Preventing harmful drug use in Australia
Funded by the National Drug Strategy
WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse
Tier 1 Research Centre
ndri.curtin.edu.au

Street Address:
National Drug Research Institute
Curtin University
Health Research Campus
Level 2, 10 Selby Street, Shenton Park,
Perth, Western Australia, 6008

Postal Address:
National Drug Research Institute
Curtin University
GPO Box U1987
Perth, Western Australia, 6845

Telephone: (08) 9266 1600
Facsimile: (08) 9266 1611
Email: ndri@curtin.edu.au

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About NDRI

The National Drug Research Institute (NDRI) is based at Curtin University in Perth, Western Australia. It is a leading national and international authority in the area of drug and alcohol policy and prevention research, and is one of the largest centres of alcohol and other drug research expertise in Australia.

NDRI’s mission is to conduct and disseminate policy and practice relevant research that contributes to the primary prevention of harmful drug use and the reduction of drug-related harm. 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 range of state, national and international funding bodies. The Institute also receives support from Curtin University.

Mission

To conduct and disseminate policy and practice relevant research that contributes to primary prevention of harmful drug use and reduction of drug-related harm.

Key Result Areas

- Conduct research that will contribute to the primary prevention of harmful drug use and the reduction of drug-related harm.
- Contribute to national capacity for research and disseminate research findings to key groups.

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, including a commitment to Indigenous Australians;
- 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;
- Ethical conduct;
- Support for and development of early career researchers;
- Fairness and equity for staff of all levels.
Board of Management

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

Prof Steve Allsop
Director
National Drug Research Institute

Mr Simon Cotterell
Assistant Secretary
Population Health Division - Drug Strategy Branch
Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Associate Prof Garry Allison
Dean of Research
Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University

Ms Ann Deanus
Chief Executive Officer
Women’s Health Services, Western Australia

Prof Roland De Marco
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Office of Research and Development
Curtin University

Prof Jill Downie
Pro Vice Chancellor, Faculty of Health Sciences
Curtin University

Prof Dan Lubman
ORYGEN Research Centre
University of Melbourne

Mr Shayne Maines
Assistant Commissioner
Western Australian Police Service

Mr Michael Moore
Chief Executive Officer
Public Health Association of Australia

Ms Coralie Ober
Research Fellow, Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre (QADREC)
University of Queensland
This has been another significant year for the National Drug Research Institute (NDRI). After commencing our strategic planning process, which involved engaging staff and external stakeholders, a new strategic plan was endorsed in 2010. This plan highlights the eight research priority areas whereby NDRI aims to enhance prevention and other responses to alcohol and other drug problems.

Increasing attention has been given to alcohol use and related harm, both within Australia and overseas. Through the efforts of the alcohol team, led by Associate Professor Tanya Chikritzhs, NDRI has taken a key role in identifying that Australian per capita alcohol consumption is increasing along with a range of related harms, such as liver disease. Over the past year, the team has also been focussing on enhancing the evidence base to guide alcohol policy through accurate assessment of alcohol consumption and developing sensitive measures of related harm, such as emergency department admissions. Collaborations with colleagues in the US and Canada have resulted in better understanding of the limitations of some of the work on various claimed health benefits of moderate alcohol consumption, resulting in two successful bids for National Institutes of Health (United States) funding to better inform alcohol policy.

Professor Sherry Saggers has enhanced the Institute’s focus on prevention and early intervention with long term evaluations of early childhood interventions in Western Australia (WA) and the Northern Territory, Australian Research Council (ARC) funded research on transitions to education and employment for marginalized young people, and National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) funded research building Indigenous research capacity around pandemic influenza. Dr Colleen O’Leary joined the Institute with an NHMRC Training Fellowship and supporting funds from the Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Office (DAO) and Curtin’s Faculty of Health Sciences. Her expertise has significantly advanced our involvement in research and responses to fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD). In 2010 this culminated in funding from the Australian Government for a team, led by Professor Saggers, to work in partnership with others, such as DAO, to build national resources to prevent and respond to FASD among Indigenous communities. The program brings together significant internal expertise, such as Doctors Colleen O’Leary, Nyanda McBride, Lynn Roarty, Kate Frances, Professor Dennis Gray and Associate Professor Ted Wilkes, with expertise from government and community controlled organisations across Australia. Dr Frances was awarded a Healthway starter grant for the project, Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder knowledge and referral pathways in early childhood settings. NDRI staff are also collaborating in a National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) led project that is assessing the impact of parental alcohol and drug use on infants.

The Indigenous research team has continued to make significant contributions to research and practice. For example, Professors Dennis Gray and Ted Wilkes launched the report, Indigenous specific alcohol and other drug interventions: continuities, changes and areas of greatest need. Two major projects aim to enhance clinical responses to, respectively, alcohol and cannabis related harm. The first project has provided funding to six services around Australia to translate mainstream research findings about effective responses to alcohol problems into Indigenous communities. The second, driven by Dr Julia Butt, and funded through the National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre (NCPIC), builds capacity to identify and provide brief interventions in response to cannabis related problems. Doctors Mandy Wilson and Julia Butt were awarded a Healthway research grant to examine Drinking in the suburbs: the experiences of Aboriginal young people.

Overseen by Professor David Moore, NDRI’s Melbourne office has continued to grow and contribute to research and service communities on the eastern seaboard. Most recently Professor Moore, in partnership with colleagues at the McFarlane Burnet Institute, was successful in securing an Australian Research Council grant to model the impact of interventions targeting high risk drinking among young Australians. There are four staff and six PhD scholars located in the Melbourne office. Professor Moore commenced as Editor of the international journal, Contemporary Drug Problems. Professor Moore’s quality contributions to the field and the University have been recognised in a promotion, which will take effect at the beginning of 2011, to Level E.

Professor Simon Lenton’s team, focusing on illicit drug policy research and the translation of that work into policy practice,
has achieved a number of milestones. Early in 2010, Professor Lenton, along with co-authors Robin Room, Benedikt Fischer, Wayne Hall and Peter Reuter, published *Cannabis policy: moving beyond stalemate*, which has informed debate about cannabis policy and review of international treaties in various countries. Candice Rainsford and Jessica Miller oversee the *Illicit drug reporting system (IDRS)* which, along with the *Ecstasy and related drugs reporting system (EDRS)*, monitors illicit drug use trends in WA as part of a national project coordinated by NDARC. 2010 marks the tenth year of this initiative. In 2010 Professor Lenton was also busy working with a range of stakeholders towards increasing access to naloxone to help prevent heroin overdose fatalities. It is anticipated that this will result in tangible outcomes during 2011.

Our Tier 1 colleague, Dr Owen Carter, in collaboration with Associate Professor Richard Midford, Clare Stevens and others, was involved in developing an online training program for health staff wanting to intervene in tobacco use. This initiative has received very positive feedback, with almost 200 clinicians completing the program in its first few weeks of operation.

It is relevant to note that the Institute’s achievements are underpinned by the engine room of our support staff and early career researchers. It is rare that Paul Jones (for computing support), Patricia Niklasson, Jo Hawkins or Jill Evans (for administrative support), Rachael Lobo or Vic Rechichi (communications staff) receive a mention. But without their superb effort, our outputs would simply not be possible. It is therefore pleasing to see two staff in particular receive more formal acknowledgement of their contributions. Our Business Manager, Fran Davis, was awarded the Curtin University Office of Research and Development inaugural Curtin Research Support Award and Indigenous researcher Anna Stearne was recognised by Curtin University as an ‘Unsung Hero’ at its 2010 NAIDOC Week celebration.

Other staff also received recognition from their peers. Professor Dennis Gray was inducted into the National Drug and Alcohol Awards Honour Roll in recognition of his 35-year commitment to addressing health and alcohol and other drug issues among Indigenous Australians; Professor Tony Butler was named 2010 Curtin Health Sciences Researcher of the Year; Associate Professor Tanya Chikritzhs was awarded the Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) WA President’s Award in recognition of her outstanding achievements and contributions to public health, and the Curtin University Research and Development Prize for Early Career Researcher - Highest Research Performance Index (Publications) 2009 in the Faculty of Health Sciences; and NDRI Tier 1 colleague Professor Colin Binns received the prestigious 2010 Research Australia Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition and honour of the long-standing support he has given to health policy, practice and medical research. He also received the John Curtin Distinguished Professor Award from Curtin University.

It has been a productive year. It is a pleasure to be part of a group of colleagues who put so much effort into their work and, importantly, are totally committed to research that has relevance and impact for the broader community. Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of Curtin University, a strong and active Board and a constructive working relationship with community organisations and state and Australian government services.

Professor Steve Allsop
Director
National Drug Research Institute
Highlights

2010 highlights and achievements include:

- NDRI completed its strategic planning process and commenced implementing its new strategic plan outlining directions for the future.
- Associate Professor Tanya Chikritzhs and colleagues published a study in the *Medical Journal of Australia* on per capita alcohol consumption in Australia. The study found that previous figures had underestimated how much people drank because they did not take into account that more drinkers chose wine and its alcohol content had increased steadily.
- NDRI Indigenous Team Leaders Dennis Gray and Ted Wilkes launched a major report – commissioned by the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee – identifying Indigenous-specific alcohol and other drug intervention projects and the funding for them. The report, *Indigenous specific alcohol and other drug interventions: continuities, changes and areas of greatest need*, has been acknowledged by the Minister for Indigenous Health as ‘a key input’ into the implementation of the National Drug Strategy.
- NDRI launched a research report, “Don’t wake up angry no more” - The evaluation of the Norseman voluntary liquor agreement, into voluntary alcohol restrictions introduced in the remote Western Australian community of Norseman. The research found that restrictions that are instigated and supported by the community can be very effective in minimising the harm caused by alcohol misuse.
- Professor Dennis Gray was inducted into the National Drug and Alcohol Awards Honour Roll in recognition of his 35-year commitment to addressing health and alcohol and other drug (AOD) issues among Indigenous Australians.
- Offender health researcher Professor Tony Butler was a finalist in the prestigious 2010 Western Australian Science Awards. Prof Butler was nominated in the Early Career Scientist of the Year category for establishing a significant National Health and Medical Research Council Capacity Building Grant in the field of Indigenous offender health, involving eminent researchers in the field from across Australia.
- Professor Tony Butler was also named 2010 Curtin Health Sciences Researcher of the Year. The award, which is based on 2009 output, recognises outstanding researchers in Curtin University’s Faculty of Health Sciences.
- Associate Professor Tanya Chikritzhs was awarded the Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) WA President’s Award in recognition of her outstanding achievements and contributions to public health.
- Associate Professor Tanya Chikritzhs also won the Curtin University Research and Development Prize for Early Career Researcher - Highest Research Performance Index (Publications) 2009 in the Faculty of Health Sciences.
- Indigenous researcher Annalee Stearne was recognised by Curtin University as an ‘Unsung Hero’ at its 2010 NAIDOC Week celebration. Annalee, who has worked at NDRI since 2001, received recognition for a decade of dedication to helping people affected by drug and alcohol problems.
- NDRI Tier 1 colleague Professor Colin Binns received the prestigious 2010 Research Australia Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition and honour of the long-standing support he has given to health policy, practice and medical research over three decades. He also received the John Curtin Distinguished Professor Award from Curtin University.
- NDRI Business Manager, Fran Davis, was awarded the Curtin University Office of Research and Development inaugural Curtin Research Support Award.
- Professor David Moore won an Australian Research Council grant to model the impact of interventions targeting high risk drinking among young Australians. The $430,000 grant, awarded jointly to NDRI and the Burnet Institute, will enable researchers to improve the understanding of the individual, social, cultural, economic and geographical factors that shape heavy drinking and related problems.
- Dr Colleen O’Leary was awarded an NHMRC training fellowship to work at NDRI on a project entitled *Mothers with alcohol-related diagnoses and the long-term health, neurodevelopmental, and educational outcomes of their offspring*.
- Dr Kate Frances was awarded a Healthway starter grant for the project *Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder knowledge and referral pathways in early childhood settings*.
- Dr Julia Butt and Dr Mandy Wilson were awarded a Healthway research grant for two years for their project *Drinking in the suburbs: the experiences of Aboriginal young people*.
- Professor David Moore commenced as Editor of the international journal *Contemporary Drug Problems*.
- Indigenous researchers Associate Professor Ted Wilkes and Professor Dennis Gray travelled to New Zealand/Aotearoa as guests of the Alcohol Advisory Council of NZ (Kaunihera Whakatapto Waipiro Aoteaora) with the aim of fostering stronger links between Indigenous peoples in Australia and New Zealand and facilitating improved strategies to address harmful use of alcohol and other drugs.
- The theme of the 2010 NAIDOC Week barbecue at NDRI was ‘Proud to be Indigenous and proud to be Australian’. The annual celebration of Indigenous culture, which attracted about 80 visitors, featured the Wiljak traditional dancers and a ‘didgeridoo duel’ between brothers Ted and Nigel Wilkes.
- Professor David Moore gave an invited forefront lecture at St Paul’s Hospital in Vancouver while spending a week visiting the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS in June 2010.
NDRI research shows voluntary alcohol restrictions can work

The remote Western Australian community of Norseman was the focus of media attention in July 2010 when NDRI research demonstrated that voluntary alcohol restrictions, when instigated and supported by the community, can be effective in minimising the harm caused by alcohol use.

The restrictions, introduced in March 2008, limited the sale of specific cask and fortified wines to a 6-hour period each day, and were requested by the local Aboriginal community with support from the town’s only publican.

“Don’t wake up angry no more” - The evaluation of the Norseman voluntary liquor agreement, conducted by NDRI researchers, showed that a 12-month trial of the restrictions led to a 60% decrease in alcohol-related hospital admissions, a 17% reduction in assaults, a 10% drop in police tasks and a 10% decrease in per capita alcohol consumption. Local authorities also reported less violence and public drunkenness, and improved health and nutrition among residents.

The Norseman Aboriginal Community initiated the alcohol restrictions as the first step to addressing health and social issues in their community. The trial was so successful that the restrictions have been made permanent and, at the suggestion of the Norseman Hotel licensee, have been expanded to include two more products.

NDRI researcher Andreia Schineanu said the evaluation demonstrated that alcohol restrictions that have been instigated and supported by the community can be effective in minimising the harms resulting from alcohol use. She said that the Norseman Voluntary Liquor Agreement was unique in that the Norseman Aboriginal Community worked voluntarily with the local licensee to instigate change, rather than trying to declare a dry area or to use liquor licensing legislation to enforce restrictions, as has occurred elsewhere in Australia.

Scott Wilson, Deputy Chair of the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation, which funded the evaluation, said the Norseman exercise was further evidence that positive change can be achieved when initiatives are led by those directly affected within the community.

The full report is available on the NDRI website at ndri.curtin.edu.au.

Honour for NDRI researcher

A 35-year commitment to addressing health and alcohol and other drug (AOD) issues among Indigenous Australians was recognised in 2010 with Professor Dennis Gray being inducted into the National Drug and Alcohol Awards Honour Roll.

Professor Gray has been working to address health issues in Indigenous communities since 1975. The hallmark of his work, which included setting up the Indigenous Australian Research Team at NDRI, has been building the capacity of Indigenous community-controlled organisations to conduct research into AOD problems in their own communities.

The Honour Roll acknowledges individuals who have made a significant contribution to reduce the harms from alcohol and other drug use over many years.

In presenting the award in Brisbane on June 25, Queensland Deputy Premier Paul Lucas said Professor Gray had made a major contribution to addressing alcohol abuse in Aboriginal communities.

“He is an exceptional academic in the extent to which he engages with community organisations and with people who are part of the struggle for change,” Mr Lucas said.

“He enters difficult public debates confidently and in an expert manner, which has had a big impact in helping Aboriginal community-controlled health services achieve the types of policy changes that make a difference. In spite of his knowledge and strong academic standing he has always remained approachable and has made the time to communicate with and support Aboriginal community-controlled health services.

“Professor Gray continues to do the type of research which we are able to use to support and inform our advocacy for policy change in the critical area of alcohol.”

Professor Dennis Gray accepting his Honour Roll award
NDRI is amongst the largest centres of alcohol and other drug research expertise in Australia. Recognising that problems associated with alcohol and other drug use are complex, a multi-disciplinary approach to research is pursued. NDRI staff come from diverse professional backgrounds, including psychology, public health, epidemiology, nursing, medicine, sociology and anthropology. A range of high level skills and a wealth of knowledge contribute to innovative research approaches.

NDRI works closely with a diverse range of clients and stakeholders, and a culture of collaboration ensures that much of its work is further strengthened through partnership with other research bodies, government, and non-government organisations locally, nationally and internationally. The Institute is a designated World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

The following pages list new, ongoing and completed projects undertaken by NDRI researchers during 2010, organised by eight key research priorities (listed below). Further project information can be found on NDRI’s website at ndri.curtin.edu.au.

### Key Research Priorities

During 2010, as part of its strategic planning process, and in consultation with stakeholders, the Board of Management and staff, NDRI identified and developed eight new key research priority areas:

1. Alcohol policy
2. Indigenous Australians
3. Offender health
4. Primary prevention and early intervention
5. Social contexts of drug use
6. People who continue to use drugs
7. Tobacco
8. New technologies

### Context

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

- **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.
Research Activities

Key Priority 1

ALCOHOL POLICY

This research area takes a broad approach to alcohol that spans issues of social, health and regulatory policy relevance throughout Australia and overseas. The alcohol policy research team is multidisciplinary including: epidemiology, biostatistics, psychology, medicine and anthropology. Ongoing and highly regarded projects include the National alcohol indicators project (NAIP), which has monitored changes in alcohol-related harms since 1999; the National alcohol sales data project; Examination of the impact of outlet density and hours of sale on alcohol related harm; and the Australian alcohol aetiologic fractions for emergency department presentations project.

Collaborations with colleagues in the USA and Canada maintain a solid international contribution to the aetiology of disease and injury, including a meta-analysis on alcohol-related disease funded by the USA National Institutes of Health. State and local-level focused projects cover issues concerning associations between trading hours, density of licensed premises, violence and road crash mortality and morbidity. Collaborative work includes a range of projects facilitated by links with colleagues across Australia (eg cost of harm to others project, economic cost of alcohol to the Northern Territory, measurement of alcohol-related morbidity and mortality in South Australia, facilitating alcohol policy development in Tasmania, local government responses to alcohol-related harm). Doctoral scholars have focused on drinking patterns among older populations, and drinking and related harms experienced by youth at school leaver celebrations. A focus of future work will be on assessing the nature of alcohol use and related harm among young people and developing effective interventions.

New Projects

The social and economic costs of alcohol use in WA, 2004/05
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
Funded by: DAO

Ongoing Projects

Alcohol and other drug use at school leaver celebrations in Western Australia (PhD project)
PhD scholar: Tina Lam
PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs
Funded by: Office for Youth

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, NZ
Other partners: Cancer Council Victoria
Funded by: ARC

Australian alcohol aetiologic fractions for emergency department presentations (AAAFED)
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop, Christian Gardner
Funded by: AGDHA via DAO

Development of South Australian specific aetiological fractions and estimates of alcohol-attributable morbidity and mortalities
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Michaela Evans, Richard Pascal
Funded by: SAHS

Completed Projects

Meta-analysis systematic and design errors: alcohol use and disease outcomes
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Christian Gardner
Project partners: University of California, USA; CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada
Funded by: Challenge Grant, NIH, USA

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

See Appendix 1 (page 30) for list of abbreviations
Research Activities
Key Priority 2
INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

NDRI’s Indigenous research program aims to prevent and reduce the burden of harm caused by alcohol and other drugs in Indigenous communities. Research has included evaluations of specific interventions, early identification of alcohol and other drug-related problems and intervention in primary health care settings, and the identification of gaps in service provision.

The program is based on partnerships with Indigenous community-controlled organisations and includes a focus on building Indigenous research capacity, including building the capacity of Indigenous organisations to conduct their own research. Team members are active on several national and state advisory committees, they work actively to disseminate the results of their research and have achieved a wide range of practical outcomes at the local, state/territory and national levels.

### New Projects

A longitudinal study of influences on alcohol consumption and related harm in Central Australia, with a particular emphasis on the role of price
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Tanya Chikritzhs, Sherry Saggers, Mandy Wilson, Anna Stearne
Funded by: FAHCSIA

Kava usage in Indigenous and Pacific Islander communities
NDRI staff: Julia Butt, Ted Wilkes, Dennis Gray
Funded by: AGDHA

Safe and Sober Support Service evaluation and data systems
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Ted Wilkes, Anna Stearne
Funded by: Central Australian Aboriginal Congress

### Ongoing Projects

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cannabis intervention
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Julia Butt, Steve Allsop, Simon Lenton, Ted Wilkes
Project partners: Indigenous community controlled health services
Funded by: NCPIC

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

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

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

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
Funded by: NHMRC

Identifying areas of greatest need in Indigenous substance misuse intervention
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne, Michael Doyle, Mandy Wilson
Funded by: NIDAC

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

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; Lifeline
Funded by: AGDHA

Not just scholars but leaders: Learning circles in Indigenous health research
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray
Project partners: Curtin University; 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

Restor(y)ing 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
Funded by: NHMRC

Support of Tangentyere Council research hub
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggers, Anna Stearne
Project partners: Tangentyere Council; Centre for Remote Health (Flinders University and 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

Project information available at ndri.curtin.edu.au
Research Activities

Key Priority 3

OFFENDER HEALTH

The link between drug use and offending behaviour is well established but has often been overlooked. Evidence-based interventions and treatments are needed to provide alternatives to incarceration and to enhance the outcomes of incarceration. NDRI has established a Justice Health research group that is committed to building capacity among Indigenous researchers with an interest in the criminal justice system. This is supported by an NHMRC capacity building grant. An additional NHMRC grant will investigate the use of a pharmacotherapy to treat impulsive violent offenders.

There are limited approaches to effectively manage alcohol-related problems in the criminal justice system and this remains a focus of work conducted by NDRI. Similarly, there is a need for effective tobacco interventions with 85% of prisoners smoking tobacco. To progress responses, NDRI aims to stimulate interventions and research in this area by initially implementing a national summit on tobacco smoking in prison. A further initiative will be to conduct the triennial National prison entrants bloodborne virus survey in 2010, one of only two nationally collaborated health projects in this area.

New Projects

2010 National prison entrants’ bloodborne virus and risk behaviour survey
NDRI staff: Tony Butler, David Lim
Funded by: Justice Health, NSW; Dept of Corrective Services, QLD; NT Dept of Justice; Dept of Health and Human Services, Tas.

Hepatitis C, prisons and treatment opportunities (HePATO)
NDRI staff: Tony Butler, Susan Carruthers
Funded by: NHMRC

National Summit on tobacco smoking in correctional facilities in Australia
NDRI staff: Tony Butler, Clare Stevens
Funded by: AGDHA - Tobacco Control Section

Reducing impulsive behaviour in repeat violent offenders using a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (Zoloft)
NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Funded by: NHMRC

Social and cultural resilience of Aboriginal mothers in prison (SCREAM)
NDRI staff: Tony Butler, Mandy Wilson
Funded by: NHMRC

Completed Projects

Sexual health and attitudes of Australian prisoners survey (Queensland component)
NDRI staff: Tony Butler, Eva Malacova
Funded by: NHMRC

Strengthening China’s response to HIV, TB and HIV/TB co-infection 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

Ongoing Projects

Developing a national minimum dataset for prisoners’ health
NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Funded by: AIHW

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

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

People with mental health disorders and cognitive disability in the criminal justice system
NDRI staff: Tony Butler
Project partners: UNSW

See Appendix 1 (page 30) for list of abbreviations
Research Activities

Key Priority 4

PRIMARY PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION

This multidisciplinary research area explores factors that prevent the early and problematic use of alcohol and other drugs, particularly during childhood and adolescence. The area includes a focus on early intervention programs for high risk children, families and communities. Research and evaluation on social determinants of drug use includes work on the impact of alcohol during pregnancy, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, early learning and care programs, parental support, school-based drug education, and the social and economic impact of community-embedded university education on those marginalised through AOD, mental health issues or homelessness.

This area draws upon diverse theoretical and methodological approaches and incorporates understandings from many disciplines – anthropology, sociology, education, psychology and the creative arts – to explore successful models of leadership and development. The research builds on international work exploring the social and economic benefits of prevention and early intervention, particularly among marginalised populations, in terms of more equal health outcomes, reduced hazardous and harmful drug use, safer children and more cohesive communities.

New Projects

Can parents teach their children to drink responsibly? Or, is one drop a drop too many?
NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride
Project leaders: NDARC
Funded by: ARC via NDARC

Culture, context and risk: socio-cultural influences on the sexual health of Indigenous young people
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggers
Funded by: ARC Linkage

Evaluation of young parents’ program for parents and children experiencing drug and alcohol problems
NDRI staff: Kate Frances, Sherry Saggers
Project partners: Palmerston Association Inc
Funded by: Palmerston Association Inc.

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder (FASD) knowledge and referral pathways in early childhood settings
NDRI staff: Kate Frances, Sherry Saggers, Nyanda McBride
Project partners: WAHD; PlaygroupWA; WA DET
Funded by: Healthway

National Indigenous Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) resource project
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggers, Colleen O’Leary, Ted Wilkes, Dennis Gray, Nyanda McBride, Steve Allsop, Kate Frances, Lynn Roarty
Funded by: AGDHA

Pandemic influenza containment strategies in Aboriginal communities
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggers
Funded by: NHMRC

SHAHRP refresh: updating the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)
NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride, Clare Stevens
Project partners: Notre Dame University
Funded by: Healthway

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: NDRI

Continuing dissemination of the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)
NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride
Funded by: NDRI
Evaluation of “youth led futures” partnership grants with Indigenous communities
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggars, Anna Stearne
Project partners: ECU
Funded by: Foundation for Young Australians

Impact of parental substance use on infant development and family functioning
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Colleen O’Leary, Aurora Popescu
Project partners: NDARC
Funded by: NHMRC

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

Interventions to reduce alcohol use during pregnancy: Systematic literature review
NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride
Funded by: NDRI

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

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

Mt Theo enhancing capacity management project (Mt Theo palka-jarrija project)
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggars, Anna Stearne
Funded by: Mt Theo Yuendumu Substance Misuse Aboriginal Corporation

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

Northern Ireland SHAHRP Study
NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride
Project Partners: University of Liverpool, UK; Liverpool John Moores University, UK

Swine influenza containment strategies
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggars
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 Saggars, Anna Stearne
Project partners: University of South Australia; Charles Darwin University
Funded by: World Vision

Completed Projects

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

Key Priority 5
SOCIAL CONTEXTS OF DRUG USE

NDRI’s ethnographic research program focuses on diverse topics – street-based injecting drug use, amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), alcohol, service provision, and hepatitis C infection – with research being conducted in international and Australian jurisdictions. Staff and PhD scholars in the program employ a mix of research methods: ethnography and other qualitative approaches, ethno-epidemiology and agent-based modelling. Project findings are disseminated to research, policy, practice and community audiences through written and oral presentations, and are intended to inform policy and practice (eg the work of the Premier’s Drug Prevention Council, Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee, and the National Drug Strategy and associated strategies such as the National ATS Strategy).

Projects focus on improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine users in health services; the social and cultural politics of hepatitis C in Australia; the influence of social and physical contexts on drug-related harm and public health interventions in Vancouver; ATS use among young people; a mixed-methods study of alcohol use among young people in Melbourne; and a study of how addiction concepts influence public health policy and practice. These projects include collaborations with state, national and international colleagues (eg AER Centre for Alcohol Policy Research, Burnet Institute, Monash University, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS).

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 scholar: Will Small (enrolled University of British Columbia, Canada)
PhD supervisors: Jean Shoveller, Mark Tyndall (both Uni BC), 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; NCHECR, UNSW; NCEPH, ANU; Institute for International Research on Youth at Risk, National Development and Research Institutes, USA
Funded by: NHMRC

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

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

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

The ethnography of psychostimulant use and related harm amongst street-based injecting drug users in Sydney (PhD project)
PhD scholar: Susan Hudson (enrolled UNSW)
PhD supervisors: Lisa Maher (NCHECR, UNSW), David Moore
Funded by: NHMRC

The ethnography of recreational drug use and related harm in Perth (PhD project)
PhD scholar: Rachael Green
PhD supervisors: David Moore, Lisa Maher (NCHECR, 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 scholar: Amy Pennay
PhD supervisors: David Moore, Simon Lenton
Funded by: AERF scholarship

Under construction: the social and cultural politics of hepatitis C in Australia
NDRI staff: David Moore
Project partners: Centre for Women’s Studies and Gender Research, Monash University; NCHSR, UNSW
Funded by: ARC Discovery

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

Research Activities

Key Priority 5
SOCIAL CONTEXTS OF DRUG USE

NDRI’s ethnographic research program focuses on diverse topics – street-based injecting drug use, amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), alcohol, service provision, and hepatitis C infection – with research being conducted in international and Australian jurisdictions. Staff and PhD scholars in the program employ a mix of research methods: ethnography and other qualitative approaches, ethno-epidemiology and agent-based modelling. Project findings are disseminated to research, policy, practice and community audiences through written and oral presentations, and are intended to inform policy and practice (eg the work of the Premier’s Drug Prevention Council, Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee, and the National Drug Strategy and associated strategies such as the National ATS Strategy).

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Ongoing Projects

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Social inclusion through community embedded, socially supported university education
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PhD supervisors: Lisa Maher (NCHECR, UNSW), David Moore
Funded by: NHMRC

The ethnography of recreational drug use and related harm in Perth (PhD project)
PhD scholar: Rachael Green
PhD supervisors: David Moore, Lisa Maher (NCHECR, 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 scholar: Amy Pennay
PhD supervisors: David Moore, Simon Lenton
Funded by: AERF scholarship

Under construction: the social and cultural politics of hepatitis C in Australia
NDRI staff: David Moore
Project partners: Centre for Women’s Studies and Gender Research, Monash University; NCHSR, UNSW
Funded by: ARC Discovery

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

Research Activities

Key Priority 5
SOCIAL CONTEXTS OF DRUG USE

NDRI’s ethnographic research program focuses on diverse topics – street-based injecting drug use, amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), alcohol, service provision, and hepatitis C infection – with research being conducted in international and Australian jurisdictions. Staff and PhD scholars in the program employ a mix of research methods: ethnography and other qualitative approaches, ethno-epidemiology and agent-based modelling. Project findings are disseminated to research, policy, practice and community audiences through written and oral presentations, and are intended to inform policy and practice (eg the work of the Premier’s Drug Prevention Council, Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee, and the National Drug Strategy and associated strategies such as the National ATS Strategy).

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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 scholar: Will Small (enrolled University of British Columbia, Canada)
PhD supervisors: Jean Shoveller, Mark Tyndall (both Uni BC), 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; NCHECR, UNSW; NCEPH, ANU; Institute for International Research on Youth at Risk, National Development and Research Institutes, USA
Funded by: NHMRC

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

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

The ethnography of party drug use and related harm in the Melbourne club/rave scene (PhD project)
PhD scholar: Christine Siokou
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Funded by: NHMRC

The ethnography of psychostimulant use and related harm amongst street-based injecting drug users in Sydney (PhD project)
PhD scholar: Susan Hudson (enrolled UNSW)
PhD supervisors: Lisa Maher (NCHECR, UNSW), David Moore
Funded by: NHMRC

The ethnography of recreational drug use and related harm in Perth (PhD project)
PhD scholar: Rachael Green
PhD supervisors: David Moore, Lisa Maher (NCHECR, 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 scholar: Amy Pennay
PhD supervisors: David Moore, Simon Lenton
Funded by: AERF scholarship

Under construction: the social and cultural politics of hepatitis C in Australia
NDRI staff: David Moore
Project partners: Centre for Women’s Studies and Gender Research, Monash University; NCHSR, UNSW
Funded by: ARC Discovery

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

Key Priority 6

PEOPLE WHO CONTINUE TO USE ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

This research priority focuses on conducting research which informs policy and practice interventions that aim to reduce the harm to individuals, families, organisations and communities for people who continue to use alcohol and other drugs. The scope of the work is necessarily broad, and involves NDRI researchers from several discipline areas and research teams. The research work includes interventions from the most micro level, such as preventing harm for individual drug users and their peers, to the most macro level, such as contributing to the development of more effective drug treaties and international conventions. Historically, this work has focused on informing the development of better policy and regulatory systems with the capacity to improve the situation for thousands of people and create a macro context that supports the challenging work of treatment, harm reduction and other interventions that are implemented at an individual level.

Examples of research projects in this area include research contributing to the development of new cannabis laws in Western Australia and an evaluation of the impact of those changes; a study of repeat drink drivers to inform better countermeasures for this group of high risk offenders; studies to reduce hepatitis C transmission among people who inject drugs; research to understand and improve responses to alcohol use by older Australians; studies to improve responses to prevent fatal heroin-related overdoses, including the feasibility of improving access to naloxone (Narcan®) for peer administration; provision of research evidence leading to the inclusion of harm minimisation provisions in liquor licensing laws; informing strategies to reduce alcohol-related harm in the late-night entertainment environment; and development of a model to minimise harm associated with teenage drinking at major events.

New Projects

What difference does treatment make? Psychometric properties of a measure of young people’s progress in residential rehabilitation
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggers, Mandy Wilson, Lynn Roarty
Project partners: UWA; University of Western Sydney; Mission Australia; Ted Noffs Foundation; DAO; NSW Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Office, Sydney South West Area Health System
Funded by: ARC

Ongoing Projects

An examination of cannabis contamination and potency in Australia
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop
Project partners: NDARC
Funded by: NCPIC

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

Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)
NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Candice Rainsford, James Fetherston
Project partners: NDARC
Funded by: AGDHA via NDARC

Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)
NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Candice Rainsford, James Fetherston
Project partners: NDARC
Funded by: AGDHA via NDARC

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

Completed Projects

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

See Appendix 1 (page 30) for list of abbreviations
As tobacco use has declined in the general population, it has become apparent that some disadvantaged groups have much higher rates of tobacco use. For example, prisoners, Indigenous people, people with mental health problems and other drug users in general experience higher rates of tobacco use and related morbidity and mortality. There are also strong links between tobacco use and many other forms of drug use, including heavy alcohol use and cannabis use.

The primary focus of NDRI’s work is to develop interventions for at-risk and disadvantaged populations, including rural and remote communities; to develop and trial interventions using electronic media; to develop and implement interventions in alcohol and drug treatment services; and to examine, and on the basis of evidence trial, tobacco harm reduction strategies. Tobacco research is a primary focus of our Tier 1 colleagues based in the Centre for Behavioural Research into Cancer Control. Their work includes a focus on advocacy, social marketing, legislative approaches, pharmaceutical interventions and the evaluation of smoking cessation programs.

**Ongoing Projects**

Beyond the big smoke - a clear vision for Aboriginal tobacco control
NDRI staff: Bruce Maycock, Peter Howat
Funded by: Australian Respiratory Council; Healthway

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

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

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

**Completed Projects**

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

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: WAHD

Technological developments and the internet create opportunities for information dissemination, data collection and intervention delivery for the alcohol and other drug sector, drug users and the wider community. Drugs may be supplied, information sought and given, and interventions delivered over the internet and through other electronic media.

This is an emerging area that provides significant opportunities in the direct delivery of interventions. Most young Australian drug users now live in a context where internet use is embedded in their everyday lives and such access to vast amounts of drug-related information online changes the landscape of drug demand, supply and policy.

NDRI is building on its existing research in this area to further develop the evidence base to improve both understanding and responses to the intersection between drug use and information and the online environment. This will include examination of electronic based brief interventions to at-risk alcohol and other drug consumers.

**Ongoing Projects**

Beyond information seeking: Internet forums and party drugs in Australia (PhD project)
PhD scholar: Monica Barratt
PhD supervisors: Simon Lenton, Matthew Allen (Curtin University)
Funded by: NDRI scholarship
Research Activities

PhD PROGRAM

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 many international Masters and PhD scholars, with research projects engaging both students working within Australia and international students conducting projects ‘at home’.

Ongoing PhD Projects

Alcohol and other drug use at school leaver celebrations in Western Australia
PhD scholar: Tina Lam
PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs
Funded by: Office for Youth

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

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 scholar: Samantha Karmel (enrolled Wollongong)
PhD supervisors: Sandra Jones (Wollongong), Steve Allsop

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

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

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

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

The ethnography of recreational party drug use and related harm in Perth
PhD scholar: Rachael Green
PhD supervisors: David Moore, Lisa Maher (NCHECR, UNSW)
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The ethnography of psychostimulant use and related harm amongst street-based injecting drug users in Sydney
PhD scholar: Susan Hudson (enrolled UNSW)
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The harms associated with concurrent alcohol and party drug use amongst young people: risk environments and the implications for prevention
PhD scholar: Amy Pennay
PhD supervisors: David Moore, Simon Lenton
Funded by: AERF scholarship

Beyond information seeking: Internet forums and party drugs in Australia
PhD scholar: Monica Barratt
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Funded by: NDRI scholarship

See Appendix 1 (page 30) for list of abbreviations
Staff

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

Professors
Tony Butler, BSc(Hons), MSc(London), MSc(Kingston), DipAppEp, PhD(UNSW)
Robert Donovan, PhD(WAust)
Dennis Gray, BA MA(WAust), MPh PhD(Hawaii) (Deputy Director)
Peter Howat, DipTchg(Chch) DPE(Otago) PhD(III)
Andy Lee, MMath(Wat), PhDBioStats(ANU)
Simon Lenton, BPsych, MPsych(Clin)(WAust), PhD(Curtin) (Deputy Director)
Bruce Maycock, MEd(WAust), GradDipBus(ECowan), PhD(Curtin)
Sherry Saggers, BA(WAust), MA(Hawaii), PhD(Brown)

Associate Professors
Tanya Chikritzhs, BA(Hons)(Murd), GradDipEpidBioStats PhD(Curtin)
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 Cercarelli, BA(Hons), PhD
Suzanne Fraser, BA (Hons), PhD, GradCertHigherEd
Nyanda McBride, DipTch BEd(WACAE), PGDipHlthProm 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)
Kate Frances, BA(Hons)(Surrey), MA(London), PhD(ECU)
Ed Harrison, MEd(CalifState), BA(Harpur)
Jonathan Hallett, BA, PostGradDip International Health
Geoffrey Jalleh, MPH(WAust)
Wenbin Liang, MPH(Curtin), PhD(Curtin)
Eva Malacova, BSc(Hons), MSc(Sheffield), PhD(UWA)
Lynn Roarty, BA,GradDipEd(Canberra), BA(Hons),PhD(Murdoch)
Jeane Roberts, BEd, Med
Andrea Schineanu, BSc, PostGradDipBioSci
Amanda Wilson, BA(WAust), BA(Hons)(WAust), PhD(WAust)

Research Associates
Michael Doyle, GradDiplHlthProm(Sydney)
Michaela Evans, BA(Hons)(UWA), PhD(UWA)
Christian Gardner, BMedSci(UWA), MMedSci(Newcastle), MBBS(UWA)
Jessica Miller, BSc(Hons)
Colleen O’Leary, BSc, MPH, PhD
Richard Pascal, BSc(Hons)(Curtin)
Aurora Popescu, BScPsych, PostGradPsych
Candice Rainsford, BA(ECowan)
Anna Stearne, BA(ECowan), DipEd(WAust), PGradDiplPubHlth(Curtin)
Clare Stevens, BSc(Hons)

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

Research Officer
David Lim, DrPH

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

Adjunct Professors
Kaye Middleton Fillmore, BA, MA, PhD(Rutgers)
Karen Graham, CertT 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(Qld)
Wendy Luxey, CertTch(Rhodesia), BA(Hons)(WAust), GradDipPsych(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)
Allyson Brown, BPsych(Hons), MPsych(Clin), PhD
Joceyln Jones, BA(Murdoch)

Business Services Staff
Fran Davis, Business Manager
Clare Dalais, Clerical Officer
Jillian Evans, Clerical Officer
Maggie Halls, Resource Officer
Jo Hawkins, A/Administration Officer
Paul Jones, Computer Systems Officer
Jodie Koch, A/Secretary/Admin Assistant
Rachael Lobo, Communications Officer
Lee Meyer, A/Secretary/Admin Assistant
Patricia Niklasson, A/Administrative Assistant
Vic Rechichi, Communications Officer
Dissemination Overview

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
Media are important conduits 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 550 mentions in the media during 2010, 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, alcohol and drug use in Indigenous communities, risky drinking and related harm, revised estimates of per capita consumption of alcohol, drug and alcohol use by AFL players and other sportspeople, and use of amphetamines and amphetamine type stimulants, cocaine and cannabis.
Dissemination Activities

Publications

Monographs and Technical Reports


Published Articles, Chapters and Books


Dissemination Activities

Publications (continued)


Conference Presentations


Dissemination Activities
Presentations (continued)


Symposium Presentations


Workshop Presentations


Seminar Presentations


Meeting Presentations


Forum Presentations


Dissemination Activities
NDRI Seminar Series

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.

NDRI Seminar Series

6 May 2010
Identifying areas of need for Indigenous people affected by alcohol and other drug problems: An Aboriginal Research Forum
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Professor Dennis Gray and Associate Professor Ted Wilkes, NDRI

22 June 2010
Space, place and young injecting drug users in San Francisco
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Dr Peter Davidson, Postdoctoral Fellow, Global Public Health, University of California, San Diego, USA

6 July 2010
NAIDOC Week 2010 - Identifying areas of need for Indigenous people affected by alcohol and other drug problems
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Anna Stearne and Michael Doyle, NDRI

12 July 2010
‘Don’t wake up angry no more’: The evaluation of the Norseman Voluntary Liquor Agreement
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Andreia Schineanu, Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project Coordinator, NDRI

29 July 2010
My-Peer Toolkit: Supporting agencies that help young people support themselves
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Jonathan Hallett, Research Fellow, Western Australian Centre for Health Promotion Research and Member, National Drug Research Institute Tier 1 Research Centre

1 September, 2010
Indigenous Tobacco Control: what we know and where we are going
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Daniel McAullay, Kurongkurl Katitjin, Edith Cowan University (presenting for Dallas McKeown-Young, Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Tobacco Control)

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

28 October 2010
Developing personal and collective strategic empowerment to support the process of recovery from addictions: A credible alternative?
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Yann Le Bossé
Laval University, Canada

17 November 2010
What’s needed to close the smoking gap?
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Tom Calma
National Coordinator for Tackling Indigenous Smoking
## Finance Report

### National Drug Research Institute

#### Core Funding - Income and Expenditure

**January to December 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Core baseline</th>
<th>Schedule 2</th>
<th>Schedule 3</th>
<th>Schedule 4</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Sundry income</td>
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<td>Interest</td>
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<td>Surplus BF from December 2009</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<td>84,047.32</td>
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|                    |               |            |            |            |            |
| **Expenditure**    |               |            |            |            |            |
| Salaries           | 2,032,184.41  | 28,780.83  | 68,452.56  | 0.00       | 53,474.76  |
| Operating costs    | 193,656.18    | 2,111.84   | 40,330.86  | 0.00       | 127.96     |
| Capital costs      | 29,471.54     | 0.00       | 0.00       | 0.00       | 0.00       |
| PhD scholarships   | 5,250.76      | 0.00       | 0.00       | 0.00       | 0.00       |
| **Total Expenditure** | 2,260,562.89  | 30,892.67  | 108,783.42 | 0.00       | 53,602.72  |

<p>| | | | | | |
|                    |               |            |            |            |            |
| <strong>Balance of funds at 31 December 2010</strong> | 210,417.17    | 53,154.65  | 31,216.58  | 45,000.00  | 360,262.28 |
| Add scholarship/ salary reserves | 89,397.81      |            |            |            |            |
| <strong>Total funds available at 31 December 2010</strong> | 299,814.98  | 53,154.65  | 31,216.58  | 45,000.00  | 360,262.28 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Total grant approved for project</th>
<th>Grant received in 2010</th>
<th>Expenditure in 2010</th>
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<td>Understanding the barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine users in health services</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
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<td>Does traumatic brain injury lead to offending behaviour?</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>$267,175</td>
<td>$124,826</td>
<td>$103,721</td>
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<td>Broome to Berrima: Building Australia-wide research capacity in indigenous offender health and health care delivery</td>
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<td>Swine influenza containment strategies</td>
<td>NHMRC via James Cook University</td>
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<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,321</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does traumatic brain injury lead to offending behaviour?</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>$245,563</td>
<td>$197,112</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does traumatic brain injury lead to offending behaviour?</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
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<td>Mothers with an alcohol-related diagnosis in WA</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
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<td>Mothers with an alcohol-related diagnosis in WA</td>
<td>DAO &amp; Curtin</td>
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<td>$17,500</td>
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<td>Impact of parental substance use on infant development and family functioning</td>
<td>NHMRC/UNSW</td>
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<td>Pandemic influenza containment strategies in Aboriginal communities</td>
<td>NHMRC/JCU</td>
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<td>Social and cultural resilience of Aboriginal mothers in prison (SCREAM)</td>
<td>NHMRC through UNSW</td>
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<td>Meta-Analysis - Alcohol use and disease outcomes</td>
<td>NIH/SAC</td>
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<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>$6,884</td>
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<td>Social inclusion through community embedded, socially supported university education</td>
<td>ARC linkage via Aust Catholic Uni</td>
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<td>Improving health and criminal justice outcomes among Australia’s offender population</td>
<td>ARC future fellowship scheme</td>
<td>$788,800</td>
<td>$205,370</td>
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<td>What difference does treatment make</td>
<td>ARC and Collaborator Grant</td>
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<td>Concurrent alcohol and party drug use (PhD Scholarship)</td>
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<td>Kalgoorlie alcohol action project (KAAP)</td>
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<td>Cost of alcohol’s harm to others</td>
<td>AERF via Turning Point</td>
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<td>Identifying areas of greatest need in Indigenous substance misuse intervention</td>
<td>ANCD</td>
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$7,026,801 $1,598,543 $1,127,235

See Appendix 1 (page 30) for list of abbreviations
## Finance Report

### Other Grants and Tenders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Total grant approved for project</th>
<th>Grant received in 2010</th>
<th>Expenditure in 2010</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illicit drug reporting system (IDRS) - WA component</td>
<td>NDARC</td>
<td>$501,951</td>
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<td>Ecstasy and related drugs reporting system (EDRS) - WA component</td>
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<td>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cannabis intervention (NCPIC)</td>
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<td>Alcohol sales data collection project</td>
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<td>Volunteer addiction counsellor programme</td>
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<td>Development of aetiological fractions for emergency departments</td>
<td>DAO</td>
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<td>Estimate of the direct and indirect economic costs of alcohol incurred by local government in metropolitan WA</td>
<td>DAO/Injury Control Council WA</td>
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<td>Train the trainer dissemination - Helping Change</td>
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<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>Office for Youth</td>
<td>$95,376</td>
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<td>National prison entrants bloodborne virus and risk behaviour survey 2010</td>
<td>DJ Vic, QDCS, JH NSW, DCS WA</td>
<td>$88,630</td>
<td>$72,589</td>
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<td>Dampier Peninsula prevention project</td>
<td>Kimberley drug services team</td>
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<td>Jaru Pirrijirri suicide prevention project</td>
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<td>Mount Theo enhancing capacity management project</td>
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<td>School drug education Victoria - evaluation tools project</td>
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<td>Key performance indicators for the SA alcohol action plan</td>
<td>DAS, SA</td>
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<td>Data analysis, reporting and dissemination of 2 substudies from the evaluation of Cannabis Infringment Notice scheme</td>
<td>UNSW - DPMP</td>
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<td>Development of SA Specific Aetiological Fractions</td>
<td>Southern Adelaide Health</td>
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<td>Sexual health and attitudes of Australian prisoners (SHAAP) report - QLD component</td>
<td>QDCS</td>
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<td>Warlpiri early childhood care and development program</td>
<td>World Vision</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>Local evaluation East Kimberley communities for children</td>
<td>Save the Children Australia</td>
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<td>A longitudinal study of influences on alcohol consumption and related harm in Central Australia</td>
<td>FaHCSIA (NT)</td>
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### Other Grants and Tenders (continued)

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<td>Creating healthy workplaces evidence review</td>
<td>Vic Health</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<td>Safe and Sober programme evaluation and data systems research project</td>
<td>CAAC</td>
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<td>SRG 2008 social determinants of health framework</td>
<td>ORD</td>
<td>$730,000</td>
<td>$206,000</td>
<td>$202,528</td>
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<td>Prevalence of ADHD among those with SUD</td>
<td>Curtin</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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<td>Institute Fellowship</td>
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<td>Research infrastructure funding (RPI) 2010</td>
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<td>HDR consumables and fieldwork distribution 2010</td>
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<td>$3,117,632</td>
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### State Competitive Grants and Tenders

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<tr>
<td>MHRIF Round 11 Award – Simon Lenton</td>
<td>WAHD</td>
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<td>MHRIF Round 11 Award – Dennis Gray</td>
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<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>Training of health staff for the implementation of the Smoke Free WA Health System Policy</td>
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<td>$504,430</td>
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### Summary of NDRI Funding in 2010

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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 2010</strong></td>
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## Appendix 1

### List of Abbreviations

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<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>ADAC (SA)</td>
<td>Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (South Australia)</td>
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<td>AERF</td>
<td>Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation</td>
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<td>AGDHA</td>
<td>Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing</td>
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<td>AIC</td>
<td>Australian Institute of Criminology</td>
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<td>AIHW</td>
<td>Australian Institute of Health and Welfare</td>
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<td>ANCD</td>
<td>Australian National Council on Drugs</td>
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<td>ANU</td>
<td>Australian National University</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>Australian Research Council</td>
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<td>CARBC</td>
<td>Centre for Addictions Research of British Columbia</td>
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<td>CSR, ECU</td>
<td>Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University</td>
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<td>CUCRH</td>
<td>Combined Universities Centre for Rural Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>DAS SA</td>
<td>Drug and Alcohol Services, SA</td>
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<td>DAO</td>
<td>Drug and Alcohol Office of Western Australia</td>
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<td>DCP</td>
<td>Department for Child Protection, Western Australia</td>
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<td>DCS</td>
<td>Department of Corrective Services, Western Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEEC, Victoria</td>
<td>Department for Education and Early Childhood Development, Victoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEST</td>
<td>Department of Education, Science and Training</td>
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<td>DJ VIC</td>
<td>Department of Justice, Victoria</td>
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<td>FaHCSIA</td>
<td>Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, NT</td>
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<td>Healthway</td>
<td>Western Australian Health Promotion Foundation</td>
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<td>JCU</td>
<td>James Cook University</td>
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<td>NCEPH</td>
<td>National Centre in Epidemiology and Population Health, ANU</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCHECR</td>
<td>National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW</td>
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<td>NCPIC</td>
<td>National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre</td>
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<td>NDARC</td>
<td>National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>NDLERF</td>
<td>National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>NDRI</td>
<td>National Drug Research Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>National Health and Medical Research Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIDAC</td>
<td>National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>National Institutes of Health, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PDPC, Victoria</td>
<td>Premier’s Drug Prevention Council, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QATSIIH</td>
<td>Queensland Aboriginal &amp; Torres Strait Islander Health Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>QDCS</td>
<td>Department of Corrective Services, Queensland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Full Form</td>
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<tr>
<td>QADREC</td>
<td>Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHAHRP</td>
<td>School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHORE</td>
<td>Centre for Social Health Outcomes Research Evaluation, Massey University, NZ</td>
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<td>TICHR</td>
<td>Telethon Institute of Child Health Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNSW</td>
<td>University of New South Wales</td>
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<td>UWA</td>
<td>University of Western Australia</td>
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<td>WA</td>
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<td>WAHD</td>
<td>Western Australian Health Department</td>
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<td>WALGA</td>
<td>Western Australian Local Government Association</td>
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<td>WANADA</td>
<td>WA Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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