drugs and the family: results from a 35-year research program in England, Mexico, Italy, and the Northern Territory**
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Professor Richard Velleman, University of Bath / Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust, UK

25 June 2009
**Nipping it in the bud: fetal alcohol spectrum disorder in Indigenous communities**
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Carolyn Hartness, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Educator and Consultant

7 July 2009
**Alcohol and drug issues in Aboriginal Australia**
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Ted Wilkes, NDRI

11 August 2009
**Creating a reinforcing environment to promote behaviour change in drug offenders**
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Professor Martin Iguchi, Department of Community Health Sciences, UCLA School of Public Health, USA

26 August 2009
**Alcohol, tobacco, pregnancy and harm reduction: unlocking resistance and understanding their links**
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Nancy Poole, British Columbia Centre of Excellence for Women’s Health, Canada

10 September 2009
**Explaining ‘Excellence in Research for Australia’ and how it will impact on research funding in Australia**
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Melinda Thompson, Office of Research and Development, Curtin University of Technology

8 October 2009
**Information evening for 2010 PhD, Masters and Honours students**
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Steve Allsop, Candice Rainsford, Tina Lam and Anna Stearne, NDRI

15 October 2009
**The ‘War on Drugs’: a case for drug law reform**
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Dr Norm Stamper, Former US Police Chief and Advisor, Law Enforcement Against Prohibition
## Finance Report

### National Drug Research Institute Core Income and Expenditure 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGDHA</td>
<td>1,989,213</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Contributions</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>RPI and DEST PhD Income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curtin R&amp;D Contribution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sundry Income</td>
<td>131</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>15,333</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Surplus BF from December 2008</td>
<td>678,194</td>
<td>$2,852,871</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>$</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>1,925,022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating costs</td>
<td>537,321</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Costs</td>
<td>25,756</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD Scholarships</td>
<td>44,710</td>
<td>$2,532,809</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surplus at 31 December 2009</td>
<td></td>
<td>$320,062</td>
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<tr>
<td>Add Reserves</td>
<td>72,284</td>
<td>$72,284</td>
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</table>

### Total funds available at 31 December 2009

$392,346
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Total grant approved for project</th>
<th>Grant received in 2009</th>
<th>Expenditure in 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illicit drug reporting system (IDRS)</td>
<td>NDLERF via NDARC</td>
<td>$439,602</td>
<td>$40,311</td>
<td>$93,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecstasy and related drugs reporting system (EDRS)</td>
<td>NDLERF via NDARC</td>
<td>$337,475</td>
<td>$36,587</td>
<td>$58,291</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policing implications of petrol sniffing and inhalant misuse in Aboriginal communities</td>
<td>NDLERF</td>
<td>$139,440</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving understanding of psychostimulant-related harms in Australia: an integrated ethno-epidemiological approach</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>$603,910</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$6,963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005 NHMRC population health career development award</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>$271,500</td>
<td>$118,579</td>
<td>$147,865</td>
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<tr>
<td>Understanding the barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine users in health services</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>$756,850</td>
<td>$280,514</td>
<td>$241,426</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does traumatic brain injury lead to offending behaviour?</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>$267,175</td>
<td>$150,575</td>
<td>$29,922</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broome to Berrimah: Building Australia-wide research capacity in Indigenous offender health and health care delivery</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>$2,315,190</td>
<td>$472,299</td>
<td>$117,747</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swine influenza containment strategies</td>
<td>NHMRC via James Cook University</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$179</td>
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<tr>
<td>An investigation of the nature and effects of point-of-sale promotions for alcohol beverages</td>
<td>ARC via Wollongong University</td>
<td>$32,604</td>
<td>$25,720</td>
<td>$7,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social inclusion through community embedded, socially supported university education</td>
<td>ARC linkage via Australian Catholic University</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>$11,667</td>
<td>$1,487</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving health and criminal justice outcomes among Australia’s offender population</td>
<td>ARC future fellowship scheme</td>
<td>$788,800</td>
<td>$100,597</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concurrent alcohol and party drug use (PhD Scholarship)</td>
<td>AERF</td>
<td>$99,993</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalgoorlie alcohol action project (KAAP)</td>
<td>AERF</td>
<td>$799,981</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$140,902</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multi-site investigation of the social meanings of alcohol misuse among young adults in recreational settings</td>
<td>AERF</td>
<td>$308,286</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$28,827</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost of alcohol’s harm to others</td>
<td>AERF via Turning Point</td>
<td>$78,000</td>
<td>$70,200</td>
<td>$45,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identifying areas of greatest need in indigenous substance misuse intervention</td>
<td>ANCD</td>
<td>$94,174</td>
<td>$16,901</td>
<td>$8,942</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** | **$7,387,984** | **$1,343,950** | **$931,162**
## Other Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Total grant approved for project</th>
<th>Grant received in 2009</th>
<th>Expenditure in 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development of national amphetamine-type stimulant strategy</td>
<td>AGDHA</td>
<td>$133,320</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$19,246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effects of changes in cannabis law on prevalence of cannabis use, attitudes, deterrent effects and knowledge - phase 2</td>
<td>DAO</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$6,163</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alcohol sales data collection project</td>
<td>AGDHA via DAO</td>
<td>$114,086</td>
<td>$45,635</td>
<td>$73,193</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer addiction counsellor programme</td>
<td>DAO</td>
<td>$29,736</td>
<td>$12,400</td>
<td>$20,727</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development of aetiologic fractions for emergency departments</td>
<td>DAO</td>
<td>$346,103</td>
<td>$245,431</td>
<td>$147,525</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimate of the direct and indirect economic costs of alcohol incurred by local government in metropolitan WA</td>
<td>DAO/Injury Control Council</td>
<td>$38,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$21,272</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research into factors associated with young people’s risky alcohol use, particularly in relation to large private and public events - PhD scholarship</td>
<td>OCY &amp; OCP</td>
<td>$95,376</td>
<td>$35,492</td>
<td>$33,492</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development of key performance indicators for local government in Australia</td>
<td>Fairfield &amp; Brisbane Councils</td>
<td>$66,538</td>
<td>$43,651</td>
<td>$43,651</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provision of pharmaceutical drug misuse research</td>
<td>Turning Point</td>
<td>$33,078</td>
<td>$6,014</td>
<td>$6,014</td>
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<tr>
<td>National prison entrants bloodborne virus and risk behaviour survey 2007</td>
<td>DJ Vic, DCS Qld, JH NSW, DCS WA</td>
<td>$32,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$22,020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dampier Peninsular prevention project</td>
<td>Kimberley drug services team</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indigenous child death review</td>
<td>DCP</td>
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<td>Evaluation of pathways to prevention initiatives for children and families in WA</td>
<td>Mission Australia</td>
<td>$19,027</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jaru Pirrijirdi suicide prevention project</td>
<td>Mt Theo</td>
<td>$36,000</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mount Theo enhancing capacity management project</td>
<td>Mt Theo</td>
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<td>Development of a drug prevention research action plan</td>
<td>PDPC Vic</td>
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<td>School drug education evaluation tools project</td>
<td>DEECD Vic</td>
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<td>Key performance indicators for the SA alcohol action plan</td>
<td>DAS, SA</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$31,512</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outcome evaluation of department of corrective services prison pharmacotherapy treatment service</td>
<td>DCS, WA</td>
<td>$74,402</td>
<td>$26,041</td>
<td>$26,041</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seeding project to develop prison specific smoking reduction group program</td>
<td>DCS, WA</td>
<td>$27,273</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cannabis intervention</td>
<td>NDARC</td>
<td>$777,485</td>
<td>$214,464</td>
<td>$196,386</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data analysis, reporting and dissemination of 2 substudies from the evaluation of cannabis infringement notice scheme</td>
<td>UNSW - DPMP</td>
<td>$45,455</td>
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<td>$26,479</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alcohol restrictions review - PAAC</td>
<td>Tangentyere Council Inc</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$5,188</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Wellbeing Program</td>
<td>Tangentyere Council Inc</td>
<td>$9,309</td>
<td>$9,309</td>
<td>$7,777</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Other Grants (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Total grant approved for project</th>
<th>Grant received in 2009</th>
<th>Expenditure in 2009</th>
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<tr>
<td>Two review reports examining the effectiveness of advisory statements on packaged alcohol</td>
<td>Food Standards ANZ</td>
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<td>Sexual health and attitudes of Australian Prisoners (SHAAP) report Qld component</td>
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<td>Walpiri early childhood care and development program</td>
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<td>Evaluation of services to CaLD women with comorbidity issues</td>
<td>Women's Health Services</td>
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<td>SRG 2008 social determinants of health framework</td>
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<td>PhD allocation 2009 - infrastructure</td>
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### State Competitive Grants and Tenders

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<th>Project</th>
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<th>Grant received in 2009</th>
<th>Expenditure in 2009</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MHRIF Round 11 Award - Simon Lenton</td>
<td>WAHD</td>
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<tr>
<td>MHRIF Round 11 Award - Dennis Gray</td>
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<tr>
<td>MHRIF Round 11 Award - Richard Midford</td>
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<td>MHRIF Round 11 Award - Justice Research</td>
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<td>MHRIF Round 11 Award - Ethnographic research</td>
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<td>NIRIS Award 2007 - Tony Butler</td>
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<td>Training of health staff for the implementation of the smoke free WA health system policy</td>
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<td>Review of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island community controlled alcohol and other drugs sector</td>
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<td>Indigenous alcohol and other drug misuse and harm service provision</td>
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### Summary of NDRI Funding in 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Funding</th>
<th>Grant Received</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core funding (AGDHA)</td>
<td>$1,989,213</td>
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<td>National competitive grants</td>
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<td>State competitive grants</td>
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<td>Other grants and tenders</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total funding received in 2009</strong></td>
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### Sources of Research Grants Received in 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Grant Received</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation</td>
<td>$70,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian National Council on Drugs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian Research Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curtin University of Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Corrective Services, Western Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drug and Alcohol Office, Western Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fairfield and Brisbane Councils</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food Standards Australian and New Zealand</td>
<td>$50,192</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund</td>
<td>$76,898</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Health and Medical Research Council</td>
<td>$1,041,967</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mount Theo Substance Misuse Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, UNSW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office of Children and Youth &amp; Office of Crime Prevention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Queensland Aboriginal &amp; Torres Strait Islander Health Service</td>
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<td>Queensland Department of Corrective Services</td>
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<td>Tangentyere Council Inc</td>
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<td>Western Australian Health Department</td>
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<td>World Vision</td>
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<td>Women’s Health Services</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total additional research grants received</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,743,749</strong></td>
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**Finance Report**
### Appendix 1

Full list of research projects

**Key Priority 1: National monitoring of alcohol and other drug consumption patterns and related harms**

#### NEW PROJECTS

- **Development of South Australian specific aetiological fractions and estimates of alcohol-attributable morbidity and mortalities**
  - NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
  - Funded by: SAHS
- **Meta-analysis of the relationship between alcohol consumption and stroke**
  - NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Christian Gardner
  - Funded by: AGDHA
- **Meta-analysis systematic and design errors: alcohol use and disease outcomes**
  - NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Christian Gardner
  - Project partners: University of California, San Francisco, USA; CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada
  - Funded by: Challenge Grant, National Institutes of Health, USA

#### ONGOING PROJECTS

- **An investigation of the nature, extent and effects of point-of-sale promotions for alcohol beverages**
  - NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs, Clare Stevens
  - Project leaders: Wollongong University, Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research & Evaluation (SHORE), Massey University
  - Other partners: Cancer Council Victoria
  - Funded by: ARC
- **Development of a national minimum dataset for prisoners’ health**
  - NDRI staff: Tony Butler
  - Funded by: AIHW
- **Development of Australian alcohol aetiologic fractions for emergency department presentations**
  - NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop
  - Funded by: AGDHA via DAO
- **Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)**
  - NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Candice Rainsford, James Fetherston
  - Project partners: NDARC
  - Funded by: AGDHA via NDARC
- **GENACIS**
  - NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
  - Project partners: Turning Point; Deakin University
  - Funded by: NHMRC
- **Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)**
  - NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Candice Rainsford, James Fetherston
  - Project partners: NDARC
  - Funded by: AGDHA via NDARC
- **National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP)**
  - NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal
  - Funded by: AGDHA
- **National alcohol sales data project**
  - NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop, Wendy Loxley
  - Funded by: AGDHA via DAO

**NDSHS 2004 drinking prevalence study**
- NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Paul Catalano
- Project partners: CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada
- Funded by: AGDHA

**The range and magnitude of alcohol’s harm to others**
- NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Paul Catalano
- Project partners: Turning Point
- Funded by: AERF

#### COMPLETED PROJECTS

- **Benchmarking and identifying new and existing key performance indicators for the SA Alcohol Action Plan**
  - NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Wendy Loxley
  - Funded by: (DASSA) SAHS

### Key Priority 2: Partnerships in the prevention of alcohol and other drug misuse among Indigenous Australians

#### NEW PROJECTS

- **From Broome to Berrima: Building Australia-wide research capacity in Indigenous offender health and health care delivery**
  - NDRI staff: Tony Butler, Dennis Gray, Steve Allsop, Jocelyn Grace
  - Project partners:
  - Funded by: NHMRC
- **Swine influenza containment strategies**
  - NDRI staff: Sherry Saggers
  - Project partners: James Cook University; Hunter-New England Area Health Service; Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services Council
  - Funded by: NHMRC
- **Warlpiri early childhood care and development program**
  - NDRI staff: Sherry Saggers, Anna Stearne
  - Project partners: University of South Australia; Charles Darwin University
  - Funded by: World Vision

#### ONGOING PROJECTS

- **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cannabis intervention**
  - NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Julia Butt, Steve Allsop
  - Project partners: Indigenous community controlled health services
  - Funded by: NCPIC
- **Beyond the big smoke - a clear vision for Aboriginal tobacco control**
  - NDRI staff: Bruce Maycock, Peter Howat
  - Funded by: Australian Respiratory Council, Healthway
- **Bibliographic database on Indigenous Australian alcohol and other drug use**
  - NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggers, Anna Stearne, Michael Doyle
  - Project partners: CSR, ECU
  - Funded by: AGDHA
- **Enhancement of the patrol monitoring and evaluation database**
  - NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne
  - Project partners: Tangentyere Council; Julalikari Council; Kununurra-Waringarri Aboriginal Corporation
  - Funded by: AERF
Appendix 1
Full list of research projects (continued)

Enhancing the management of alcohol-related problems among Indigenous Australians - Stage 2 and 3
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Steve Alsop, Sherry Sagger, Ted Wilkes
Project partners: CSR, ECU; QUADREC, University of Qld
Funding: AGDHA

Evaluation of the ‘Makin Tracks’ 2 project
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne
Project partners: ABAC (SA)
Funded by: AGDHA and ADAC (SA)

Evaluation of "youth led futures" partnership grants with Indigenous communities
NDRI staff: Sherry Sagger, Anna Stearne
Project partners: ECU
Funded by: Foundation for Young Australians

Identifying areas of greatest need in Indigenous substance misuse intervention
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne, Jennifer Dodd, Michael Doyle, Mandy Wilson
Funded by: National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee

Indigenous alcohol and drug staff development initiative
NDRI Staff: Ed Garrison, Dennis Gray
Funded by: AGDHA

Jaru Pirrjirdi suicide prevention project
NDRI staff: Sherry Sagger, Anna Stearne
Funded by: Mt Theo Yuendumu Substance Misuse Aboriginal Corporation

Mt Theo Enhancing Capacity Management project (Mt Theo Palka-Jarrija Project)
NDRI staff: Sherry Sagger, Anna Stearne
Funded by: Mt Theo Yuendumu Substance Misuse Aboriginal Corporation

Not just scholars but leaders: Learning circles in Indigenous health research
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray
Project partners: Curtin University of Technology; TICHR; Menzies School of Health Research, CUCRH
Funded by: NHMRC

Randomised controlled trial of an intensive smoking cessation intervention in Kimberley Aboriginal PHC settings
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray
Project partners: Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service; Cairns Base Hospital; Rural Clinical School of WA (UWA); Derby Aboriginal Health Service; Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service Council
Funded by: NHMRC

Restorying Aboriginal parenting: development and evaluation of a culturally relevant program to support Aboriginal parents promoting their children’s behavioural and social competence and readiness for school learning
NDRI staff: Ted Wilkes
Project partners: Curtin University of Technology
Funded by: NHMRC

Support of Tangentyere Council Research Hub
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Sagger, Anna Stearne
Project partners: Tangentyere Council, Centre for Remote Health (Flinders University & Charles Darwin University)
Funded by: AGDHA

The role of resiliency in responding to blood borne viral and sexually transmitted infections in Indigenous communities
NDRI staff: Ted Wilkes
Funded by: NHMRC

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Review of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled alcohol and other drugs sector in Queensland
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Sagger, Ted Wilkes
Project partners: CSR, ECU
Funded by: Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council

The Tangentyere Council Family Wellbeing Program
NDRI staff: Anna Stearne, Dennis Gray
Project partners: Tangentyere Council
Funded by: Tangentyere Council

Key Priority 3: Prevention of the spread of blood-borne viruses and other harms among injecting drug users

ONGOING PROJECTS

Hepatitis C and its treatment in Australian custodial settings (PhD project)
PhD student: James Fetherston
PhD supervisors: Tony Butler, Susan Carruthers, David Wilson
Funded by: AGDHA

Strengthening China’s response to HIV, TB and HIV/TB coinfection in labour camps (lao jiao suo) in Guangxi Autonomous Region: developing a prevention model to inform national policy
NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Project partners: UNSW School of Public Health, National Center for AIDS/STD Control & Prevention, Beijing
Funded by: AusAID

MY-Peer project
NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers, Bruce Maycock
Project partners: WA Centre for Health Promotion Research, School of Psychology, and Centre for Developmental Health, Curtin University of Technology
Funded by: Healthway

COMPLETED PROJECTS

WA Prisoner Health Survey
NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Project partners: ECU
Funded by: ECU
Key Priority 4: The impact of legislative, regulatory and educational strategies to minimise alcohol and other drug-related harm

ONGOING PROJECTS

A longitudinal study of pharmacological smoking cessation aids efficacy in real-life settings
NDRI staff: Rob Donovan, Owen Carter
Funded by: NHMRC

Data analysis reporting and dissemination of two substudies from the evaluation of the cannabis infringement notice scheme
NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Jessica George
Funded by: DPMP, UNSW

Identifying elements of alcohol TV ads that impact on underage youth
NDRI staff: Rob Donovan, Owen Carter
Funded by: Healthway

Multivariate analysis of Cannabis Infringement Notice data
NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs
Funded by: NDRI

Training of health staff for the implementation of the smoke free WA health system policy
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Owen Carter, Clare Stevens
Funded by: HDWA

Use of online forums by Australian party drug users: Making drug use safer or more dangerous? (PhD project)
PhD student: Monica Barratt
PhD supervisors: Simon Lenton and Matthew Allen (Curtin)
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

WA CIN scheme cannabis evaluation - phase 2 (sub-study 2, regular users study)
NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs
Funded by: DAO and NDRI

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Development of a National Needle and Syringe Program (NSP) strategic framework
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop
Project partners: CHR, Burnet Institute; NCHECR
Funded by: DHS, Victoria

Evaluation of a best practice integrated intervention for regular methamphetamine users with co-morbid depression
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop
Project partners: Centre for Mental Health Studies, University of Newcastle; Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Queensland; NDARC
Funded by: BeyondBlue National Depression Initiative

WA CIN scheme cannabis evaluation - phase 2 (sub-study 7, evaluation in schools)
NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs
Funded by: DAO and NDRI

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

NEW PROJECTS

Do perceptions of morality of alcohol, tobacco & cannabis use influence uptake in high school?
NDRI staff: Donovan RJ, Jalleh G, Howat P, Midford R.
Project partners: Child Health Promotion Research Centre, Edith Cowan University; Institute for Child Health Research
Funded by: Australian Research Council

ONGOING PROJECTS

Continuing dissemination of the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)
NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

International dissemination of the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)
NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Clare Stevens

COMPLETED PROJECTS

School drug education evaluation tools project
NDRI staff: Richard Midford
Project partners: Youth Research Centre, Uni of Melbourne, Centre for Youth Drug Studies, ADF
Funded by: DEECD, Victoria

Key Priority 6: The development and evaluation of more effective community drug prevention programs

NEW PROJECTS

Estimate of the direct and indirect economic costs of alcohol incurred by Local Government in metropolitan WA
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Rina Cercarelli
Project partners: DAO, WA Local Government Association (WALGA), Injury Control Council of WA
Funded by:

Evaluation of Services to CaLD Women with Co Morbidity
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggiers, Lynn Roarty
Funded by: Womens Health Services

ONGOING PROJECTS

Alcohol use during pregnancy: formative intervention research study
NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Susan Carruthers
Project partners: NDARC

Cochrane collaboration review of workplace AOD programs
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Richard Midford, Rina Cercarelli
Project partners: NCETA
Funded by: AGDHA

Interventions to reduce alcohol use during pregnancy: Systematic literature review
NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride
Appendix 1
Full list of research projects (continued)

Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP)
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggers, Fredrik Welander, Andreia Schineanu
Project partners: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Funded by: AERF

People with mental health disorders and cognitive disability in the criminal justice system
NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Project partners: UNSW
Funded by: Australian Research Council (ARC linkage project)

Seeding project to develop a prison specific smoking reduction program
NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Project partners: DCS, WA
Funded by: DCS, WA

The influence of fathers on infant feeding practices in Western Australia (FIFA-WA)
NDRI staff: Colin Binns, Peter Howat, Bruce Maycock
Funded by: Healthway

COMPLETED PROJECTS

A case control study of lifestyle factors in the aetiology of ovarian cancer (PhD project)
PhD student: Dada Su
PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

Alcohol consumption by women in Australia; changes with pregnancy and breastfeeding (PhD project)
PhD student: Roslyn Giglia
PhD supervisor: Colin Binns
Funded by: AERF, AGDOH and NHMRC scholarship

Evaluation of pathways to prevention initiatives for children and families in Western Australia
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggers
Project partners: Mission Australia
Funded by: Mission Australia

Evaluation of the Dampier Peninsula prevention project
NDRI staff: Richard Midford
Funded by: AERF via Kimberley Community Drug Service Team

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

NEW PROJECTS

Alcohol Use and Disease Outcomes: A Research Synthesis
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
Project partners: University of California, San Francisco, USA;
Funded by: NIH

Does traumatic brain injury lead to offending behaviour?
NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Project partners: Royal Rehabilitation Centre, Sydney; UWA
Funded by: NHMRC

Social inclusion through community embedded, socially supported university education
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggers
Funded by: ARC

ONGOING PROJECTS

Alcohol and other drug use at school leaver celebrations in Western Australia (PhD project)
PhD student: Tina Lam
PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs
Funded by: OCY, OCP

An examination of cannabis contamination and potency in Australia
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop
Project partners: NDARC; Chemistry Centre WA
Funded by: NDARC

Impact of low and moderate alcohol use during pregnancy: human/animal studies
NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride
Funded by: Curtin Health Sciences ICRP Program

Impact of parental substance use on infant development and family functioning
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Nyanda McBride
Project partners: NDARC
Funded by: 2008 UNSW Goldstar Award

Medications and crash involvement for older drivers: A population based study
NDRI staff: Andy Lee
Project partners: Injury Control Council, UWA
Funded by: Australian Transport Safety Council, Road Safety Research Grant

Mortality among opioid dependent persons in pharmacotherapy
NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Project partners: NDARC; NCHECR
Funded by: NHMRC

National Cannabis Control and Prevention Centre (NCCPC)
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Dennis Gray, Simon Lenton
Project leaders: NDARC
Project partners: Orygen, AIC, Ted Noffs Foundation and Lifeline
Funded by: AGDHA

Reducing impulsive behaviour in repeat violent offenders using a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor
NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Funded by: NSW Health

Secondary analysis of the relationship between cannabis use, dependence, mental health and associated outcomes in the Victorian Adolescent Cohort study
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop
Funded by: NDARC

Sexual Health & Attitudes of Australian Prisoners Survey
NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Funded by: NHMRC

Tobacco capacity building scholarship
NDRI staff: Rob Donovan, Owen Carter
Funded by: Healthway
COMPLETED PROJECTS

Does moderate drinking prevent heart disease? A meta-analysis
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Tim Stockwell, Kaye Fillmore
Project partners: University of California, San Francisco, USA; Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley, USA; CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada
Funded by: AERF

Review and meta-analysis of alcohol and prostate cancer
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Tim Stockwell, Kaye Fillmore
Project partners: University of California, San Francisco, US; CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada
Funded by: AGDHA

THRIVE (tertiary health research intervention via email) online alcohol intervention
NDRI staff: Peter Howat, Bruce Maycock
Funded by: Healthway

New Projects

Key Priority 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

Ongoing Projects

An examination of injection drug use sites in Vancouver: The influence of social and physical context on drug-related harm and public health interventions (PhD project)
PhD student: Will Small (enrolled University of British Columbia, Canada)
PhD supervisors: Jean Shoveller, Mark Tyndall (both Uni of BC) and David Moore

Improving understanding of psychostimulant-related harm in Australia: An integrated ethno-epidemiological approach
NDRI staff: David Moore
Project partners: Centre for Population Health, Burnet Institute; National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW; National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University; Institute for International Research on Youth at Risk, National Development and Research Institutes, USA.
Funded by: NHMRC

The ethnography of recreational party drug use and related harm in Perth (PhD project)
PhD student: Rachael Green
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW)
Funded by: NHMRC

The harm associated with concurrent alcohol and party drug use amongst young people: Risk environments and the implications for prevention (PhD project)
PhD student: Amy Penney
PhD supervisor: David Moore, Simon Lenton
Funded by: AERF scholarship

Understanding the barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine users in health services
NDRI staff: David Moore, Robyn Dwyer
Project partners: National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, ANU; Centre for Population Health, Burnet Institute; Research School in Pacific and Asian Studies, ANU
Funded by: NHMRC

Completed Projects

A multi-site investigation of the social meanings of alcohol misuse among young adults in recreational settings
NDRI staff: David Moore, Jeremy Northcote, Jocelyn Grace
Funded by: AERF

Social, cultural and economic processes in illicit drug markets and their public health consequences (PhD project)
PhD student: Robyn Dwyer
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Andrew Dawson (Uni of Melbourne)
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

Understanding the social and cultural politics of hepatitis C in Australia
NDRI staff: David Moore
Funded by: ARC Linkage

Understanding the barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine users in health services
NDRI staff: David Moore, Robyn Dwyer
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The ethnography of recreational party drug use and related harm in Perth (PhD project)
PhD student: Rachael Green
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW)
Funded by: NHMRC

The harm associated with concurrent alcohol and party drug use amongst young people: Risk environments and the implications for prevention (PhD project)
PhD student: Amy Penney
PhD supervisor: David Moore, Simon Lenton
Funded by: AERF scholarship
### Appendix 2

#### List of abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADAC (SA)</td>
<td>Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (South Australia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AERF</td>
<td>Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGDHA</td>
<td>Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIC</td>
<td>Australian Institute of Criminology</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIHW</td>
<td>Australian Institute of Health and Welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANCD</td>
<td>Australian National Council on Drugs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANU</td>
<td>Australian National University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APSAD</td>
<td>Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>Australian Research Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASHM</td>
<td>Australasian Society for HIV Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATS</td>
<td>Amphetamine-type stimulant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARBC</td>
<td>Centre for Addictions Research of British Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHR</td>
<td>Centre for Health Research, Burnet Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIN</td>
<td>Cannabis infringement notice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSRGGS</td>
<td>Curtin Strategic Research Grant Scheme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSR, ECU</td>
<td>Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUCRH</td>
<td>Combined Universities Centre for Rural Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DASA</td>
<td>Drug and Alcohol Services Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAO (WA)</td>
<td>Drug and Alcohol Office of Western Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>DCP (WA)</td>
<td>Department for Child Protection, Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCS, Qld</td>
<td>Department of Corrective Services, Queensland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCS, WA</td>
<td>Department of Corrective Services, Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD, Victoria</td>
<td>Department for Education and Early Childhood Development, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEST</td>
<td>Department of Education, Science and Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHS, Victoria</td>
<td>Department of Human Services, Victoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>DJ VIC</td>
<td>Department of Justice, Victoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECU</td>
<td>Edith Cowan University</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDRS</td>
<td>Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System</td>
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<tr>
<td>JH, NSW</td>
<td>Justice Health, New South Wales</td>
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<tr>
<td>IDRIS</td>
<td>Illicit Drugs Reporting System</td>
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<tr>
<td>KAAP</td>
<td>Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>MCDS</td>
<td>Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAIP</td>
<td>(Indigenous) National Alcohol Indicators Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCETA</td>
<td>National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Publications


Dissemination Activities Continued

Publications like this or below as Subhead 1

New Projects

Project title
NDRI Staff:
Project Partners:
Funded by:
Body text

Ongoing Projects

Project title
NDRI Staff:
Project Partners:
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Completed Projects

Project title
NDRI Staff:
Project Partners:
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Research Activities

Key Priority 1: xxxxxxx
