Preventing harmful drug use in Australia
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 the primary prevention of harmful drug use and the 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

Ms Colleen Krestensen (from August 2011)
Assistant Secretary, Drug Strategy Branch
Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Professor Steve Allsop
Director
National Drug Research Institute

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

Mr Simon Cotterell (until August 2011)
Assistant Secretary
Population Health Division - Drug Strategy Branch
Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Prof Roland De Marco (until April 2011)
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Office of Research and Development
Curtin University
This has been a very pleasing year, with NDRI continuing its contribution to research and evidence informed policy and practice. Core funding from the Australian Government, as part of the National Drug Strategy, has provided a strong base that has enabled the Institute to obtain additional support from Curtin University, competitive research funds and government tenders. The Institute has continued its history of collaborative effort, especially with our colleagues at the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction, the National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre and law enforcement and health colleagues across all Australian jurisdictions.

A number of our PhD scholars completed their doctorates, including Christine Siokou on the ethnography of party drug use in Melbourne and Beatriz Cuesta Briand on health inequalities and chronic disease while Tina Lam, in the final stages of her thesis, released some of her findings that parents have an important role in risky drinking among their children at celebratory events. Several staff have been acknowledged for their important contributions to research and to the drug field in general, including, Associate Professor Ted Wilkes who received the 2011 Public Health Association of Australia WA President’s Award, and Professor Tanya Chikritzhs who received an NHMRC Career Development Fellowship and an NHMRC Achievement Award.

NDRI has engaged in a range of research activities relevant to policy, prevention and practice. This has included: Professor David Moore’s work on young people, drug use and access to services; Professor Sherry Saggers examining the importance of investment in the early years; Professor Simon Lenton making the case for wider availability of naloxone to reduce opioid overdose deaths; Professor Tanya Chikritzhs’ extensive work on alcohol related harm; Dr Nyanda McBride’s continued efforts to reduce alcohol related harm among school children; and, Professor Dennis Gray and Associate Professor Ted Wilkes continue to work on enhancing the management of alcohol problems, the prevention of blood-borne viral infections, and the long-term impact of licensing restrictions in Central Australia, as well as ongoing evaluation of various community interventions. It is pleasing to see the breadth of research that addresses prevention effort from birth to adulthood, in both targeted and universal prevention strategies.

As well as engaging in a broad range of research activities, staff also produced some significant research outputs. For example, Professor David Moore and Suzanne Fraser (Monash University) co-edited and launched The Drug Effect: Health, Crime and Society, a new book that examines social and cultural meanings of drug use and analyses law enforcement and public health frameworks. A report of the National Summit on Tobacco in Prisons was also released, led by Professor Tony Butler, which aimed to develop a nationally agreed framework to move forward in this area and identify the policy and research needs with regard to smoking in prisons. The appointment of a new Research Fellow, Monica Barratt, has allowed NDRI to expand its involvement in research into the impact of new technologies and drug use and she has now commenced building research activity in this new domain.

NDRI’s research activity and collaborative networks expanded into Europe with Professor Moore taking a leading role, with colleagues from the Burnet Institute and Monash University, in the international conference on drug use, Beyond the Buzzword: Problematising ‘drugs’.

In addition to research activity, NDRI staff continue to contribute to a range of community and policy groups through personal and organisational membership of bodies such as the Australian National Council on Drugs, the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee, NHMRC research panels, and the Australian National Preventive Health Agency and Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs’ expert committees and panels.

As always it is important to mention the fantastic support provided by the business service staff without whom our activities and outputs simply would not be possible. Finally to all staff at NDRI – you all make it a pleasure to work in such a productive and collegiate environment.

Professor Steve Allsop
Director
National Drug Research Institute
Indigenous researcher and Noongar elder Ted Wilkes received the 2011 Public Health Association of Australia WA President’s Award. Associate Professor Wilkes, co-Team Leader of NDRI’s Indigenous Australian Research Team, was recognised for a sustained contribution to public health locally and nationally over a quarter of a century (see box overleaf).

Alcohol policy expert Professor Tanya Chikritzhs was recognised as one of Australia’s top researchers, receiving an Achievement Award at the NHMRC annual awards ceremony in Canberra (see box overleaf).

PhD scholar Tina Lam launched preliminary findings of her PhD research showing that parents’ attitudes towards alcohol use, whether they supply alcohol to their child, and if they talk to their child about ways to stay safe can all have a big influence on how much young people drink at school leaver celebrations.

NDRI completed the 3½-year Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP), an initiative aimed at decreasing alcohol-related harms through community interventions, and the final report of the project was launched.

Professor David Moore and Suzanne Fraser, Monash University co-edited and launched The Drug Effect: Health, Crime and Society, a new textbook exploring social and cultural meanings of drug use and analysing law enforcement and public health frameworks and objectives related to drug policy and service provision.

Professor Tanya Chikritzhs won a prestigious NHMRC Career Development Fellowship. The CDF scheme aims to further develop Australian health and medical researchers early in their career, and to encourage the translation of research outcomes into practice.

Professor David Moore won significant funding, in collaboration with others, as part of an ARC Discovery Project for a project aimed at developing the capacity to model the impact of interventions that target high-risk drinking among young Australians.

NDRI staff contributed directly to Australian drug policy through membership of both the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) and the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee. Associate Professor Ted Wilkes was NIDAC Chair in 2011.

NDRI’s research activity and collaborative networks expanded into Europe via Institute staff taking a leading role in the international conference on drug use, Beyond the Buzzword: Problematising ‘drugs’. The conference was organised in collaboration with Monash University and the Burnet Institute, and held at Monash’s Prato campus in Italy (see box overleaf).

Three PhD Scholars completed their doctorates, including Christine Siokou on the ethnography of party drug use in Melbourne and Canadian student Will Small on injection drug use sites in Vancouver – who were both co-supervised by Professor David Moore – and Beatriz Cuesta Briand, whose PhD on health inequalities and chronic disease was co-supervised by Professor Sherry Saggers.

The second stage of the National Alcohol Sales Data project was completed and the report published. The project aims to construct an ongoing and regularly updated national database of standardised alcohol sales data and monitor alcohol consumption trends by regularly estimating per capita alcohol consumption for participating states.

The Centre of Economic Performance at the London School of Economics and Political Science identified NDRI’s School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP) as one of ten evidence based programs to be incorporated into the UK personal and wellbeing curriculum in secondary schools.

The report of the National Summit on Tobacco in Prisons was released. The summit aimed to develop a nationally agreed framework to move forward in this area and identify the policy and research needs with regard to smoking in prisons of state and territory departments of health and corrective services.

NDRI staff had papers published in proceedings of international conferences, including Dr Nyanda McBride’s paper on Why do Australian women drink during pregnancy?, delivered at the 4th International Conference on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in Canada and Monica Barratt’s paper on Discussing illicit drugs in public internet forums: Visibility, stigma, and pseudonymity, in the Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference on Communities and Technologies.
Professor Simon Lenton was involved in the independent evaluation of the ‘Expanded Naloxone availability in the ACT (ENAaCT)’ project. The alcohol and other drug sector in the ACT has designed a public health program to expand naloxone availability in the ACT with the aim of reducing opioid overdose morbidity and mortality. The program started in 2011.

NDRI PhD Scholar Monica Barratt made a submission to the Australian Law Reform Commissions National Classification Scheme Review focussing on the effect of the internet on discussions about drugs and drug-taking behaviour.

NDRI staff contributed expertise to various policy and sector groups, including Professor Steve Allsop’s role on the NHMRC Review Panel for Centres of Excellence Panel B - Population Health Research, and Professor Tanya Chikritzhs serving on the Australian National Preventive Health Agency’s Alcohol Expert Advisory Committee and the IGCD Standing Committee on Alcohol.

The NDRI Seminar Series had an international flavour with presentations from several overseas visitors including Professor Kathryn Graham, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Canada; Sir Ian Gilmore, Chair of the UK Alcohol Health Alliance; and Professor Robert West, Professor of Health Psychology at University College London.

Several NDRI staff contributed to the Current work, future direction: A snapshot of alcohol and other drug research at the National Drug Research Institute presentations delivered at the Hellenic Club of Canberra and Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre in Melbourne.

NDRI researcher named as one of Australia’s best

Alcohol policy expert Professor Tanya Chikritzhs was recognised as one of Australia’s top researchers at the 2011 National Health and Medical Research Council annual awards ceremony in Canberra.

Professor Chikritzhs received an Achievement Award after her Career Development Fellowship (CDF) application was ranked first nationally in the Population Health Level 1 category. The CDF scheme aims to further develop Australian health and medical researchers early in their career, and to encourage the translation of research outcomes into practice.

Professor Chikritzhs leads NDRI’s Alcohol Policy Research Team. She has academic qualifications in epidemiology and biostatistics, as well as 15 years’ experience in alcohol research – earning her a national profile as a senior expert in her field. She has published more than 120 peer-reviewed journal articles, reports and book chapters on evaluations of alcohol policy and alcohol epidemiology.

In presenting the NHMRC awards, Minister for Mental Health and Ageing, Mark Butler said:

“I congratulate the award recipients on their achievements and encourage all Australians to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of these researchers as they strive to improve the health of all Australians.”
Indigenous researcher recognised with Public Health Award

Indigenous researcher and Noongar elder Ted Wilkes received the 2011 Public Health Association of Australia WA President’s Award.

Associate Professor Wilkes, co-Team Leader of the National Drug Research Institute’s (NDRI) Indigenous Australian Research Team, was recognised for a sustained contribution to public health locally and nationally over a quarter of a century.

Professor Wilkes’ contribution included serving as a member of the Australian National Council on Drugs, which advises the Prime Minister on drug policy, and chairing its National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee. He chaired the reference group that developed the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Complementary Action Plan, and was the CEO of Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service for 16 years.

“This accolade was awarded in recognition of Ted’s many outstanding contributions to public health in Western Australia and nationally over more than 25 years, his commitment to campaigning for better health, and his strength and integrity as a public and community health leader,” PHAA WA President Mike Daube said.

It is the second consecutive year an NDRI researcher has received the award after alcohol policy researcher Tanya Chikritzhs was recognised in 2010.

Beyond the buzzword: Problematising ‘drugs’

Early October saw NDRI’s research activity and collaborative networks expand into Europe via the leading role staff took in an international conference on drug use, entitled Beyond the buzzword: Problematising ‘drugs’.

Organised in collaboration with Monash University’s School of Political and Social Inquiry and the Centre for Population Health at the Burnet Institute, the conference was held at Monash University’s Prato campus, located just outside Florence, Italy.

The conference attracted over 50 participants, all of whom are involved in research bringing together social theory and innovative methodologies to produce new understandings of drugs and drug consumption.

Opened by Professor David Moore, head of NDRI’s Ethnographic Research Program, the conference promoted the international journal Professor Moore edits, Contemporary Drug Problems, offering a unique forum in which drug researchers could present original research in an atmosphere attuned to the value of social theory in re-imagining drug use and the challenges it presents.

Keynote speakers for the conference were Professor Robin Room, Director of the AER Centre for Alcohol Policy Research in Melbourne, and Dr Helen Keane, Senior Lecturer in the School of Sociology at the Australian National University in Canberra. A second conference is planned for 2013.
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 2011, 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

NDRI’s strategic plan defines eight 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

An exploration of how social context and type of living arrangement are linked to alcohol consumption amongst older Australians
NDRI staff: Celia Wilkinson, Steve Allsop
Project partners: Edith Cowan University
Funded by: AERF

Off-site outlets and alcohol-related harm
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Wenbin Liang, Richard Pascal, William Gilmore
Funded by: NDLERF

Patron offending and intoxication in night time entertainment districts (POINTED)
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, William Gilmore, Tina Lam
Funded by: NDLERF

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

Meta-analysis systematic and design errors: alcohol use and disease outcomes
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
Project partners: Centre for Addictions Research of British Columbia, University of Victoria, Canada; University of California, USA
Funded by: Challenge Grant, NIH, USA

National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP)
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal, William Gilmore
Funded by: AGDHA

National alcohol sales data project
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop, Wendy Loxley, Paul Catalano, Michaela Evans, William Gilmore
Funded by: AGDHA via DAO

NDSHS 2004 & 2007 drinking prevalence study
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Paul Catalano
Project partners: Centre for Addictions Research of British Columbia, University of Victoria, Canada
Funded by: AGDHA

See Appendix 1 (page 34) for list of abbreviations
Research Activities

Key Priority 1

ALCOHOL POLICY (CONTINUED)

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

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

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

The social and economic costs of alcohol use in WA, 2004/05
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
Project partners: South Australian Centre for Economic Studies
Funded by: DAO
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

Drinking in the suburbs: the experiences of Aboriginal young people
NDRI staff: Mandy Wilson, Julia Butt, Dennis Gray, Ted Wilkes, Anna Stearne
Funded by: Healthway

Enhancing the management of alcohol-related problems among Indigenous Australians - Stage 3
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray
Funded by: AGDHA

Ongoing 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 Saggiers, Mandy Wilson, Anna Stearne
Project partners: Central Australian Aboriginal Congress; Centre for Disease Control, Northern Territory Department of Health and Families
Funded by: FaHCSIA

Evaluation of the ‘Makin Tracks’ 3 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
Funded by: NHMRC

Kava usage in Indigenous and Pacific Islander communities
NDRI staff: Julia Butt, Ted Wilkes, 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

National Indigenous fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) resource project
NDRI staff: Sherry Saggiers, Colleen O’Leary, Ted Wilkes, Dennis Gray, Nyanda McBride, Steve Allsop, Kate Frances, Lynn Roarty
Funded by: AGDHA

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

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

See Appendix 1 (page 34) for list of abbreviations
Research Activities

Key Priority 2

INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS (CONTINUED)

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

Completed Projects

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cannabis intervention
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Ted Wilkes, Steve Allsop, Simon Lenton, Julia Butt
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
NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Steve Allsop, Sherry Saggers, Ted Wilkes, Mandy Wilson
Project partners: CSR, ECU; QUADREC, University of Queensland
Funded by: AGDHA

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.

Ongoing 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.

Does traumatic brain injury lead to offending behaviour?
NDRI staff: Tony Butler, Eva Malacova
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: NDRI

Hepatitis C, prisons and treatment opportunities (HePATO)
NDRI staff: Tony Butler, Susan Carruthers, Jocelyn Jones
Project partners: Royal Perth Hospital
Funded by: NHMRC

Social and cultural resilience of Aboriginal mothers in prison (SCREAM)
NDRI staff: Tony Butler, Mandy Wilson, Jocelyn Jones
Project partners: Centre For Remote Health; Justice Health; UNSW
Funded by: NHMRC

Completed Projects

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

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

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

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

See Appendix 1 (page 34) 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

Impact of parental substance use on family functioning and child development in an Australian Birth Cohort of 2000 families: Pilot study proposal for the Wave III follow-up of Preschoolers
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Colleen O’Leary, Aurora Popescu
Project partners: NDARC, QADREC, Murdoch Children’s Research Institute, Royal Children’s Hospital
Funded by: NHMRC

Independent evaluation of the ‘Expanded Naloxone Availability in the ACT (ENA ACT)’ program 2011-2013
NDRI staff: Simon Lenton
Project partners: Burnet Institute
Funded by: ACT Health

Mental disorders and physical illness in childhood and early adulthood: cause, prevention and treatments
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Wenbin Liang
Funded by: Curtin Fellowship

Mothers with an alcohol-related diagnosis in Western Australia 1983-2007: the impact on the health of mother and child
NDRI staff: Colleen O’Leary
Funded by: NHMRC

School drug education for junior high school students in Victoria - assessing the impact of a statewide, evidence-based intervention
NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs
Project partners: ECU; Oxford Brookes University
Funded by: ARC Linkage

Second stage local evaluation of East Kimberley Communities for Children initiative for children and their families
NDRI staff: Kate Frances, Sherry Saggers
Funded by: Save the Children Australia

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

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

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

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 Starter Grant Scheme

Project information available at ndri.curtin.edu.au
Hepatitis C in magazines aimed at youth
NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers
Funded by: AGDHA

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

Completed Projects

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

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

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

MY-Peer project (marginalised youth - participation, engagement and empowerment through research)
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

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

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

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

See Appendix 1 (page 34) for list of abbreviations
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).

New Projects

Analysing addiction concepts for improved public health outcomes: a Victorian pilot study
NDRI staff: David Moore
Project partners: Burnet Institute; VicHealth; Centre for Women’s Studies and Gender Research, Monash University
Funded by: Faculty of Medicine, Monash University

Developing the capacity to model the impact of interventions that target high-risk drinking among young Australians
NDRI staff: David Moore
Project partners: Burnet Institute; Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre; University of Wollongong
Funded by: ARC Discovery Project

Khat use in Australia
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Dennis Gray, Julia Butt, Irene Ngune, Jesse Young
Funded by: AGDHA

Reducing the health, social and economic burden of injection drug use in Australia
NDRI staff: David Moore
Project partners: Burnet Institute; Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre; National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research; NDARC; University of Queensland
Funded by: NHMRC

Understanding and reducing alcohol-related harm among young adults in urban settings: opportunities for intervention
NDRI staff: David Moore
Project partners: Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre; VicHealth; Victorian Department of Human Services
Funded by: ARC

Ongoing Projects

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

The ethnography of recreational party 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
Project partners: Centre for Population Health, Burnet Institute; National Centre in Epidemiology & Population Health, ANU; University of Wollongong
Funded by: NHMRC

Completed 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 University of British Columbia), 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

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
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

ADHD in dependent drug and alcohol users: prevalence, correlates, and implications for diagnosis and treatment
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Susan Carruthers
Funded by: Curtin University Strategic Grants Scheme

Link between ATS use and the transmission of HIV and other BBVs in the South East Asia region
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Susan Carruthers
Funded by: Burnet Institute, Victoria

Locating alcohol and drug prevention and treatment interventions within national healthcare reform: research for change (Patient Pathways)
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Julia Butt, Susan Carruthers, Tina Lam
Project leaders: Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre
Funded by: AGDHA

Patterns of synthetic cannabis use in Australia: legislative impacts
NDRI staff: Monica Barratt, Simon Lenton
Project partners: University of Sydney
Funded by: NDRI

Safety impacts of alcohol and other drugs in construction
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop
Project partners: Queensland University of Technology; Swinburne University of Technology
Funded by: University of Queensland, ARC Linkage Project

The effect of alcohol outlets and sales on alcohol-related injuries presenting at Emergency Departments in Perth, Western Australia from 2004 to 2009 (PhD project)
PhD scholar: Michelle Hobday
PhD supervisors: Tanya Chikritzhs, Wenbin Liang, Lynn Meuleners (Curtin University, Gary Kirby (Drug and Alcohol Office)
Funded by: NDRI

What the punters think: a consumer evaluation of needle and syringe vending machines located in rural WA
NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers
Funded by: AGDHA

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: UNSW
Determining the clinical and cost effectiveness of a brief intervention for reducing harmful alcohol use following traumatic injury
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop
Project partners: Next Step Specialist Drug and Alcohol Services; Royal Perth Hospital; University of Washington, Seattle, USA
Funded by: WA Department of Health

Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) in WA
NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Candice Rainsford
Project partners: NDARC
Funded by: NDLERF via NDARC

Hepatitis B vaccination programs targeting high risk groups: a systematic review
NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers
Funded by: AGDHA

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

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

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

Completed Projects
Amphetamine use among detainees at the East Perth watch house: what is the impact on crime?
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop
Project partners: DAO, ECU, WA Police
Funded by: Criminology Research Council

Creating healthy workplaces project evidence review
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Rina Cercarelli, Michaela Evans
Funded by: Victorian Health Promotion Foundation

Helping change: The drug and alcohol counsellor’s training program - train-the-trainer dissemination
NDRI staff: Steve Allsop
Funded by: DAO

See Appendix 1 (page 34) 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.

New Projects
‘CleanFits’: needle syringe program locator smartphone application
NDRI staff: Monica Barratt
Project partners: UnitingCare Moreland Hall

Ongoing Projects
Beyond internet as a tool: a mixed-methods study of online drug discussion (PhD project)
PhD scholar: Monica Barratt
PhD supervisors: Simon Lenton, Matthew Allen (Curtin University)
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

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

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

Key Priority 7
TOBACCO

Key Priority 8
NEW TECHNOLOGIES

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.
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’.

New PhD Projects

Establishing and maintaining an enabling environment for the implementation of harm reduction interventions in South East Asia
PhD scholar: Michael Cole
PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Susan Carruthers
Funded by: NDRI

The effect of alcohol outlets and sales on alcohol-related injuries presenting at Emergency Departments in Perth, Australia from 2004 to 2009
PhD scholar: Michelle Hobday
PhD supervisors: Tanya Chikritzhs, Wenbin Liang, Lynn Meuleners (Curtin University), Gary Kirby (Drug and Alcohol Office)
Funded by: NDRI

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

Beyond internet as a tool: A mixed-methods study of online drug discussion
PhD scholar: Monica Barratt
PhD supervisors: Simon Lenton, Matthew Allen (Curtin University)
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

“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

Completed PhD 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 University of British Columbia), David Moore

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

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

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

The ethnography of recreational party drug use and related harm in Perth
PhD scholar: Rachael Green
PhD supervisors: David Moore, Lisa Maher (NCHECR, UNSW)
Funded by: NHMRC

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’.

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PhD scholar: Christine Siokou
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Funded by: NHMRC

See Appendix 1 (page 34) for list of abbreviations
Staff

Professors
Steve Allsop (Director)
Dennis Gray (Deputy Director)
Simon Lenton (Deputy Director)
Robert Donovan
Peter Howat
Andy Lee
Bruce Maycock
David Moore
Sherry Saggers

Associate Professors
Tanya Chikritzhs
Edward Wilkes

Senior Research Fellows
Julia Butt
Owen Carter
Rina Cercarelli
Suzanne Fraser
Geoffrey Jalleh
Nyanda McBride

Research Fellows
Monica Barratt (PhD Scholar)
Susan Carruthers
Robyn Dwyer
Kate Frances
Ed Garrison
William Gilmore
Jonathan Hallett
Wenbin Liang
Eva Malacova
Irene Ngune
Lynn Roarty
Jeane Roberts
Martyn Symons
Mandy Wilson

Research Associates
Michael Doyle
Michaela Evans
Jessica Miller
Colleen O’Leary
James Fetherston (PhD Scholar)
Tina Lam (PhD Scholar)
Richard Pascal
Aurora Popescu
Candice Rainsford
Maurice Shipp
Anna Stearne
Clare Stevens

Senior Research Officer
Paul Catalano

Research Officers
Lauren Bell
David Lim
Jocelyn Grace

Research Assistants
Jesse Young
Jemma Pope

PhD Scholars
Michael Cole
Beatriz Cuesta Briand
Rachael Green
Amy Pennay
Christine Siokou
Nicola Thomson

Adjunct Appointments
David Hawks, Professorial Fellow
Tony Butler, Professor
Kaye Middleton Fillmore, Professor
Kate Graham, Professor
Tim Stockwell, Professor
Nicole Lee, Associate Professor
Wendy Loxley, Associate Professor
Richard Midford, Associate Professor
Neil Donnelly, Senior Research Fellow
Peter Miller, Senior Research Fellow
Celia Wilkinson, Senior Research Fellow
Violet Bacon, Research Fellow
Allyson Brown, Research Fellow
Jocelyn Jones, Research Fellow

Business Services Staff
Fran Davis, Business Manager
Rachael Lobo, Communications Officer
Vic Rechichi, Communications Officer
Paul Jones, Computer Systems Officer
Jo Hawkins, A/Administration Officer
Patricia Niklasson, A/Administrative Assistant
Jodie Koch, A/Secretary/Admin Assistant
Elle Rainsford, A/Secretary/Admin Assistant
Angela Riccardi, A/Secretary/Admin Assistant
Clare Dalais, Clerical Officer
Jillian Evans, Clerical 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.

**Dissemination Overview**

Research findings widely and to inform community debate and public health policy and practice has played a significant role in research translating into policy and practice. NDRI’s research is 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.

**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 780 mentions in the media during 2011, 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 included alcohol licensing and taxation, synthetic cannabis use, alcohol consumption during pregnancy, alcohol consumption at school leaver celebrations, effects of bans on synthetic cannabis, cannabis laws and rates of cannabis use, workplace drug testing, alcohol-related violence and methamphetamine use in Western Australia.

Published Articles, Chapters and Books


Presentations

Conference Presentations


Symposium Presentations


Seminar Presentations


Workshop Presentations


Miller, A. (2011) Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander communities developing pandemic influenza containment strategies. Keynote presentation at the Listen to Indigenous people about Pandemic Influenza: Ask us, listen to us, share with us, Cairns, Qld, 22nd-23rd November 2011.

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

22 February 2011
Improving Aboriginal Peoples sexual health and bloodborne viral health outcomes through research
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
James Ward, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Program, National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

3 March 2011
“Are you looking at me?” Alcohol-related violence and the night time economy
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Professor Kathryn Graham, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Canada, and Dr Peter G Miller, Senior Research Fellow, Deakin University, Victoria

14 April 2011
Perth Illicit Drug Trends: 10 years of data from the IDRS and EDRS and experiences of the WA Substance Users Association
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Paul Dessauer, WA Substance Users Association, and Candice Rainsford and Jessica Miller, NDRI

5 and 6 May 2011
Current work, future direction: A snapshot of alcohol and other drug research at the National Drug Research Institute
Hellenic Club of Canberra & Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre
Professor Steve Allsop, Professor Dennis Gray, Professor David Moore, Associate Professor Ted Wilkes, Monica Barratt and Anna Stearne, NDRI

19 May 2011
Sex, sutures and school assemblies: Better or worse post liquor restrictions?
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Grant Akesson, Manager of Community Programs, WA Drug and Alcohol Office

2 June 2011
Drugs and the Criminal Justice System
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Professor Michael Farrell, Director, National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre

5 July 2011
NAIDOC Week 2011 – Alcohol and Drugs in the Noongar Boodja: Things that can work
NDRI Courtyard, NDRI, Perth
Professor Dennis Gary and Associate Professor Ted Wilkes, NDRI

14 July 2011
Monitoring and improving the health of Indigenous and non-Indigenous ex-prisoners
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Dr Stuart Kinner, Head of Justice Health Research, Centre for Population Health, Burnet Institute

11 August 2011
How can we improve behavioural support to help people overcome addictions?
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Professor Robert West, Professor of Health Psychology, University College London, and Editor-in-Chief, Addiction

22 August 2011
Tobacco Control: Measuring the impact of cigarette plain packaging
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Dr Owen Carter, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer Control, School of Public Health, Curtin University

29 September 2011
Alcohol and other drug use at school leavers’ celebrations in Western Australia
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Tina Lam, NDRI

12 October 2011
The health impact of alcohol problems in the UK – a challenge for evidence-based policy
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Sir Ian Gilmore, Chair, UK Alcohol Health Alliance and Consultant Physician, Royal Liverpool University Hospitals

13 October 2011
Information Evening for 2012 Honours, Masters or PhD Students
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Steve Allsop and Clare Stevens, NDRI; Beatriz Cuesta Briand, Centre of Excellence for Science, Seafood and Health; and Tanzi Collinge, Uniting Care West

6 December 2011
Wider availability of naloxone to prevent opioid overdose deaths: evidence, opportunities and developments
NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth
Professor Simon Lenton, NDRI
## Finance Report

### National Drug Research Institute

#### Core Funding and Schedules - Income and Expenditure

**January to December 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>Schedule 2 Kava usage in Indigenous communities</th>
<th>Schedule 3 National tobacco in prisons summit</th>
<th>Schedule 4 National Indigenous FASD resource</th>
<th>Schedule 5 Khat use in Australia</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGDHA</td>
<td>2,130,895</td>
<td>84,047</td>
<td>(28,589)</td>
<td>285,091</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research contributions</td>
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<tr>
<td>RPI and PhD income</td>
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<td>Curtin R&amp;D contribution</td>
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<td>Sundry income</td>
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<td>Interest</td>
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<td>Surplus BF from December 2010</td>
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<td>53,155</td>
<td>31,217</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>2,436,831</td>
<td>137,202</td>
<td>2,628</td>
<td>645,215</td>
<td>48,918</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Expenditure

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>Schedule 2 Kava usage in Indigenous communities</th>
<th>Schedule 3 National tobacco in prisons summit</th>
<th>Schedule 4 National Indigenous FASD resource</th>
<th>Schedule 5 Khat use in Australia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>2,065,159</td>
<td>96,227</td>
<td>7,451</td>
<td>111,354</td>
<td>20,713</td>
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<td>Operating costs</td>
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<td>Capital costs</td>
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<td>PhD scholarships</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td>2,222,009</td>
<td>108,725</td>
<td>16,275</td>
<td>148,125</td>
<td>20,746</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Balance of funds at 31 December 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Balance of funds at 31 December 2011</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>Schedule 2 Kava usage in Indigenous communities</th>
<th>Schedule 3 National tobacco in prisons summit</th>
<th>Schedule 4 National Indigenous FASD resource</th>
<th>Schedule 5 Khat use in Australia</th>
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<tr>
<td>214,822</td>
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<td>(13,647)</td>
<td>497,090</td>
<td>28,172</td>
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**Add scholarship/ salary reserves**

<table>
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<th>Schedule 2 Kava usage in Indigenous communities</th>
<th>Schedule 3 National tobacco in prisons summit</th>
<th>Schedule 4 National Indigenous FASD resource</th>
<th>Schedule 5 Khat use in Australia</th>
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<td>218,251</td>
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**Total funds available at 31 December 2011**

<table>
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<th>Schedule 2 Kava usage in Indigenous communities</th>
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<td>433,073</td>
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<td>Expenditure in 2011</td>
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<td>Understanding the barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine users in health services</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>$756,850</td>
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<td>Does traumatic brain injury lead to offending behaviour?</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>$267,175</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$126,885</td>
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<td>Broome to Berrima: Building Australia-wide research capacity in indigenous offender health and health care delivery</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>$2,315,190</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>
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<td>Hep C, prisons and treatment opps (HEPATO)</td>
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<td>Mothers with an alcohol-related diagnosis in WA</td>
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<td>Impact of parental substance use on infant development and family functioning</td>
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<td>$103,961</td>
<td>$87,101</td>
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<td>Pandemic influenza containment strategies in Aboriginal communities</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>$88,571</td>
<td>$72,698</td>
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<td>The role of resiliency in responding to BBV and sexually transmitted diseases in Indigenous communities</td>
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<td>$429,604</td>
<td>$429,605</td>
<td>$60,075</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>
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<td>Social inclusion through community embedded, socially supported university education</td>
<td>ARC linkage via Aust Catholic Uni</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>$11,667</td>
<td>$1,387</td>
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<td>Understanding and reducing alcohol related harm among young adults</td>
<td>ARC/Melb Uni</td>
<td>$51,505</td>
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<tr>
<td>What difference does treatment make</td>
<td>ARC and collaborator grants Ted Noffs and Mission Australia</td>
<td>$214,000</td>
<td>$81,783</td>
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<td>Developing the capacity to model impact of interventions</td>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>$438,774</td>
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<tr>
<td>POINTED project</td>
<td>NDLERF via Turning Point</td>
<td>$41,320</td>
<td>$10,330</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kalgoorlie alcohol action project (KAAP)</td>
<td>AERF</td>
<td>$799,981</td>
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<td>Cost of alcohol’s harm to others</td>
<td>AERF via Turning Point</td>
<td>$78,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,850</td>
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</table>

$6,680,103 $1,219,256 $857,083

See Appendix 1 (page 34) for list of abbreviations
## Other Grants and Tenders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Total grant approved for project</th>
<th>Grant received in 2011</th>
<th>Expenditure in 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illicit drug reporting system (IDRS) - WA component</td>
<td>NDARC</td>
<td>$569,752</td>
<td>$64,218</td>
<td>$76,792</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ecstasy and related drugs reporting system (EDRS) - WA component</td>
<td>NDARC</td>
<td>$463,038</td>
<td>$65,140</td>
<td>$46,122</td>
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<td>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cannabis intervention (NCPIC)</td>
<td>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 aetiologic fractions for emergency departments</td>
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<td>$346,103</td>
<td>$100,672</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>
<td>$52,333</td>
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<td>Train the trainer dissemination - Helping Change</td>
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<td>Social and economic costs of alcohol in WA</td>
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<td>$20,204</td>
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<td>Mothers with an alcohol related diagnosis in WA</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>
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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>$92,626</td>
<td>$16,042</td>
<td>$71,580</td>
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<td>Jaru Pirrijirdi suicide prevention project</td>
<td>Mt Theo</td>
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<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$29,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Theo enhancing capacity management project</td>
<td>Mt Theo</td>
<td>$21,046</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$17,174</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>Development of SA Specific Aetiologic Fractions</td>
<td>Southern Adelaide Health</td>
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<td>$49,896</td>
<td>$31,715</td>
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<td>Warlpiri early childhood care and development program</td>
<td>World Vision</td>
<td>$124,282</td>
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<td>Evaluation of YAP for parents and children</td>
<td>Palmerston Association, WA</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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<td>Creating healthy workplaces evidence review</td>
<td>Vic Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safe and Sober programme evaluation and data systems research project</td>
<td>CAAC</td>
<td>$207,409</td>
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**Total:**

- **Total grant approved:** $3,871,568
- **Grant received in 2011:** $752,251
- **Expenditure in 2011:** $825,144
## State Competitive Grants and Tenders

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<th>Project</th>
<th>Funder</th>
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<th>Grant received in 2011</th>
<th>Expenditure in 2011</th>
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<tr>
<td>MHRIF Round 14 Award - Justice Research</td>
<td>WAHD</td>
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<td>MHRIF Round 14 Award - Ethnographic Research</td>
<td>WAHD</td>
<td>$83,034</td>
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<td>FASD knowledge and referral pathways in early childhood settings</td>
<td>Healthway</td>
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<td>SHAHRP Refresh</td>
<td>Healthway</td>
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<td>$133,078</td>
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<td>Drinking in the suburbs</td>
<td>Healthway</td>
<td>$220,031</td>
<td>$105,113</td>
<td>$51,478</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$571,415</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$194,357</strong></td>
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## University Infrastructure and Strategic Grants

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<td>SRG 2008 social determinants of health framework</td>
<td>Curtin</td>
<td>$730,000</td>
<td>$217,000</td>
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<td>Institute - Fellowship</td>
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<td>$341,083</td>
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<td>Prevelance of ADHD among those with SUD</td>
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<td>Impact of parental substance use on infant development and family functioning</td>
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<td>Mothers with an alcohol-related diagnosis in WA</td>
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<td>Research infrastructure funding (RPI) 2011</td>
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<td>HDR consumables and fieldwork distribution 2011</td>
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## Summary of NDRI Funding in 2011

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<td>State competitive grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other grants and tenders</td>
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<td>University grants and infrastructure</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total funding received in 2011</strong></td>
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See Appendix 1 (page 34) for list of abbreviations.
## Appendix 1

### List of Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADAC (SA)</td>
<td>Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (South Australia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AERF</td>
<td>Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGDHA</td>
<td>Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing</td>
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<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>ANU</td>
<td>Australian National University</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>Australian Research Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAAC</td>
<td>Central Australian Aboriginal Congress</td>
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<td>CARBC</td>
<td>Centre for Addictions Research of British Columbia</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSR, ECU</td>
<td>Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University</td>
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<td>DAO</td>
<td>Drug and Alcohol Office of Western Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>DCS WA</td>
<td>Department of Corrective Services, Western Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>ODCS</td>
<td>Queensland Department of Corrective Services</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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<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>JH NSW</td>
<td>Justice Health NSW</td>
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<td>Mt Theo</td>
<td>Mt Theo Substance Misuse Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCEPH</td>
<td>National Centre in Epidemiology and Population Health, ANU</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCETA</td>
<td>National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCHECR</td>
<td>National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCHSR</td>
<td>National Centre in HIV Social Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NDRI</td>
<td>National Drug Research Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>National Health and Medical Research Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>National Institutes of Health, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCP</td>
<td>Office of Crime Prevention, WA Police Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>PDPC, Victoria</td>
<td>Premier's Drug Prevention Council, Victoria</td>
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<td>ODCS</td>
<td>Department of Corrective Services, Queensland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>QADREC</td>
<td>Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre</td>
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<td>RPI</td>
<td>Research Performance Index</td>
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<td>SAHS</td>
<td>Southern Adelaide Health Service Incorporated</td>
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<td>SHAHRP</td>
<td>School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project</td>
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<td>SHORE</td>
<td>Centre for Social Health Outcomes Research Evaluation, Massey University, NZ</td>
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<td>Turning Point</td>
<td>Turning Point Drug and Alcohol Centre, Inc</td>
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<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>VicHealth</td>
<td>Victorian Health Promotion Foundation</td>
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<td>WA</td>
<td>Western Australia</td>
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<td>Western Australian Health Department</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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