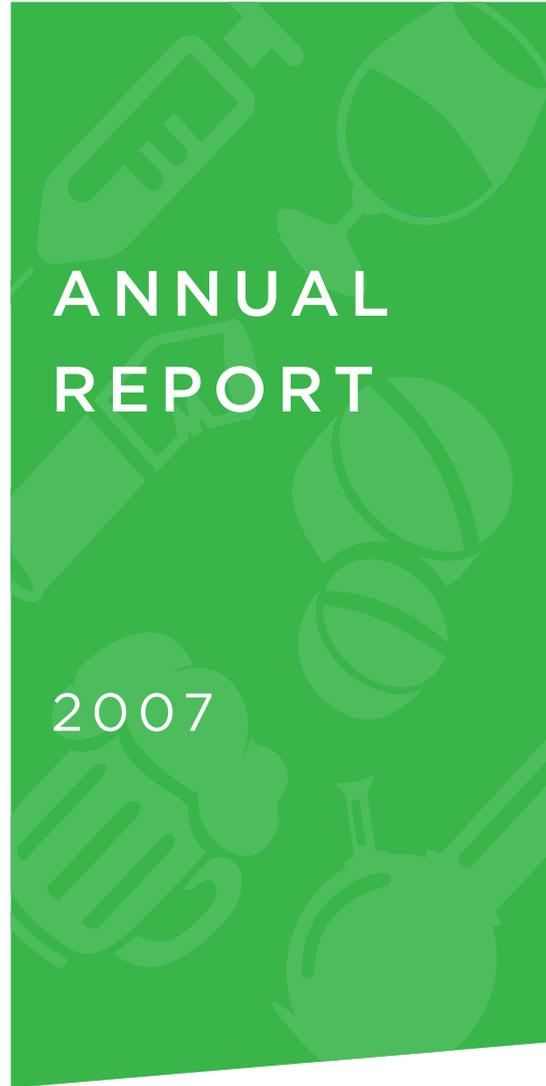




national drug research institute



# ANNUAL REPORT

2007

Preventing harmful drug use in Australia



**Tier 1 Research Centre**  
**WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse**  
**Funded by the National Drug Strategy**

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# About NDRI

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

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

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

## Mission

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

## Values

The work of NDRI is guided by the following values:

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

## Key Result Areas

In striving to achieve its mission, NDRI has identified three 'key result areas':

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

# Director's Report

Entering our third decade of operation has presented the National Drug Research Institute with new opportunities to contribute to the prevention and minimisation of alcohol and other drug related harm. We have been engaged in a formal external review, enjoyed the fifteenth anniversary of our Indigenous Australian Research Program, established offices outside of Perth, expanded our expertise, and farewelled some close colleagues.

As part of the funding agreement with the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, NDRI underwent a formal review in 2007. While putting the Institute under the microscope, the review was an opportunity to demonstrate the quality and impact of the Institute's outputs in the context of the aims of the National Drug Strategy. It was a positive experience, allowing us to identify how we can build on our strengths and respond to new challenges.

NDRI has always been mindful of its role as a national centre and the importance of enhancing responses to alcohol and other drug problems through collaborative effort. As demonstrated in this annual report, we have continued to work with diverse stakeholders to build capacity, conduct research and facilitate the translation of research into practice. Collaborators have included other academic institutions, Indigenous community-controlled organisations, local government, law enforcement, and government and non-government drug specialist services across the nation and overseas.

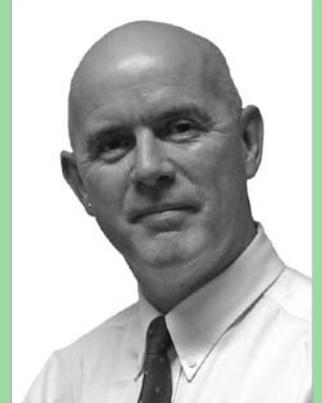
This year our collaborative efforts have been enhanced by the establishment of NDRI's Melbourne office. Located with Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre, the office houses Associate Professor David Moore and four PhD students, with a strong focus on the Institute's Ethnographic Research Program. It is anticipated that successful research bids in 2007 will see staff numbers and research outputs grow. We are particularly grateful to Curtin University of Technology for providing a significant proportion of the infrastructure support for this venture.

The Institute's Indigenous Australian Research Team celebrated its fifteenth year of operation in 2007 with substantial growth in operations and output. The Department of Health and Ageing supported the appointment of Associate Professor Ted Wilkes, who brings critical Indigenous expertise into the Institute, enhancing our Indigenous capacity building activities. Significant funding from the Department also allowed the Institute to support five programs that aim to build the capacity of organisations to respond to the needs of Indigenous people affected by alcohol use. The first Indigenous National Alcohol Indicators Project bulletin was also launched this year, quantifying the huge impact that alcohol has on Indigenous health and wellbeing. This, and a subsequent report on Alcohol Restrictions, received substantial media coverage and informed various strategies that have recently been adopted to reduce alcohol related harm among Indigenous Australians.

The Institute hosted its second Kettil Bruun Society Symposium in 2004. This year, Associate Professor Richard Midford was responsible for publication of the proceedings of the Symposium in a special issue of *Substance Use and Misuse*. The influential international papers focus on the important issue of community action research, a critical approach if we wish to see broad adoption of effective drug prevention efforts.

This year also provided the opportunity to continue a longstanding relationship with the Australian Institute of Criminology. NDRI staff worked closely with the AIC, particularly Dr Toni Makkai and Dr Jan Baker, to develop the Draft Amphetamine-Type Stimulant Strategy. The process involved broad consultation with community groups, law enforcement and health staff across Australia and review with three key expert groups. The Strategy will be considered for adoption in 2008.

We were also fortunate to recruit Associate Professor Tony Butler. The criminal justice system is high risk for alcohol and other drug related harm but the area is relatively neglected in research



and service provision. Tony's appointment allows us to build our contribution to preventing and minimising drug related harm among people enmeshed in the criminal justice system.

In 2007 we bid a fond farewell to Associate Professor Wendy Loxley, who has made significant contributions to the drug field in general and the Institute in particular. Fittingly, Wendy was recognised with inclusion on the Honour Roll in the 2007 National Drug and Alcohol Awards. Some of the character of the Institute goes with Wendy. Fortunately, we will continue to have access to her wisdom through her role as an adjunct staff member.

We also owe an enormous debt of gratitude to a number of departing Board members, particularly Pam McKenna. In retiring from her role as Chief Executive Officer of Palmerston Association Inc, Pam has also elected to retire from our Board, on which she has served since 1995, and we thank her for her support.

Finally, I must say it is a great pleasure to work as Director of the National Drug Research Institute. We enjoy quality support from Department of Health and Ageing staff and Curtin University of Technology. But most of all, we have excellent academic colleagues, a fine business services team and a collegiate environment. What else could I ask for?

**Professor Steve Allsop**  
**Director**

# Highlights

During 2007, NDRI researchers were involved in around 100 projects, many of which are expected to result in a direct influence on policy, practice and the community. Much of NDRI's research is conducted in partnership and collaboration with other organisations, and the past year was important for building new, and maintaining existing, relationships.

## 2007 achievements include the following:

- NDRI successfully underwent its five-yearly external review on behalf of the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing, along with its sister organisations NDARC and NCETA.
- NDRI's Indigenous research program celebrated its 15 year milestone and was boosted by increases in resources and staffing (see page opposite).
- The Institute established an office in Melbourne, which houses Associate Professor David Moore, who heads NDRI's Ethnographic Research Program, and four NDRI PhD students (see page 19).
- The Institute made several senior appointments including Associate Professor Ted Wilkes, who brings significant expertise to the Indigenous Australian research area, and Associate Professor Tony Butler, who has expanded NDRI's drug and alcohol research expertise into the prisons and corrections area.
- Associate Professor Wendy Loxley was inducted into the prestigious Honour Roll at the 2007 National Drug and Alcohol Awards in recognition of her significant contribution to the alcohol and other drug field (see box).
- Associate Professor David Moore and NDRI Tier 1 Research Fellow Geoffrey Jalleh received Curtin Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence.
- David Moore was selected as a finalist for the Excellence in Research Award at the 2007 National Drug and Alcohol Awards in recognition of his work to map the social contexts of alcohol and other drug related harm.
- Several Indigenous research team members were invited to Brazil to attend and present at the First International Conference on Indigenous Mental Health, and to advise the Brazilian Ministry of Health on substance misuse interventions (see page 12).
- Associate Professor Richard Midford was guest editor of *Drug and Alcohol Review* for a special issue on drug prevention for students and of *Substance Use & Misuse* for a special issue on proceedings of the sixth Kettil Bruun Society Symposium on Community Action Research (see page 25).
- NDRI postgraduate student Penny Heale was awarded a PhD following completion of her thesis examining depression, suicidality, and non-fatal overdose involving pharmaceutical and over-the-counter medications (see page 18).
- The first Indigenous National Alcohol Indicators Project (INAIP) bulletin showing trends in Indigenous alcohol-attributable mortality by ATSIC zone, was launched in early 2007 (see page 10).
- NDRI launched a report on the impact of alcohol restrictions which provides practical guidance for Indigenous communities addressing alcohol-related problems (see page 15).
- In partnership with the Australian Institute of Criminology, NDRI developed a draft national amphetamine-type stimulant (ATS) strategy that aims to substantially inform Australia's prevention, law enforcement and treatment response to ATS (see page 14).
- International interest in the school health and alcohol harm reduction project (SHAHRP) continued to increase (see page 16).
- Ethnographic researchers completed a project for the Victorian Premier's Drug Prevention Council exploring the social and cultural contexts of ecstasy and related drug use in Victoria (see page 20).
- NDRI was part of the consortium, with NDARC as the lead agency, that was awarded the bid for the National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre (NCPIC). NDRI will be one of the key collaborating partners.

## Honour for NDRI researcher

NDRI researcher Associate Professor Wendy Loxley was inducted into the prestigious Honour Roll at the 2007 National Drug and Alcohol Awards held in Sydney.

Professor Loxley was recognised as a highly regarded researcher and advocate of harm reduction, who has also been a mentor to a number of junior staff at NDRI. Her work over the past 20 years on developing and promoting the evidence on drug prevention has



Wendy Loxley receiving Honour Roll Award from Ian Webster AO, Patron of ADCA

been credited with helping shape service provision in Australia and overseas. In the late 1980s, when HIV/AIDS initially appeared among injecting drug users in Australia, Professor Loxley was involved in the first national prevalence study and did her PhD thesis on the behaviour of young drug users in relation to exposure to HIV. "One of the biggest challenges in the field of alcohol and other drug use is taking out the emotion, the moralising and the politics, and replacing them with scientific evidence," said Professor Loxley. "We have to focus on prevention, not just of the drug use itself which is immensely hard, but of the harm that alcohol and other drugs can do like death, serious injury and blood borne infections like hepatitis C."

# Highlights

## Indigenous research at NDRI - 15 years on

In 2007, NDRI's Indigenous research program celebrated its 15 year milestone. Established in 1992 by Professor Dennis Gray, who still heads the program, it was determined from the outset that all Indigenous research at the centre should be based on the following principles:

- Indigenous people should make the decisions about what research is to be conducted in their communities;
- research should be practically oriented;
- Indigenous people should be involved at all stages of the research process;
- the research process should include training of Indigenous people; and,
- research should be directed towards providing Indigenous people with information that empowers them in their quest for self-determination and the provision of appropriate services.

Over the past 15 years, the Indigenous research team has conducted more than 30 research projects in collaboration with approximately the same number of Indigenous community-controlled organisations in Western Australia, South Australia, the Northern Territory and Queensland. While a number of people have worked in the program over the years, at any one time the total number of staff members has been small. Given this, a key element in the team's output and success has been effective collaborative partnerships with other researchers from both outside and within NDRI.

Projects have included: local level needs assessments and evaluations of intervention strategies; local and regional studies of the prevalence of substance use and associated factors; and reviews of the literature on various aspects of Indigenous substance misuse. An important theme running through this work has been a concern with the political and economic factors underlying Indigenous ill-health and substance misuse – the structural determinants. Among the most important projects have been:

- a comparative study of alcohol use among Indigenous peoples in Australia, New Zealand and Canada;
- an evaluation of the Tennant Creek liquor licensing restrictions;
- mapping the distribution of, and allocation of resources to, Indigenous substance misuse interventions;
- a review of Indigenous substance misuse and primary health care;
- the identification of elements of 'best practice' in Indigenous substance misuse interventions; and
- a study of the policing implications of volatile substance misuse.

Capacity building has been an integral part of the Indigenous research program. As well as higher degree training, NDRI has created opportunities for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous staff members to undertake further study, and 'on-the-job' mentoring and training has also been provided.

Two of the most exciting activities centre on building the capacity of Indigenous community-controlled organisations to conduct their own research. The first of these is a project funded by AERF which provides support and training for an Indigenous research intern within Aboriginal

In 2007 the Indigenous research team was strengthened by the appointment of Indigenous staff member Associate Professor Ted Wilkes who has extensive experience in the area. Professor Wilkes is a member of the Australian National Council on Drugs and chair of the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee – the peak advisory body on Indigenous substance misuse issues.



Associate Professor Ted Wilkes

Alcohol and Drug Service (AADS) in Perth. The objective is to enable the intern to independently undertake basic research activities such as needs assessments and program evaluations on behalf of AADS.

The second of these activities has been the provision of training and support to Tangentyere Council in Alice Springs in the establishment its own research unit – the 'Tangentyere Research Hub'. This support is provided under a memorandum of understanding between Tangentyere Council, NDRI, the Centre for Social Research (Edith Cowan University) and the Centre for Remote Health (Charles Darwin and Flinders Universities). The Hub is staffed by local Indigenous people who, among other projects, have conducted a study of the attitudes of Alice Springs town camp residents to liquor licensing restrictions and a study of mobility between remote communities and Alice Springs town camps.

NDRI's Indigenous research has been widely cited in key policy documents and reports, and demonstrable practical impacts at the local/regional, state/territory and national levels have been achieved. These impacts include improved service delivery, greater community control over the availability of alcohol, and increased resource allocations. In 2006, in recognition of its achievements, the program research team received both a National Alcohol and Drug Award for 'Excellence in Research' and a Curtin University of Technology Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence.

The ability of the research team to continue to attract important, practically-oriented research projects, the expansion of its staffing base (particularly Indigenous staffing), the further development of collaborative links within and beyond NDRI, the commitment to the program within NDRI as an organisation, and the recognition it has achieved among key stakeholders all bode well for the future. On this basis, the Indigenous research program hopes to continue making a significant contribution to the improvement of Indigenous Australian health and well-being.

# Board of Management



**Prof Jill Downie** (Acting Chair from August 2007)

Pro Vice Chancellor, Faculty of Health Sciences  
Curtin University of Technology



**Ms Virginia Hart**

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



**Prof Steve Allsop**

Director  
National Drug Research Institute



**Mr Mick Burnby** (until December 2007)

Assistant Commissioner, South Metropolitan Region,  
Western Australian Police Service



**Mr Eric Dillon** (from November 2007)

Acting Executive Director  
Drug and Alcohol Office, Western Australia



**Prof Mike Garlepp** (until July 2007)

Acting Executive Dean, Division of Health Sciences  
Division of Health Sciences, Curtin University of Technology



**Prof Linda Kristjanson** (until December 2007)

Pro Vice Chancellor, Research & Development  
Curtin University of Technology



**Ms Pam McKenna** (until December 2007)

Chief Executive Officer  
Palmerston Association Inc



**Mr Terry Murphy** (until August 2007)

Executive Director  
Drug and Alcohol Office, Western Australia



**Ms Coralie Ober**

Research Fellow, Queensland Alcohol and Drug  
Research and Education Centre,  
University of Queensland

# Partnerships

**In 2007, NDRI worked in collaboration with a broad range of agencies and research centres locally, nationally and internationally. The Institute is a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse.**

## NDRI Collaborating Centres

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

## Other Project Partners

- Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service
- Alcohol and Drug Council of Australia
- Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation
- Australian National Council on Drugs
- Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley, USA
- Australian Drug Foundation
- Australian Intravenous League
- Beckley Foundation (UK)
- Cancer Council WA
- Centre for Addictions Research of BC, University of Victoria, Canada
- Centre for Adolescent Health, Murdoch Children's Research Institute
- Centre for Mental Health Studies, University of Newcastle
- Centre for Remote Health, Flinders & Charles Darwin Universities
- Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University
- Chemistry Centre of Western Australia
- City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Community Alcohol Action Network, Australian Drug Foundation
- Curtin University of Technology
- Deakin University
- Department of Corrective Services, WA
- Drug and Alcohol Office of Western Australia
- Drug and Alcohol Services Association, Alice Springs
- Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Queensland
- Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation
- Kimberley Community Drug Service Team

- Menzies School of Health Research
- Monash Institute for Health Services Research
- National Centre in Epidemiology and Population Health
- National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research
- National Development and Research Institutes, USA
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee
- NSW Attorney General's Department Drug Programs Bureau
- NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
- NSW Department of Health
- Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre
- St Bartholomew's House, Perth
- Tangentyre Council, Alice Springs
- Telethon Institute for Child Health Research
- University of California, San Francisco, USA
- University of New South Wales
- Western Australian Health Department
- Western Australian Police Service
- WA Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies

## Committee/Reference Group Memberships

- Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet Reference Group
- Australian National Council on Drugs
- Australian Network of Academic Public Health Institutions
- Child Death Review Committee, Dept of Community Development
- Drug and Alcohol Office of WA Expert Consultation Group – Legislative Review of Cannabis Control Act 2003
- Health Institute Consultative Committee, Division of Health Sciences, Curtin University of Technology
- Health Promotion Strategic Planning Tobacco Expert Advisory Group, Health Department of WA
- Indigenous Alcohol Clinical Practice Guidelines Reference Group
- National Cannabis Strategy Law Enforcement Reference Group, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee
- Public Health Consultative Committee, Public Health Department, ECU
- Research Coordination Committee, Drug and Alcohol Office of WA
- Victorian Premier's Drug Prevention Council panel to evaluate the Australian Drug Foundation's Drug Info Clearinghouse
- Web-based Alcohol and Tobacco Intervention Consultative Committee, School of Public Health, Curtin University of Technology
- Western Australian Butane Taskforce
- Western Australian Viral Hepatitis Committee

# Research Overview

NDRI is amongst the largest centres of alcohol and other drug research expertise in Australia. Recognising that problems associated with drug use are complex, a multi-disciplinary approach to research is pursued and researchers are drawn from a range of disciplines including psychology, epidemiology, public health, sociology and anthropology.

The following pages give details of a small selection of new, ongoing and completed projects undertaken by NDRI during 2007, organised by eight key research priorities (listed below). Appendix 1 (page 35) lists all 2007 research projects, and further project information can be found on NDRI's website at [www.ndri.curtin.edu.au](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au).

## Key Research Priorities

- 1. National monitoring of alcohol and other drug consumption patterns and related harm:** Research conducted under key priority 1 aims to monitor Australians' patterns of alcohol and other drug use and associated levels of harm over time, evaluate the impact of established harm minimisation strategies, and inform future policy changes.
- 2. Partnerships in the prevention of alcohol and other drug misuse among Indigenous Australians:** The focus of key priority 2 is research and evaluation that enhances the ability of Indigenous Australian communities to address alcohol and other drug misuse. Importantly, work in this area includes efforts to build Indigenous research capacity.
- 3. Prevention of the spread of blood-borne viruses and other harm among injecting drug users:** Research under key priority 3 involves investigating the social and behavioural factors associated with the transmission of hepatitis C and other blood borne viruses among injecting drug users to inform policy and the development and implementation of prevention strategies.
- 4. The impact of educational, legislative and regulatory strategies to minimise alcohol and other drug-related harm:** Key priority 4 involves the collection of data on the impact of various educational, regulatory and legislative models for drugs in Australia to inform the future implementation and modification of strategies to reduce alcohol and drug-related harm.
- 5. Development and evaluation of more effective school drug and education programs:** Projects under key priority 5 involve the development, evaluation and dissemination of school drug education programs that are most likely to be effective in the Australian cultural context.
- 6. Development and evaluation of more effective community drug prevention programs:** The aim of key priority 6 is to undertake innovative research in partnership with local communities to stimulate and inform the development of relevant, effective programs that target population level change as a way of reducing alcohol and other drug harm.
- 7. Identification of fundamental, strategic and developmental research questions in the area of primary prevention of harmful drug use:** Key priority 7 involves identifying fundamental, strategic and developmental research questions in the prevention of drug use, risk and harm across the spectrum of licit and illicit drug use.
- 8. Investigation of the influence of structural determinants and the social contexts of drug use on the implementation of strategies designed to reduce and prevent harmful drug use:** Research under key priority 8 involves investigating how educational, legislative and regulatory strategies impact on structural determinants and social contexts of alcohol and other drug use to produce or reduce harm.

## Philosophy

In conducting its research, NDRI follows the philosophy of harm minimisation that has underpinned Australia's National Drug Strategy since 1985. Harm minimisation aims to reduce harm to individuals and communities for those who continue to use drugs. There will always be a need to protect people from the harmful consequences of drug use.

As harm minimisation focuses on the harms caused by drug use, it provides a framework in which a range of strategies can be legitimately used to achieve the overall goal. Strategies can be broadly classified into three areas:

- **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

### National monitoring of alcohol and other drug consumption patterns and related harm

#### New Projects

##### The range and magnitude of alcohol's harm to others

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: Turning Point; NDARC

Funded by: AERF

The aim of this project is to describe and measure the adverse effects of drinking in Australia on people other than the drinker. Included in the study are the effects of drinking on the health of others, on injuries and damage from assaults and from traffic crashes, on family life and functioning, and on the welfare of others. While the primary focus is on estimating the magnitude of effects in their own terms, methods for costing the effects are also being considered and explored. The project avoids duplicating existing and current analyses, and does not aim to be exhaustive. Rather, it aims to use existing and new datasets to substantially push forward understanding and measurement of the adverse effects of drinking on others.

#### Ongoing Projects

##### Alcohol outlet density and related harm

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: WA Health Dept; WA Police

Funded by: NDLERF

The use of policy interventions to minimise alcohol related harm by controlling alcohol outlet density is not currently considered within legislation in Western Australia (WA). This project aims to determine whether it is feasible to develop a model of alcohol outlet density that can be used to inform such interventions. Although focusing on WA, this feasibility study includes an assessment of the practicalities of developing such models in other states and territories in Australia.

##### Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)

NDRI staff: Jessica George, Simon Lenton

Project partners: NDARC

Funded by: AGDHA

This study comprises the Perth arm of a research project to monitor trends in ecstasy and related drug use in major cities across Australia. The EDRS developed from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS) and together the projects act as complementary early warning systems designed to identify emerging trends in various illicit drug markets and in patterns of use. The EDRS aims to examine demographic characteristics and patterns of ecstasy and other 'party drug' use, perceived harms associated with use, and drug market factors such as price, potency and availability of ecstasy and other party drugs. The project is coordinated nationally by NDARC, and has been conducted annually in Western Australia since 2003.

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

#### GENACIS

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: Turning Point; Deakin University

Funded by: NHMRC

The GENACIS study aims to develop knowledge about and measures of social problems associated with drinking, which have been less studied and are much less quantified than the health and casualty problems resulting from drinking. The research is endeavouring to gain a better understanding of patterns of alcohol consumption and of the relationship of such patterns to problematic social relations, particularly within couples and the family. These patterns are initially being studied in Australia and, through participation in an international project, will later be analysed and interpreted in the context of findings from comparable studies elsewhere.

#### Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)

NDRI staff: James Fetherston, Simon Lenton

Project partners: NDARC

Funded by: AGDHA

This study comprises the Perth arm of a research project to monitor illicit drug use trends in major cities across Australia. The project is coordinated nationally by NDARC. The IDRS provides an integrated approach to the monitoring of data associated with illicit drug use in Australia. The information collected is intended to act as an early warning system for the availability and use of four main drug categories: heroin, amphetamines, cocaine and cannabis.

2007 was the eighth year of operation of the IDRS in Western Australia. Commencing in 1999 it initially used data collected from key experts such as drug counsellors, emergency department workers and members of the law enforcement sector combined with existing formalised data sources like phone calls to the Alcohol and Drug Information Service, police seizures and purity analysis and callouts to overdoses. The following year the project was expanded to include interviews with regular injecting drug users as a valuable sentinel population, triangulating this new information with original data. IDRS data is used by both the health and law enforcement sectors to inform policy, funding and provision of services.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 1 (continued)

### National monitoring of alcohol and other drug consumption patterns and related harm

#### National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP)

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal  
Funded by: AGDHA

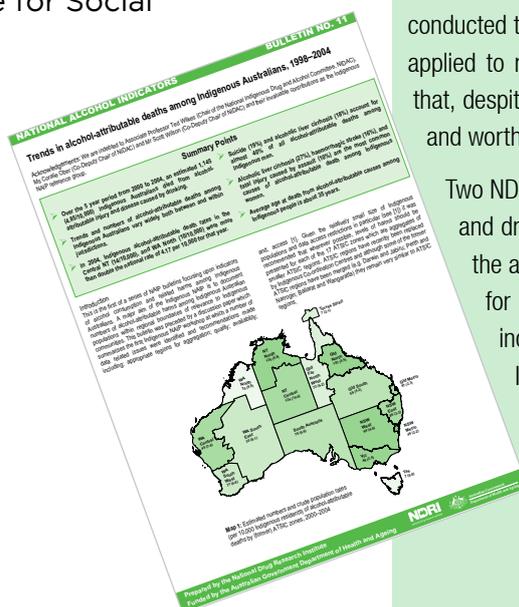
NAIP is a nationally co-ordinated project aimed at tracking and reporting on trends in alcohol related harm in Australia at national, state and local levels. A first for Australia, the development of a nationally coordinated source of data on alcohol consumption and related harm arose from the need for an efficient monitoring system on alcohol and increasing concern over levels of alcohol-related harm in the Australian community. One of the main objectives of the project is to produce and disseminate summary bulletins which highlight the major points from each research area. Eleven statistical bulletins have now been released, dealing with topics such as: alcohol-caused morbidity and mortality; serious alcohol-related road trauma; risky drinking patterns; per capita consumption; alcohol and violence; youth alcohol consumption; under-aged drinking; and alcohol and the elderly. Bulletin 11 on alcohol-attributable mortality for Indigenous Australians was completed and disseminated in early 2007 (see box). Progress is being made toward bulletin 12 which will provide updated economic cost estimates for alcohol-attributable mortality and morbidity for all states and territories in Australia. The project will also examine the relative impacts of apparent protective effects of alcohol against ischaemic heart disease on cost estimates. All NAIP bulletins are available on the NDRI website ([www.ndri.curtin.edu.au](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au)) and hard copies can be obtained on request.

## Completed Projects

### Indigenous National Alcohol Indicators Project (INAIP)

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal,  
Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne, Sherry Siggers  
Project partners: Centre for Social  
Research, ECU; NIDAC  
Funded by: AGDHA

See box.



### Alcohol: A time bomb for Indigenous Australians

The first in a series of Indigenous National Alcohol Indicators Project (INAIP) bulletins focusing on indicators of alcohol consumption and related harms among Indigenous Australians was published in early 2007. The Bulletin documents trends in alcohol attributable deaths among Indigenous Australians between 1998-2004 and reveals that an estimated 1145 Indigenous Australians died from alcohol-attributable injury and disease in the first five years of this decade. Indigenous males were more likely to die from suicide and alcoholic liver cirrhosis, while females were more likely to die from alcoholic liver cirrhosis and haemorrhagic stroke. The average age of death from an alcohol-attributable cause was about 35 years. Rates were presented according to regional boundaries designated by (former) ATISIC zones, as opposed to only state and territory jurisdictions – the former being of greater relevance to Indigenous communities than the latter.

“These statistics verify what many Aboriginal leaders and health professionals have known for many years: Alcohol is a killer – a “time bomb” that is now exploding in the faces of Indigenous Australians.”

Associate Professor  
Ted Wilkes

INAIP aims to address a gap in the evidence base supporting Indigenous alcohol harm reduction initiatives, namely the need for indicators of alcohol related harm specific to Indigenous Australians. Such information would allow the timely and reliable measurement of the effectiveness of policies and interventions, thus better facilitating targeting of resources to areas of greatest need.

INAIP was devised as an expansion of NAIP, the nationally co-ordinated project aimed at tracking and reporting on trends in alcohol related harm in Australia at national, state and local levels. A feasibility study was conducted to assess whether the NAIP methodology and data could be applied to report specifically on Indigenous populations and revealed that, despite limitations on existing data, Indigenous NAIP was a viable and worthwhile endeavour.

Two NDRI research teams, one concerned with research on alcohol and drug issues among Indigenous Australians and the other with the analysis of national alcohol indicators, were brought together for INAIP. The project was supported by an Advisory Group including Associate Professor Ted Wilkes (Chair of the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee, NIDAC), and Scott Wilson and Coralie Ober (Co-Deputy Chairs of NIDAC).

NAIP Bulletin 11: *Trends in alcohol-attributable deaths among Indigenous Australians, 1998-2004* is available on NDRI's website ([www.ndri.curtin.edu.au](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au)) and hard copies can be obtained on request.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 2

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

#### New Projects

##### Identifying areas of greatest need in Indigenous substance misuse intervention

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne

Funded by: NIDAC

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

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

##### Indigenous alcohol and other drug misuse and harm service provision

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne

Funded by: WANADA

The Western Australian Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (WANADA) is the peak body for the alcohol and other drug (AOD) education, prevention, treatment and support sector in Western Australia (WA). To facilitate its 'whole-of-community' approach to alcohol and other drug issues and to provide a basis for future policy development and funding decisions, WANADA commissioned this project, which aims to map and identify the gaps in service provision for Indigenous people in WA needing to access alcohol and other drug misuse and harm treatment and support services.

##### Review of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled alcohol and other drugs sector in Queensland

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars, Ted Wilkes

Funded by: QAIHC

The Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council (QAIHC) and the Queensland Indigenous Substance Misuse Council (QISMC) – peak bodies for Indigenous health and substance misuse organisations in Queensland – are working together to integrate and improve the services they provide. To facilitate this under the auspices of QAIHC, NDRI was awarded a contract to:

- map, analyse, plan and report on alcohol and other drugs (AOD) services in 14 community controlled AOD agencies across Queensland;
- make recommendations on sector reform and development that will improve the scope and quality of AOD services for Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander peoples across Queensland; and,

- undertake a study of two key sites with a view to examining how the local community controlled AOD services interact with local community controlled primary health care services and with other local services providers.

#### Ongoing Projects

##### Enhancing the management of alcohol-related problems among Indigenous Australians

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Steve Allsop, Sherry Saggars, Ted Wilkes, Violet Bacon

Project partners: Centre for Social Research, ECU; QUADREC

Funded by: AGDHA

This three stage program, which is being managed by NDRI, aims to enhance the access of Indigenous Australians to quality treatment for alcohol-related problems. In the first stage of the program, which was completed in 2007, a series of research projects was commissioned. Initially a call was made for expressions of interest in conducting such projects, each of which was reviewed by a broad-based project steering committee. Following review, each of the groups submitting an expression of interest was commissioned to prepare a review of the literature in their topic area and a full research proposal. These proposals were independently reviewed and representatives of each of the research groups were invited to make presentations to the project steering committee. Five projects were commissioned:

- Evaluating the management of alcohol-related problems among urban Aboriginal People in Western Australia: using an action research approach to enhance service delivery and collaboration for client care. *Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service; Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service; Centre for International Health, Curtin University of Technology.*
- Multidisciplinary, self management rehabilitation care plans and case management to improve alcohol treatment for Aboriginal people in Alice Springs. *Central Australian Aboriginal Congress; James Cook University; University of Sydney; University of Queensland.*
- "Where's your country?" "Who are your people?" Asking the right questions when treating problematic alcohol use amongst Indigenous Australians. *Muru Marri Indigenous Health Unit, University of NSW; National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University; Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Medical Service.*
- The integration of brief intervention into Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services in five rural communities in NSW. *National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre; Rural Clinical School, University of NSW; Durri Aboriginal Corporation Medical Service; Armajun Aboriginal Health Service; University of Queensland; University of Newcastle.*

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 2 (continued)

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

- A community based brief intervention: increasing access to the full range of treatment services for alcohol problems for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. *Sydney South West Area Health Service.*

These projects are to be undertaken in stage two of the program over a 15 month period. In the third stage a set of recommendations based on the results of the projects will be prepared and plan developed for their implementation.

## Completed Projects

### Evaluation of the DASA outreach program

NDRI staff: Anna Stearne, Dennis Gray

Project partners: DASA

Funded by: AERF

The Drug and Alcohol Services Association (DASA), which runs the Alice Springs sobering up shelter, was funded by the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation (AERF) to provide an outreach program. The program was designed to provide support and follow-up to frequent Indigenous clients of the sobering up shelter. The program commenced in November 2004. It was originally funded for 18 months, but was extended until December 2006. The aim of the outreach program was to provide evidence-based follow-up services for clients in a post-treatment situation. In particular, the program was designed to provide a community outreach service for Indigenous people in need of specialised support to reduce the harm associated with alcohol and other drug misuse.

NDRI staff were contracted as independent evaluators of the program, and, as such, were involved from the initial planning stages. The evaluation plan included external oversight of data collection and the outreach program staff's collection of the evaluation data. The evaluation focused on process and outcome measures that were designed to meet the four planned outcomes of the outreach program:

- reduce the harm caused by alcohol abuse to Indigenous people in Central Australia.
- life circumstances improved for individuals in community-based outreach program.
- short-term objectives of the community-based outreach program progressively achieved.
- program satisfactorily implemented/adopted.

The evaluation was completed in June 2007, and found that the outreach program had achieved or made progress towards all of its planned outcomes and objectives. The program has since received ongoing funding from the Australian Department of Health and Ageing's Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health.

## First international conference on Indigenous mental health

In October 2007, Dennis Gray, Ted Wilkes, Anna Stearne and NDRI Adjunct Professor Sherry Saggars attended the First International Conference on Indigenous Mental Health in Brasilia. Attendance at the conference – which was organised and funded by the Brazilian Ministry of Health – was limited and by invitation. Delegates included Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers and practitioners from New Zealand, Canada, Argentina and Australia and counterparts and policy makers from Brazil. The conference was held in conjunction with a national meeting on Indigenous mental health.

The objective of the meeting was to develop a community based approach to Indigenous mental health in Brazil – with substance misuse treatment and prevention and suicide prevention as key elements – based on information presented at the conference. The first day's program focused on substance misuse with Ted Wilkes and Dennis Gray providing an overview of Indigenous issues in Australia, and Sherry Saggars and Anna Stearne reporting on their on-going evaluation of the highly successful Mt Theo Program. There was considerable interest in the work of NDRI – especially that dealing with the effectiveness of intervention strategies and in ways of working with Indigenous people. NDRI is looking to establish on-going contact, through which the potential exists for significant research impact at the international level.



Dennis Gray, Ted Wilkes, Anna Stearne and Sherry Saggars

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 3

### Preventing the spread of blood-borne viruses and other harm among injecting drug users

#### New Projects

##### 2007 national prison entrants' bloodborne virus and risk behaviour survey - WA component

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Funded by: Part funded by Department of Corrective Services, WA, NSW, Qld, Vic

This project is a national survey of blood borne virus (HIV, HCV, HBV) prevalence and risk behaviours in a consecutive national sample of prison admissions. The findings are vital to ongoing efforts to highlight the importance of this group (prisoners) to the national blood borne virus picture and to encourage the jurisdictions to provide comprehensive treatment services for hepatitis C.

##### An investigation of pharmaceutical drug misuse and harms among drug treatment clients

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Project partners: Turning Point

Funded by: Ministerial Council on Drugs

This multisite study involving Western Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Queensland is being co-ordinated by Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre in Melbourne. The project involves qualitative and quantitative interviews with 100 drug treatment clients (in each state) who acknowledge use of pharmaceutical drugs (benzodiazepines and opioids) in the past six months and interviews with key informants experienced in illicit drug treatment. A random selection of client case notes will be accessed and interpreted by an addiction expert from Turning Point for problems associated with drug treatment and concomitant use of illicitly obtained pharmaceutical drugs.

#### Ongoing Projects

##### Towards developing a model of care for injecting drug users in hepatitis C treatment

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Funded by: Curtin Strategic Research Scheme

The aim of this study is to document hepatitis C treatment services as they exist now; to assess the ability of current services to cope with an increase in people, including current injecting drug users (IDU) wishing to undergo treatment; to assess the level of interest among chronically infected individuals, injecting and non-injecting drug users; to explore treatment options, and to document perceived barriers to accessing treatment.

Interviews with 60 IDU who reported being infected with hepatitis C have been conducted. Only two of this group underwent anti-viral treatment for their hepatitis C infection. Both reported that treatment was difficult to

adhere to, but had been completed successfully with support from family and friends. The vast majority of remaining respondents were interested in taking part in treatment but were unsure whether they would be eligible due their continued drug use. Many were also unaware that a liver biopsy was no longer necessary to qualify for treatment. Having to have a liver biopsy has been identified as a barrier to entering treatment. The most significant barrier to exploring the treatment option was a lack of knowledge of new treatment regimes which are successful in up to 80% of cases. Other barriers included a lack of awareness of their hepatitis C status (chronic or resolved), past experiences of discrimination from within a range of health services, and a perception that because they weren't sick at present there was no need to undergo treatment. Interviews with key stakeholders from the treatment sector identified there was capacity within tertiary hospital liver clinics to increase the number of people being treated and a recognition that IDU were able to comply with treatment regimes if support services were available.

The findings from this study will be used to develop a model of care for hepatitis C treatment among IDU. The model will include strategies by which IDU can be better informed about treatment options and encouraged to investigate whether treatment is appropriate for them.

#### Completed Projects

##### Hepatitis C in magazines aimed at youth

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers

Funded by: AGDHA

It is well recognised that hepatitis C prevention education needs to target young people either before they commence drug use or very early in their drug using careers before they make the transition to injecting. Since school based hepatitis C education associated with drug use is not yet possible, one way to contact youth is through mainstream magazines. These magazines may either target youth directly, for example Dolly, Girlfriend, Cosmopolitan and Cleo, or be available to youth in the home, doctor's surgeries and dental surgeries, for example Women's Weekly and Women's Day.

This review found very limited coverage of hepatitis C in mainstream magazines over the past 5 years. Articles appeared in Women's Day, Women's Weekly, Cosmopolitan and Cleo. No articles were identified in magazines specifically targetting young women aged between 14 and 25 years. It is interesting that very few magazines target young men and those that do tend to focus on sport, cars and motorbikes. No articles about hepatitis C were found in magazines targetting men's health. Articles identified were brief and gave limited information to the reader, but did however mention injecting drug use as a major risk factor for transmission and all included reliable sources for further information. The review of hepatitis C in magazines demonstrates that such avenues are not being utilised other than in a superficial manner, and it is worth pursuing certain magazines to present more in-depth information targetting youth.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 4

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

#### New Projects

##### A multi component intervention for smoking cessation

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Funded by: NHMRC

Smoking is more common amongst Australian prisoners than in the general community. Not only do prisons have high rates of smokers, significant numbers of inmates come from the three bastions of smokers in Australia: Indigenous people, people with a mental illness, and drug users. Despite a perception that prisoners are unlikely to give up smoking, a recent survey has found that many inmates have attempted to quit or reduce the amount they smoke. A quarter were planning to quit within the next three months.

This multistate project (New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia) is the first large scale randomised trial of a multi-component intervention for quitting smoking in a prisoner population. It is investigating the effectiveness of adding an antidepressant (nortryptiline) to counselling, nicotine patches and a referral to the Quitline.

##### Cannabis Commission chapter on reforms at national and subnational levels

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton

Funded by: Beckley Foundation (UK)

With international colleagues, this project involves conducting a review of the literature on the effects of cannabis policy initiatives intended to mitigate adverse effects at national and subnational levels of reform within the international prohibition system. This includes initiatives to decriminalize cannabis possession, to reduce penalties for use or possession, to divert to treatment or other handling, and to license and tolerate, such as the Dutch coffee shop system. The review will describe the diverse initiatives in concrete terms, and summarize what evidence is available on the effects of each on amount and patterns of use and of harm. This will be one chapter of a four chapter report on *Cannabis policy in a global perspective*.

##### Development of the Draft National Amphetamine-Type Strategy 2007-2009

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Simon Lenton

Project partners: AIC

Funded by: AGDHA

It is appropriate to develop a national strategy to provide a common framework to enhance response to amphetamine-type substance (ATS) use and to coordinate activities to prevent use and respond to harms at national and jurisdictional levels. The national strategy is being developed through a process involving a thorough review of the evidence and broad stakeholder consultation. The national strategy will address supply, demand and harm reduction, and consequently will be consistent with the national drug

strategy 2004-2009. The nature of ATS use and related harm dictates that the strategy will address health and law enforcement issues.

##### WA CIN scheme cannabis evaluation phase 2 (substudy 1 - public attitude survey)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs,

James Fetherston

Funded by: DAO

This project examined the effects of changes in cannabis law in Western Australia (WA) on population based prevalence of cannabis use, attitudes, deterrent effects and knowledge regarding cannabis and the law. It comprised the second phase of a study to evaluate the impacts on the general public of WA cannabis law changes which came into effect in March 2004. It essentially replicated a 2002 telephone survey of 800 members of the WA public to enable a pre-post comparison of the legal changes on prevalence of cannabis use and attitudes and knowledge regarding cannabis and the law, and the deterrent effect of cannabis law. As in phase 1, computer assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) procedures were used. A report on the project, which comprises part of the evaluation of the WA Cannabis Infringement Notice (CIN) scheme, was published in October 2007.

##### WA CIN scheme cannabis evaluation phase 2 (substudy 2 - regular users study)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs,

Tanya L'Veena, Justin Taubman

Funded by: NDRI

This project explores the impact of changes in the laws applying to cannabis in Western Australia (WA) on a sample of regular cannabis users in terms of both their use of the drug, and indicators of the drug market for cannabis in WA including: price; perceived potency; availability; source (user-growers versus large scale criminal suppliers etc); and sale of hydroponic equipment. It involves the collection and analysis of qualitative and quantitative interview data from a sample of regular (weekly or more frequent) cannabis users. Based on data from phase 1 of the present study it can be expected that roughly 7 in 10 of those recruited would be daily cannabis users. The study comprises the second (post) wave of data collection being conducted some 36-42 months after the introduction of legislative change for cannabis in WA. As in the pre-change wave, the sample will consist of 100 adult cannabis users who have used the drug at least once a week over the previous 3 months. In the post-phase, the quantitative and qualitative interviews will include questions about: use of cannabis (frequency, situational factors, functionality, mode of administration etc) and other drugs; drug use history; cannabis use and driving, prior involvement with the law; knowledge and attitudes towards the law, impact of the CIN scheme on their acquisition and use of cannabis and the cannabis market in general.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 4 (continued)

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

## Ongoing Projects

### Assessment of the effectiveness of the regulation of alcohol in WA (WALL)

NDRI staff: Wendy Loxley, Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop, Richard Pascal  
Funded by: WAHD

Alcohol-related harm is positively correlated with the availability of alcohol, and all Australian jurisdictions control the availability of alcohol. Western Australia (WA) has some of the highest rates of alcohol-related harm in the country, and it is therefore reasonable to ask whether alcohol regulation in WA is effective in reducing levels of alcohol-attributable harm in the community. One way to answer this is to compare WA to other Australian jurisdictions. This substantial review is exploring these issues, paying attention to differences in alcohol regulation and harm between metropolitan and regional and remote areas in WA and in other states. The paper will encompass a literature review; extract of data and information sourced from public documents; extract and reanalysis of data held at NDRI; and purchase of data from sources such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics where necessary.

### WA CIN scheme evaluation phase 2 (substudy 7 - evaluation in schools)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs, Fiona Farrington  
Funded by: DAO and NDRI

This substudy comprising a survey of Western Australian (WA) school students and a focus group study of drug education teachers is part of the post phase of a large pre-post evaluation of the WA Cannabis Infringement Notice (CIN) Scheme that came into effect in March 2004. It aims to determine whether the legal changes affected students' cannabis use, knowledge and attitudes to cannabis and the law, their experience of acquiring and supplying cannabis in the drug market, and any impacts on school drug education. It will inform revision of laws locally and consideration of similar schemes elsewhere in Australia and internationally.

## Completed Projects

### Review of restrictions on the sale and supply of alcohol in Australia and Western Australia

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Dennis Gray, Zaza Lyons, Sherry Siggers  
Funded by: AERF and HDWA

See box.

## Effectiveness of alcohol restrictions

This project aimed to extensively review the evidence for the effectiveness of restrictions on the sale and supply of alcohol in reducing consumption and alcohol-related harm. The specific objectives were to:

- Evaluate the effectiveness of current and recent liquor licensing interventions to reduce alcohol related harm through restricting the sale and supply of alcohol;
- Identify which types of alcohol sale and supply restriction strategies would be potentially effective in both metropolitan and regional and remote areas; and
- Identify the potentially most effective restriction strategies for Western Australian (WA) communities, particularly outside the Perth metropolitan area in regional and remote centres and communities with high levels of alcohol-related harm.

The review examined evidence from international and Australian sources and included a range of restrictions related to: hours and days of sale, outlet density, beverage price, legal minimum drinking age and age of purchase, high-risk beverages, community-based initiatives, voluntary accords, responsible beverage service, lockouts, special events and dry area provisions, and restricted areas legislation. Restrictions on trading hours, economic availability (ie taxation and price) and access to alcohol by minors were each indicated as highly effective strategies for affecting alcohol consumption and related harms in an Australian context. Evidence of positive outcomes from other types of restriction such as limiting outlet density, restricting access to high-risk beverages and restricted areas legislation was also found, although these types of restrictions also typically require substantial ongoing functional support in order to maintain effectiveness.

Unique to the review was the detailed collation and synopsis of restrictions and their evaluations conducted throughout regional and remote Australia - WA, the Northern Territory, and Queensland in particular. For Indigenous Australian communities, a range of alcohol restrictions have been demonstrated as effective in reducing alcohol-related problems but are most effective when properly enforced, supported by the community, and complemented by measures that address the underlying causes of alcohol misuse. Findings of the review have been used to inform regional decisions about managing alcohol availability. The review of *Restrictions on the sale and supply of alcohol in Australia and Western Australia* can be downloaded from NDRI's website ([www.ndri.curtin.edu.au](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au)).

National Drug  
Research Institute  
The National Drug Use in Australia

Restrictions on the Sale  
and Supply of Alcohol:  
Evidence and Outcomes

Curtin  
University of Technology

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 5

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

#### New Projects

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

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

Funded by: AGDHA

See box.

#### Completed Projects

##### Editing a special edition of *Drug and Alcohol Review* on school drug education

NDRI staff: Richard Midford

See box page 25.

#### School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP)

The School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP) is world first research which assesses the impact in secondary school of an alcohol harm reduction program, rather than the most widely used goal in alcohol education of abstinence. As well as SHAHRP receiving a National Drug and Alcohol Award for Excellence in Research, the program has attracted significant international and national attention, and project leader Nyanda McBride continues to provide expert advice and support in the dissemination of SHAHRP both in Australia and overseas.



Nyanda McBride

The first phase results of SHAHRP (from baseline to final follow-up 32 months later) demonstrated that students who participated in SHAHRP lessons (versus regular alcohol lessons) had 10% greater alcohol related knowledge, consumed 20% less alcohol, were 19.5% less likely to drink to harmful or hazardous levels, experienced 33% less harm associated with their own use of alcohol and 10% less harm associated with other people's use of alcohol than did the control group.

Given the success of SHAHRP there has been a high level of international and national interest from researchers, policy makers and practitioners. A SHAHRP study website has been developed ([www.ndri.curtin.edu.au/shahrp/](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au/shahrp/)) and provides an overview of the study design, evidence-based features and results. Free copies of the program resources can also be downloaded from the website. There have been many requests for copyright, program advice, and research advice to replicate the program and the research in Australia and other countries.

The International Dissemination of SHAHRP will identify and develop a database of international agencies and organisations, and the key contacts within each, that have a role in policy and practice related to alcohol education. A SHAHRP 'bulletin' that identifies key aspects of the SHAHRP study and evidence basis will be developed and distributed to all on the database. Responses will be assessed over an extended period.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 6

### The development and evaluation of more effective community drug prevention programs

#### New Projects

##### Development of drug and alcohol key performance indicators for local governments in Australia

NDRI staff: Richard Midford, Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs, Rina Cercarelli  
Funded by: National Local Government Drug and Alcohol Advisory Committee

The aim of this project is to identify and trial a minimum data set capable of measuring local government achievements in terms of alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems. This would encompass the following indicators:

- local policy measures;
- resident perceptions of use, harm and local level responses; and
- objective serial measures of use, harm and response effort.

On the basis of findings from the trial, NDRI will incorporate the most salient and sensitive measures in a composite, operational toolkit that will be broadly applicable to local governments across Australia.

##### Long term evaluation of liquor licensing restrictions in Port Hedland

NDRI staff: Richard Midford  
Funded by: Health Department of WA

This follow up evaluation examines the long term impact of liquor licensing restrictions in the Town of Port Hedland. The research involves repeated measures analysis of consumption and time series analysis of proxy measures of alcohol harm in Port Hedland, and where data are available, in the control community of Roebourne Shire. A report has been produced for the WA Health Department which has been submitted to the Director of Liquor Licensing for consideration in his review of the liquor licensing restrictions currently in place. A journal article is in preparation.

#### Ongoing Projects

##### Alcohol use during pregnancy: formative intervention research

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

This survey of approximately 150 pregnant women who consume alcohol will provide information about frequency and quantity of alcohol use, details of pregnancy history, and insights into potential intervention components, targets and strategies. Survey collection concluded in December 2007. Data have been put into an SPSS database and are in the process of being cleaned prior to initial frequency analysis. More extended data analysis will occur over an extended period.

##### Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP)

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

See box below.

#### Completed Projects

##### Editing a special issue of *Substance Use and Misuse* on proceedings of the sixth Kettil Bruun Symposium on community action research

NDRI staff: Richard Midford  
Funded by: AGDHA; DAO

See box page 25.

#### Tackling the drinking culture in Kalgoorlie

Women in Kalgoorlie-Boulder binge drink at almost three times the Western Australian (WA) state average and more than twice as much as Kalgoorlie men, who binge drink at almost twice the state average, according to the first report of the Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP), published in early 2007. The *Report on the Kalgoorlie-Boulder community baseline survey*, discusses the findings of the first phase of the project, which involved collecting information on how the community deals with alcohol through key informant interviews and a community survey.

KAAP is a 3½ year, whole-of-community initiative that seeks to prevent problematic alcohol use and remediate associated harm in a community that historically has had high levels of both. The project, which is a partnership between NDRI and the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, is

implementing an integrated range of local intervention strategies that have been derived from sound research evidence. In order to increase local ownership a menu approach is being used, whereby the community is involved in selecting the mix of interventions best suited to local circumstances. The project is simultaneously conducting a range of early intervention, coalition building, media marketing, community education, skills training, enforcement and high risk group programs that address the individual, social and structural determinants of alcohol consumption and harm at the community level.

For more information on the Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project, visit [www.ndri.curtin.edu.au/kaap/](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au/kaap/).

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 7

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

#### New Projects

##### Young people, alcohol and other drug use at large events

PhD student: Tina Lam

PhD supervisor: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

Many large events have expectations of risky alcohol and other drug use associated with them. Specifically, this project will focus on school leavers' celebrations (known as "schoolies" in the eastern states of Australia). Many young people, who may not use alcohol and other drugs regularly, may choose to use them on "special occasions" such as large events. This study will examine the role of the large event context in facilitating as well as regulating alcohol and other drug use. Also, whether there are harms associated with this alcohol and other drug use, young peoples' perceptions of these harms, and novel and existing harm minimisation ideas will be explored.

#### Ongoing Projects

##### Review of alcohol and prostate cancer

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal

Project partners: University of California, San Francisco, USA; Centre for Addictions Research of British Columbia, University of Victoria, Canada

Funded by: AGDHA

The relationship between alcohol and the development of prostate cancer is uncertain. Research study results have been mixed and most past reviewers have concluded no association. This study includes a comprehensive literature review and meta-analysis of the published literature on alcohol and prostate cancer with particular emphasis on outcomes as they relate to study design and methodology. The literature review and meta-analyses have been completed and the study is currently being written-up as an invited paper for the journal of Molecular Nutrition and Food Research (MNF).

#### Completed Projects

##### The relationship between non-fatal overdose of pharmaceutical medications, suicidality and depression (PhD project)

PhD student: Penny Heale

PhD supervisor: Wendy Loxley; Alison Ritter, NDARC; Paul Dietze, Burnet Institute

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

See box below.

#### The relationship between non-fatal overdose, suicidality and depression

NDRI PhD student, Penny Heale's thesis examined three main themes; depression, suicidality, and non-fatal overdose involving pharmaceutical and over-the-counter medications. The study had six primary aims; (i) to quantify medication overdose presentations over a 12-month period to the Emergency Department (ED) of a major metropolitan public hospital in Melbourne, (ii) to describe the medication overdose patient group, including comparison with two other relevant types of presentation, illicit drug overdose, and actual or potential self-harm by means other than overdose, (iii) to explore the relationship between depression, suicidal ideation and medication overdose, (iv) to identify the medications typically used in overdose and their means of acquisition, (v) to explore patient experiences of emergency care following a medication overdose, and (vi) to comment on the feasibility of introducing a brief intervention within the ED with the intention of addressing the issue of medication overdose.

Three data sources were employed: computerised ED records, interviews with a sub-sample of patients attending the ED following a medication overdose, and observation of ED processes in relation to these cases.

One of the most important findings of the study was the large contribution made by benzodiazepine medications to the overall medication overdose statistics. When considered in conjunction with the patient interview data, it appeared that many patients included in the study were prescribed benzodiazepines in a manner that contradicts current national prescribing guidelines. The study recommended addressing the problem of medication overdose by working with doctors to ensure the appropriateness of their prescribing practices, to encourage them to more closely monitor the treatment progress of at-risk patients, and to increase awareness of other evidence-based forms of treatment for depression and anxiety.

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 8

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

#### Ongoing Projects

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

NDRI staff: David Moore, Jeremy Northcote, Jocelyn Grace

Funded by: AERF

Although there is clear epidemiological evidence of alcohol-related harm among young adults, there has been little qualitative research on their specific drinking practices. This project seeks to fill a 'gap' in the understanding of alcohol-related harm and related risk behaviours by employing a structured ethnographic perspective. It focuses on the effect of setting, values, social relationships and practices on alcohol consumption, but employs a grounded, 'insider' approach to understanding these aspects.

The research examines alcohol consumption among young adults (aged 18-24 years) with particular focus on binge drinking and related risk behaviours. It employs a structured ethnographic approach to documenting the social meanings of alcohol consumption amongst six discrete social networks of young adults in three types of recreational settings. The specific aims of the research project are to:

- describe the cultural meanings and social contexts of alcohol use among young adults in recreational settings;
- compare and contrast alcohol use across three types of recreational venue – nightclubs, hotels and private parties;
- understand the specific circumstances in which binge drinking and related risk behaviours occur;
- investigate the impact of social networks and life transitions on young adults' use of alcohol.

In gaining in-depth, systematic data on young adults' consumption practices, the findings of the research project will inform the design of prevention policies designed to discourage binge drinking and alcohol-related risk behaviours. The translation of research findings into practical recommendations for intervention strategies will be the major focus of the final project report produced from the study.

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

NDRI staff: David Moore

Project partners: Monash Institute for Health Services Research; National Centre in HIV Epidemiology & Clinical Research; National Centre in Epidemiology & Population Health; National Development & Research Institutes, USA  
Funded by: NHMRC

This research project aims to provide greater understanding of the individual, social and cultural factors associated with psychostimulant-related harms through an innovative combination and integration of anthropological and epidemiological approaches known as 'ethno-epidemiology'. In order to access a diverse range of psychostimulant-using contexts, research is focusing on three urban sites: street-based drug users in Sydney, club drug users in Melbourne and home-based, recreational drug users in Perth. These groups were chosen because they have high prevalences of psychostimulant use. The ethnographic research is being conducted by three PhD students: Rachael Green (Perth), Suzie Hudson (Sydney), and Christine Siokou (Melbourne). The aims of the project are to:

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

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

#### NDRI establishes Melbourne office

The National Drug Research Institute established a satellite office in Melbourne during 2007, to augment the Institute's main operations at Curtin University's Health Research Campus in Shenton Park, Perth.

The Melbourne office houses a group of research staff, including Ethnographic Program Project Leader Associate Professor David Moore and four PhD Scholars. The group are completing or collaborating on several research projects focusing on alcohol and drug issues that will benefit from having research staff located in Melbourne.



David Moore

# Research Activities

## Key Priority 8 (continued)

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

#### Working with homeless people who use drugs

NDRI staff: Jeremy Northcote, Steve Allsop, Zaza Lyons

Project partners: St Bartholomew's House, Perth

Funded by: ANCD

The aim of this project is to assess the extent and nature of alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems among homeless persons in Australia in order to develop a set of guidelines for assessing, managing, and engaging with people who are homeless and have AOD problems. To this end, a comprehensive literature evaluation and consultation process is being undertaken and a best practice 'Resource Kit' produced for distribution to homeless agencies and organisations to assist them in their management of AOD problems among the homeless. As a special project initiated by ANCD, the outcomes of this project are envisaged to have far-reaching benefits for addressing AOD issues amongst the Australian homeless population and thereby improving health outcomes in this population group.

## Completed Projects

### Research into the cultures and contexts of ecstasy and related drug use in Victoria: New bases for prevention and harm minimisation

NDRI staff: David Moore

Project partners: Centre for Youth Drug Studies, Australian Drug Foundation; Turning Point

Funded by: PDPC, Victoria

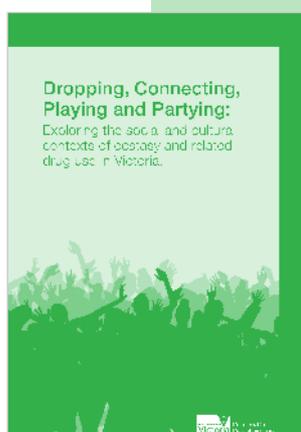
see box.

### Exploring the social and cultural contexts of ecstasy and related drug use

Ecstasy and related drugs (ERDs) are used in a broad and growing range of youth settings in Victoria. The spread of these drugs and their wide availability in recent years has transformed the prevailing cultures and contexts of ERDs use: what began as a distinct and underground subculture in Victoria has now become a 'mainstream' cultural phenomenon encompassing great diversity in class, gender and cultural background. Originally centred within the broad club and rave community, ERDs use now extends beyond these settings into a number of diverse and occasionally unexpected environments. Young Victorians are therefore increasingly likely to encounter and be called upon to make tough decisions about these drugs.

This project was commissioned by the Victorian Premier's Drug Prevention Council to explore the social and cultural contexts of ERDs use in Victoria. The research has provided new information about patterns of use, the profile and social networks of ERDs users, and the ways in which these change over time, with age and gender. It has also identified the harms that users associate with ERDs, and the strategies they employ to reduce or manage those harms. Based on the findings, recommendations have been made about ERDs-specific prevention approaches, including when and where such approaches would be most appropriate.

Developing each of these research interests first involved a review of the available epidemiological evidence about the use of ERDs in specific youth populations in Victoria and elsewhere, followed by an analysis of the various ways in which ERDs are used within these populations, and how these patterns of use vary from one context to another. The original component of this research, conducted across multiple sites and drawing upon a range of qualitative methodologies, involved studying the patterns of ERDs use; the cultural settings in which ERDs use takes place in Victoria; the meanings attributed to such use; and the links between these contexts and the experiences of ERDS-related risks and harms. This study thus offers an important means of further contextualising existing epidemiological accounts of young people's ERDs use. Such accounts provide a means of generating more sensitive and culturally appropriate ERDs prevention and harm reduction programs in Victoria.



# 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 a large number of international Masters and PhD students, with research projects engaging both students working within Australia and international students conducting projects 'at home'.

## Completed PhD Projects

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

PhD student: Penny Heale

PhD supervisor: Wendy Loxley

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

See box page 18.

## Ongoing PhD Projects

A case control study of lifestyle factors in the aetiology of ovarian cancer

PhD student: Dada Su

PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

Alcohol and smoking in breastfeeding

PhD student: Roslyn Giglia

PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

Funded by: AERF, AGDHA and NHMRC scholarship

Alcohol consumption, smoking and lifestyle characteristics for Japanese patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

PhD student: Fumi Hirayama

PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

An examination of injection drug use sites: The influence of social and physical context on drug-related harm and public health interventions

PhD student: Will Small (enrolled University of BC)

PhD supervisors: David Moore and Jean Shoveller, Mark Tyndall (University of BC, Canada)

Exploring drug users' socially constructed conceptualisations of drug use in the search for an alternative discourse

PhD student: Laura Willis (enrolled Curtin)

PhD supervisors: Ali Marsh, Brian Bishop (Curtin School of Psychology) and David Moore

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

PhD student: Jane Ulrik

PhD supervisors: Dennis Gray, Sherry Sagers

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

Pouring practices of 65-74 year old current drinkers: implications for drinking guidelines and estimates of risk

PhD student: Celia Wilkinson

PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: AERF, NDRI

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

PhD student: Robyn Dwyer

PhD supervisors: David Moore and Andrew Dawson (University of Melbourne)

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

The ethno-epidemiology of party drug use and related harm in the Melbourne club/rave scene

PhD student: Christine Siokou

PhD supervisors: David Moore and Helen Lee (La Trobe University)

Funded by: NHMRC

The ethno-epidemiology of recreational party drug use and related harm in Perth

PhD student: Rachael Green

PhD supervisors: David Moore and Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW)

Funded by: NHMRC

The ethno-epidemiology of psychostimulant use and related harm amongst street-based injecting drug users in Sydney

PhD student: Susan Hudson (enrolled UNSW)

PhD supervisors: Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW) and David Moore

Funded by: NHMRC

The harms associated with concurrent alcohol and party drug use amongst young people: risk environments and the implications for prevention

PhD student: Amy Pennay

PhD supervisors: David Moore, Simon Lenton

Funded by: AERF scholarship

Use of online forums by Australian party drug users: making drug use safer or more dangerous?

PhD student: Monica Barratt

PhD supervisors: Simon Lenton, Matthew Allen (Curtin University of Technology)

Funded by: AERF scholarship

Young people, alcohol and other drug use at large events

PhD student: Tina Lam

PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

See page 18.

# Staff

## Academic Staff

### Director

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

### Professors

Colin Binns, MBBS(WAust), MPH(Harv), PhD(Hon)(Inje,Seoul) FRACGP  
FAFOM FAFPHM

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), PhD(BioStats)(ANU)

### Associate Professors

Tony Butler, BSc(Hons), MSc(London), MSc InfoTech(Kingston), DipAppEp,  
PhD(UNSW)

Simon Lenton, BPsych, MPsych(Clin)(WAust), PhD(Curtin) (Deputy Director)

Wendy Loxley, CertTch(Rhodesia), BA(Hons)(WAust), GradDipPsych(WAIT),  
MPsych PhD(Curtin)

Bruce Maycock, MEd(WAust), GradDipBus(ECowan)

Richard Midford, BA BPsych PhD(WAust), MPsych(Tas)

David Moore, BA(Hons) MA PhD(WAust)

Edward Wilkes, BA(Curtin)

### Senior Research Fellows

Violet Bacon, BSW MHC(Curtin)

Tanya Chikritzhs, BA(Hons)(Murd), GradDipEpidBioStats PhD(Curtin)

Nyanda McBride, DipTeach BEd(WACA), PGradDipHlthProm MPH  
PhD(Curtin)

### Research Fellows

Susan Carruthers, BAppSc GradDipDiet MPH PhD(Curtin)

Owen Carter, BPsych(WAust) DPsych (Murd) BA (Ancient History)(WAust)

Ed Garrison, MEd(CalifState), BA(Harpur)

Jocelyn Grace, BSc(Hons)(WAust), PhD(Murd)

Geoffrey Jalleh, MPH(WAust)

Jeremy Northcote, BA(Hons)(Curtin), PhD(Murd)

Fredrik Welander, BSc(MidSweden)

### Research Associates

James Fetherston, BPsych PostGradDipADAS(WAust)

Jessica George, BA (Hons)(Murd)

Zaza Lyons, BA(Hons)(BristolUK), MPH(WAust)

Richard Pascal, BSc(Hons)(Curtin)

Pritish Nanda, BCom(Sambalpur), PGradDip HlthHospMan(Jaipur), MPH(Curtin)

Anna Stearne, BA(ECowan), DipEd(WAust)

### Research Officer

Andreia Schineanu, BSc, PostGradDipBioSci

Andrew Joyce, BA(Hon)(Melb) GradDipEd(Monash) PhDPsych(LaTrobe)

## Research Assistants

Tanja L'Veena

Cerissa Papanastasiou

Candice Rainsford BA

Justin Taubman

## PhD Students

Monica Barratt

Robyn Dwyer

Roslyn Giglia

Rachael Green

Penny Heale

Fumi Hirayama

Tina Lam

Amy Pennay

Christine Siokou

Dada Su

Jane Ulrik

Celia Wilkinson

## Adjunct Professors

Kaye Middleton Fillmore, BA, MA, PhD(Rutgers)

Kate Graham, CertT BA MA(SFraser), PhD(WOnt)

Sherry Siggers, BA(WAust), MA(Hawaii), PhD(Brown)

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

Peter d'Abbs, BA(Hons)(Melb), MA(Exe), PhD(Melb)

## Adjunct Senior Research Fellows

Richard Fordham, BA(Hons)(YorkUK), PhD(WAust)

## Adjunct Research Fellows

Kevin Boots, MA(LaTrobe), SEN(Alfred), GradDip(KingsleyColl), BA(Melb)

Neil Donnelly, BA(NSW), MA(Syd)

## Business Services Staff

Fran Davis, Business Manager

Philippa Greaves, Clerical Officer

Maggie Halls, Resource Officer

Jo Hawkins, Clerical/Admin Assistant

Paul Jones, Computer Systems Officer

Rachael Lobo, Communications Officer

Patricia Niklasson, Secretary/Admin Assistant

Vic Rechichi, Communications Officer

Pauline Taylor-Perkins, Administrative Assistant

# 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 [www.ndri.curtin.edu.au](http://www.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 national and international conferences. NDRI also hosts regular conferences and 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, [www.ndri.curtin.edu.au](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au). The site is a popular way for the community, the media and other researchers to access NDRI's work, registering more than 500,000 hits annually.

## Media

The media is an important conduit for NDRI's research to reach the community. NDRI has built a reputation as a source of reliable scientific information on a range of issues concerned with the prevention of alcohol and drug-related harm.

The provision of expert comment and evidence based research has enhanced NDRI's efforts to disseminate its research findings widely and to inform and participate in alcohol and other drug policy development in Australia.

In 2007, NDRI received more than 400 mentions in the media. Research findings and comment were carried by international, national, regional and local news and current affairs outlets.



# Dissemination Activities

## Publications

### Monographs and Technical Reports

- Chikritzhs, T., Pascal, R., Gray, D., Stearne, A., Siggers, S. and Jones, P. (2007) Trends in alcohol-attributable deaths among Indigenous Australians, 1998-2004. National Alcohol Indicators Project, Bulletin 11. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth.
- Clement, S., Donath, S., Stockwell, T.R. and Chikritzhs, T. (2007) Alcohol consumption in Australia: national surveys from 1989 to 2004. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth.
- Donnelly, N., Scott, L., Poynton, S., Weatherburn, D., Shanahan, M. and Hansen, F. (2007) Estimating the short-term cost of police time spent dealing with alcohol-related crime in NSW. Monograph Series No 25, National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF), Hobart, Tasmania.
- Duff, C., Johnston, J., Moore, D. and Goren, N. (2007) 'Dropping, connecting, playing and partying': exploring the social and cultural contexts of ecstasy and related drug use in Victoria. Premier's Drug Prevention Council, Melbourne.
- Dunn, M., Degenhardt, L., Campbell, G., George, J., Johnston, J., Kinner, S.A., Matthews, A., Newman, J. and White, N. (2007) Australian trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS). NDARC Monograph No 61. National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney.
- Fetherston, J. and Lenton, S. (2007) Effects of the Western Australian cannabis infringement notice scheme on public attitudes, knowledge and use: a comparison of pre- and post change data. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth.
- Fetherston, J. and Lenton, S. (2007) WA drug trends 2006: findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS). NDARC Technical Report No 268. National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney.
- George, J. and Lenton, S. (2007) WA trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: findings from the Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS). NDARC Technical Report No 275. National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney.
- Midford, R., Chikritzhs, T. and Pascal, R. (2007) Follow up evaluation of the liquor licensing restrictions in the Town of Port Hedland. Report prepared for the Health Department of Western Australia. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth.
- McBride, N., Carruthers, S.J. and Hutchinson, D. (2007) Alcohol use during pregnancy: formative intervention research. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth.
- National Drug Research Institute (2007) Restrictions on the sale and supply of Alcohol: evidence and outcomes. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth.
- O'Brien, S., Black, E., Degenhardt, L., Roxburgh, A., Campbell, G., de Graff, B., Fetherston, J., Jenkinson, R., Kinner, S.A., Moon, C. and White, N. (2007) Australian drug trends 2006: findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS). NDARC Monograph No 60. National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney.

Stearne, A. (2007) Drug and alcohol services association of Alice Springs community-based outreach program: final evaluation report. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth.

### Published Articles, Chapters and Books

- Allnut, S., Butler, T.G. and Yang, B. (2007) Mentally ill prison inmates in Australia have poor physical health. *International Journal of Prisoner Health*, 3, pp 99-110.
- Bacon, V. (2007) What potential might narrative therapy have to assist Indigenous Australians reduce substance misuse? *Australian Aboriginal Studies*, 1, pp 71-82.
- Barratt, M.J., Norman, J.S. and Fry, C. (2007) Positive and negative aspects of participation in illicit drug research: implications for recruitment and ethical conduct. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 18, (3), pp 235-238.
- Boots, K. and Midford, R. (2007) Involving stakeholders in the evaluation of community alcohol projects: finding a balance between subjective insight and objective facts. *Substance Use and Misuse*, 42, (12), pp 1955-1969.
- Burke, V., Lee, A., Zhao, Y., Hunter, E., Spargo, R.M., Gracey, M., Smith, R.M., Beilin, L.J. and Puddey, I.B. (2007) Health-related behaviours as predictors of mortality and morbidity in Australian Aborigines. *Preventive Medicine*, 44, (2), pp 135-142.
- Butler, T.G., Allnut, S., Cain, D. and Kariminia, A.A. (2007) Mental health status of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australian prisoners. *Australian & New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, 41, pp 429-435.
- Butler, T.G., Boonwaat, L., Hailstone, S., Falconer, S., Lems, P. and Ginley, T. (2007) The 2004 Australian prison entrants' blood borne virus and risk behaviour survey. *Australian & New Zealand Journal of Public Health*, 31, pp 44-50.
- Butler, T.G., Gjersing, L., Capelhorn, J., Belcher, J. and Matthews, R. (2007) Attitudes and beliefs towards methadone maintenance treatment among Australian prison health staff. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26, pp 501-508.
- Butler, T.G., Kariminia, A.A., Law, M.M., Corben, S., Levy, M., Kaldor, J. and Grant, L. (2007) Factors associated with mortality in a cohort of Australian prisoners. *European Journal of Epidemiology*, 22, pp 417-428.
- Butler, T.G., Kariminia, A.A., Law, M.M., Levy, M., Corben, S., Kaldor, J. and Grant, L. (2007) Suicide risk among recently released prisoners in New South Wales, Australia. *Medical Journal of Australia*, 187, pp 387-390.
- Butler, T.G., Richmond, R., Belcher, J., Wilhelm, K. and Wodak, A. (2007) Should smoking be banned in prisons? *Tobacco Control*, 16, pp 291-293.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2007) Book review: *Bar Wars* by Phil Hadfield. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26, (1), pp 104-105.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2007) Cancer Council Australia national cancer prevention policy chapter on alcohol. *Cancer Council Australia*. pp 107-117.
- Chikritzhs, T. and Brady, M. (2007) Letter to editor: postscript to "Fact or fiction: a critique of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey 2002", 26, pp 221-222.

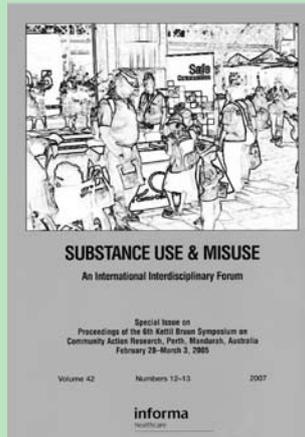
# Dissemination Activities

## Publications (continued)

### Special editions edited by NDRI researcher

During 2007, two special editions of journals for which Associate Professor Richard Midford, who heads NDRI's community prevention research program, was guest editor, were published.

*Substance Use and Misuse* (volume 42, nos 12-13) reported on proceedings of the Sixth Kettil Bruun Society symposium on community-based prevention of alcohol and drug-related problems, held in Mandurah, Western Australia from 27 February to 3 March 2005. The articles represent recent thinking by a range of experienced Australian and international researchers and program managers on the best way to undertake community-based prevention of alcohol and drug use-related problems, and are likely to influence future practice in this area.



A special edition of *Drug and Alcohol Review* (volume 26, no 6) dealing with policy and practice research in the area of school and college drug education was published in November 2007. The journal includes eleven papers, ranging from the theoretical to the empirical in their approach and from national policy to classroom practice in their focus, which aim to provide fresh insight into the possibilities of drug education and other student-focussed prevention programs.



Chikritzhs, T. and Stockwell, T.R. (2007) The impact of later trading hours for hotels (public houses) on breath alcohol levels of apprehended impaired drivers. *Addiction*, 102, pp 1609-1617.

Dodd, J. and Siggers, S. (2007) The impact of drug and alcohol misuse on children and families. Discussion paper. Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth, Canberra.

Dodd, J. and Siggers, S. (2007) The impact of drug and alcohol misuse on children and families> Current policies and practices. Discussion paper. Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth, Canberra.

Donovan, R., Howat, P., Donovan, K. and Weller, N. (2007) Magazine alcohol advertising compliance with the Australian Alcoholic Beverages Advertising Code. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, (26), pp 73-81.

Fillmore, K., Stockwell, T.R., Chikritzhs, T., Kerr, T. and Bostrom, A. (2007) Moderate alcohol use and reduced mortality risk: systematic error in prospective studies and new hypotheses. *Annals of Epidemiology*, 17, pp S16-23.

George, J. and Kinner, S.A. (2007) Alcohol consumption and mental health among regular ecstasy users in Australia. *EDRS Drug Trends Bulletin*, April 2007. National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney.

Giglia, R. and Binns, C.W. (2007) Alcohol and breastfeeding: what do Australian mothers know? *Asia Pacific Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 16, (1), pp 473-7.

Gray, D. (2007) Addressing Indigenous Australian substance misuse and related harms. *CentreLines*, 21, pp 2-4.

Howat, P., Sleet, D., Maycock, B. and Elder, R. (2007). Effectiveness of health promotion in preventing alcohol-related harm. In McQueen, D. and Jones, C. (eds) *Global Perspectives on Health Promotion Effectiveness*. Springer Science & Business Media, New York.

Joyce, A., Sunderland, B., McManus, A., Howat, P. and Maycock, B. (2007) Do community pharmacies have a role in promoting healthy behaviours? *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research*, (37), pp 42-44.

Kariminia, A.A. and Butler, T.G. (2007) Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal health differentials in Australian prisoners. *Australian & New Zealand Journal of Public Health*, 31, pp 366-371.

Kariminia, A.A., Butler, T.G., Corben, S., Levy, M., Grant, L. and Kaldor, J. (2007) Extreme cause specific mortality among adults who have served time in prison. *International Journal of Epidemiology*, 36, pp 310-316.

Kerr, T., Small, W., Moore, D. and Wood, E. (2007) A micro-environmental intervention to reduce the harms associated with drug-related overdose: evidence from the evaluation of Vancouver's safer injection facility. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 18, (1), pp 37-45.

Khan, S., Hudson-Rodd, N., Siggers, S., Bhuiyan, M., Bhuiya, A., Karim, S. and Raayajin, O. (2007) Semen contains vitality and heredity, not germs: seminal discourse in the AIDS era. *Journal of Health and Population Nutrition*, 24, (4), pp 426-437.

Kypri, K., McManus, A., Howat, P., Maycock, B., Hallett, J. and Chikritzhs, T. (2007) Ingredient and nutrition information labelling of alcoholic beverages: do consumers want it? *Medical Journal of Australia*, 3, (17), pp 669.

Lenton, S. (2007) Reforming cannabis penalty regimes to reduce harm. *Matters of Substance*, November, 9-10.

Levy, M., Butler, T.G. and Zhao, J. (2007) Prevalence of Mantoux positivity and annual risk of infection for tuberculosis in New South Wales prisoners, 1996 and 2001. *NSW Public Health Bulletin*, 18, pp 119-124.

Liang, W., Binns, C.W., Jian, L. and Lee, A. (2007) Does the consumption of green tea reduce the risk of lung cancer among smokers? *Evidence-based Complementary and Alternative Medicine*, 4, (1), pp 17-22.

Livingston, M., Chikritzhs, T. and Room, R. (2007) Changing the density of alcohol outlets to reduce alcohol-related problems. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26, (5), pp 557-566.

# Dissemination Activities

## Publications

- Loxley, W. (2007) Benzodiazepine use and harms among police detainees in Australia. *Trends and issues in crime and criminal justice*, No.336, May 2007. Australian Institute of Criminology, Canberra.
- Loxley, W. (2007) Researching the edge: young people, injecting drugs, overdose and alcohol. *CentreLines*, 23, pp 2-4.
- Maycock, B.R. and Howat, P. (2007) Social capital: implications from an investigation of illegal anabolic steroid networks. *Health Education Research*, 22, (6), pp 854-863.
- McBride, N., Farrington, F. and Kennedy, C. (2007) Research to practice - formal dissemination of the School Health and Alcohol Harm Reduction Project (SHAHRP) in Australia. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26, (6), pp 665-672.
- Midford, R. (2007) Is Australia 'fair dinkum' about drug education in schools? *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26, (4), pp 421-427.
- Midford, R. (2007) Preface. *Substance Use and Misuse*, 42, (12), pp 1811-1812.
- Midford, R. (2007) Themes from the symposium. *Substance Use and Misuse*, 42, (12), pp 2099-2102.
- Midford, R. (2007) Drug education and other prevention programmes for students. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26, (6), pp 573-575.
- Midford, R., Midford, S. and Farrington, F. (2007) School leaver (graduate) celebrations in Margaret River, Western Australia: a community approach to management. *Substance Use and Misuse*, 42, (12), pp 1915-1932.
- Midford, R., Munro, G. and Mallick, J. (2007) School drug education: Irredeemably ineffective or just poorly researched? *CentreLines*, 22, pp 2-3.
- Moore, D. (2007) Book review: B. Sanders (ed). *Drugs, clubs and young people*. *Health Sociology Review*, 16, (1), pp 91-92.
- Saggers, S. and Gray, D. (2007) Social determinants of health: defining what we mean. In Carson, B., Dunbar, T., Chenhall, R. and Bailie, R. (eds). *The Social Determinants of Aboriginal Health*. Allen & Unwin, Sydney. pp 1-20.
- Stockwell, T.R., Chikritzhs, T., Fillmore, K., Kerr, W., Rehm, J. and Taylor, B. (2007) Alcohol-caused mortality in Australia and Canada: scenario analyses using different assumptions about cardiac benefit. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 68, (3), pp 345-352.
- Walter, M. and Saggers, S. (2007) *Poverty and social class*. Allen & Unwin, Sydney. pp 87-107.
- Yap, L., Butler, T.G., Ritchers, J., Kirkwood, K., Grant, L., Saxby, M., Ropp, F. and Donovan, B. (2007) Do condoms cause rape and mayhem? The long-term effects of condoms in New South Wales prisons. *Sexually Transmitted Infections*, 83, pp 219-222.

# Dissemination Activities

## Presentations

### Conference Presentations

- Allsop, S. (2007) Invited to chair the alcohol and other drugs session at the 2007 Public Health Association of Australia WA State Conference - Public Health in the 21st Century "People, Places and Priorities", Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 1-2 November 2007.
- Allsop, S. (2007) Drugs and mental health. Invited keynote presentation at the 4th Australasian Drug Strategy Conference, Conrad Jupiters, Gold Coast, QLD, 22-25 October 2007.
- Allsop, S. (2007) Preventing and responding to drug problems: getting the most out of the evidence. Invited plenary presentation at the 4th Australasian Drug Strategy Conference, Conrad Jupiters, Gold Coast, QLD, 22-25 October 2007.
- Allsop, S. (2007) Stakeholders and synergies: alcohol in the Asia-Pacific region in the next decade. Invited keynote presentation at Thinking Drinking: From Problems to Solutions conference, Rydges Melbourne, Melbourne, VIC, 26-28 February 2007.
- Allsop, S. (2007) The future of work-related interventions. Invited keynote presentation at Thinking Drinking: From Problems to Solutions conference, Rydges Melbourne, Melbourne, VIC, 26-28 February 2007.
- Allsop, S. (2007) Winter School oration - the way forward. Invited presentation at the 20th Annual Australian Winter School, Sebel Citigate King George Square Hotel, Brisbane, QLD, 2-4 July 2007.
- Butler, T.G. (2007) Physical and mental health status of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal prisoners in New South Wales. Invited presentation at the 38th Public Health Association of Australia Annual Conference - Alice 2007 Reality Check, Inequities & Health, Tackling the Differentials, Alice Springs Convention Centre, Alice Springs, NT, 23-26 September 2007.
- Carruthers, S.J. (2007) Exploring the content of popular magazines for hepatitis C education material: can these magazines be used to provide prevention education to out-of-contact young users. Presented at the 2007 Public Health Association of Australia WA State Conference - Public Health in the 21st Century "People, Places and Priorities", Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 1-2 November 2007.
- Carter, O. (2007) Old and haggard: personalising aged 'smoker's face' simulation to affect youths' future intentions to smoke. Invited presentation at the Oceania Tobacco Control Conference, Auckland, New Zealand, 5 September 2007.
- Carter, O. (2007) That's disgusting! Evaluation of a youth oriented tobacco control advertisement distributed via chain email (deemed too vulgar for television; but the kids loved it). Invited presentation at the Oceania Tobacco Control Conference, Auckland, New Zealand, 5 September 2007.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2007) A case of the cart before the horse: evidentiary public interest tests without the evidence. Invited plenary presentation at the 4th Australasian Drug Strategy Conference, Conrad Jupiters, Gold Coast, QLD, 22-25 October 2007.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2007) Monitoring alcohol and other drug related harm: building systems to support better policy. Invited plenary presentation at Monitoring alcohol and other drug related harm: building systems to support better policy, Dunsmuir Lodge, Victoria, Canada, 7-10 May 2007.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2007) Sorting the wood from the chaff: unscrambling the evidence for apparent protective effects of alcohol. Invited presentation at Thinking Drinking: From Problems to Solutions conference, Rydges Melbourne, Melbourne, VIC, 26-28 February 2007.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2007) The impact of later trading hours for hotels on breath alcohol levels of apprehended impaired drivers. Invited presentation at the 4th Australasian Drug Strategy Conference, Conrad Jupiters, Gold Coast, QLD, 22-25 October 2007.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2007) Toward a liquid landscape? Australian and international research evidence for alcohol outlet density. Invited presentation at Thinking Drinking: From Problems to Solutions conference, Rydges Melbourne, Melbourne, VIC, 26-28 February 2007.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2007) Unscrambling the evidence for apparent protective effects of alcohol. Presented at the 2007 Public Health Association of Australia WA State Conference - Public Health in the 21st Century "People, Places and Priorities", Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 1-2 November 2007.
- Fetherston, J. (2007) Pharmaceutical stimulant use in Australia: Who, where and why? Invited presentation at the 2007 National Drug Trends Conference, Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, NSW, 15 October 2007.
- Fraser, S. and Moore, D. (2007) Dazzled by unity? Order, chaos and the discursive environment of harm reduction. Presented at the 18th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug-Related Harm, Warsaw, Poland, 13-17 May 2007.
- Grace, J., Northcote, J. and Moore, D. (2007) Parties, pubs and clubs: Understanding drinking practices among young adults in Perth. Poster presentation at the 2007 Public Health Association of Australia WA State Conference - Public Health in the 21st Century "People, Places and Priorities", Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 1-2 November 2007.
- Gray, D. (2007) The evidence base for addressing alcohol issues among Indigenous people. Invited presentation at Thinking Drinking: From Problems to Solutions conference, Rydges Melbourne, Melbourne, VIC, 26-28 February 2007.
- Green, R. (2007) 'I haven't taken anything, just dexies': exploring the illicit use of dexamphetamine among young people in Perth, WA. Presented at the Dangerous Consumptions V, Monash University, Melbourne, VIC, 26-27 November 2007.
- Hallett, J., Kypri, K., Howat, P., McManus, A. and Maycock, B. (2007) Alcohol use among university students: web survey of a large random sample at an Australian campus. The Combined APSAD & Cutting Edge Addiction Conference, Aotea Centre, Auckland, New Zealand, 4-7 November 2007.
- Hirayama, F., Lee, A., Binns, C.W. and Senjyu, H. (2007) Alcohol and tobacco consumption in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in Japan. Presented at the 39th Asia-Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health Conference, Saitama, Japan, 22-25 November 2007.
- Howat, P., Maycock, B., Sleet, D. and Elder, R. (2007) A health promotion approach to reducing alcohol related harm to youth. Presented at the 2007 Public Health Association of Australia WA State Conference - Public Health in the 21st Century "People, Places and Priorities", Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 1-2 November 2007.

# Dissemination Activities

## Presentations (continued)

- Howat, P., Hallett, J., McManus, A., Maycock, B. and Kypri, K. (2007) Preventing high risk drinking by college students. Invited presentation at the International Union for Health Promotion and Education Conference, Vancouver, Canada, 20-24 June 2007.
- Kypri, K., Hallett, J., McManus, A., Maycock, B. and Howat, P. (2007) Universal electronic screening and brief intervention for university students: participation rates and baseline data. The Brief and Early Intervention in Primary Care International Conference, Brussels, Belgium, 19-20 November 2007.
- Lenton, S. (2007) Beyond modelling and evidence: bridging the gap between drug policy research and drug policy practice. Presented at the First Annual Conference of the International Society for the Study of Drug Policy, ISSDP, P-Hotels Oslo, Oslo, Norway, 22-23 March 2007.
- Lenton, S. (2007) Young people, cannabis, mental health and the law. Invited, plenary presentation at the 20th Annual Australian Winter School - The way forward, Sebel Citigate King George Square Hotel, Brisbane, QLD, 2-4 July 2007.
- Loxley, W. (2007) 20 years of drug research in Australia— what's the same? What has changed? Presented at Two Nations, Ten Cultures? The Combined APSAD and Cutting Edge Addiction Conference, Aotea Centre, Auckland, New Zealand, 4-7 November 2007.
- Loxley, W. (2007) Alcohol and young people: prevention, early intervention or harm reduction? Presented at Creating Synergy 2007: Creating Synergy between prevention, early intervention and treatment within the AOD and Mental Health Sector, University of Wollongong Function Centre, 14-15 June 2007.
- Maycock, B., Hallett, J., Kypri, K., McManus, A. and Howat, P. (2007) Hazardous and harmful drinking amongst university students: an internet intervention. The Public Health Association of Australia WA State Conference, Perth, WA, 30-31 October 2007.
- Midford, R. (2007) Impact of formal alcohol education. Invited presentation at Thinking Drinking: From Problems to Solutions, Rydges Melbourne, Melbourne, VIC, 26-28 February 2007.
- Midford, R. (2007) Preventing alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems in the workplace: what does the evidence tell us. Presented at the Mine Safety Conference, Duxton Hotel, Perth, 11-13 September 2007.
- Midford, R. (2007) Responding to alcohol and other drug problems in the workplace: what are the options. Presented at the Mine Safety Conference, Duxton Hotel, Perth, 11-13 September 2007.
- Midford, R., Chikritzhs, T. and Pascal, R. (2007) Measuring the long term effects of liquor licensing restrictions in Port Hedland, Western Australia. Presented at the combined APSAD & Cutting Edge Addiction Conference, Aotea Centre, Auckland, New Zealand, 4-7 November 2007.
- Moore, D. (2007) Why is pleasure invisible in harm reduction? Presented at the 18th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug-Related Harm, Warsaw, Poland, 13-17 May 2007.
- Pennay, A. (2007) Possessed or confused? Issues of self and social control amongst a Melbourne sample of young ecstasy users. Presented at Dangerous Consumptions V, Monash University, Melbourne, 26-27 November 2007.
- Saggers, S. and Stearne, A. (2007) Building 'strong voices' for Indigenous young people: addressing substance misuse and mental health issues in Australia. Invited presentation at the First International Conference on Indigenous Mental Health, Quality Hotel, Brasilia, Brazil, 22-25 October 2007.
- Siokou, C. (2007) 'This is not a rave!' The effects of commodification and commercialisation on the Melbourne rave/dance party and club scene. Presented at Dangerous Consumptions V, Monash University, Melbourne, 26-27 November 2007.
- Stearne, A. (2007) Working together for change: building research capacity. Presented at the two nations, ten cultures? The Combined APSAD and Cutting Edge Addiction Conference, Aotea Centre, Auckland, New Zealand, 4-7 November 2007.
- Stockwell, T.R. and Zhao, J. (2007) What did you drink yesterday? Public health relevance of a recent recall method used in the 2004 Australian National Drug Strategy Household Survey. Presented at Monitoring alcohol and other drug related harm: building systems to support better policy, Dunsmuir Lodge, Victoria, Canada, 7-10 May 2007.
- Welander, F. (2007) Current alcohol trends in the region - results of a baseline study. Invited presentation at the Goldfields Regional Forum June 2007, Quality Inn Railway Hotel & Function Centre, Kalgoorlie, WA, 22-23 June 2007.
- Welander, F. (2007) Kalgoorlie's Alcohol Action Project: preventing alcohol related harm in an outback community of Western Australia. Invited presentation at the 18th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug-Related Harm, Warsaw, Poland, 13-17 May 2007.
- Wilkes, T. and Gray, D. (2007) Indigenous Australian substance misuse: an overview. Invited presentation at First International Conference on Indigenous Mental Health, Quality Hotel, Brasilia, Brazil, 22-25 October 2007.

## Symposium Presentations

- Allsop, S. (2007) Drug dependence, treatment and the future. Invited keynote presentation at the 2007 NDARC Annual Symposium, Powerhouse Museum, Ultimo, NSW, 16 October 2007.
- Allsop, S. (2007) The nature and extent of amphetamine use in WA and Australia and the development of the National ATS Strategy. Invited keynote presentation at the WA Illicit Amphetamine Summit, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, Perth, WA, 3 July 2007.
- Butler, T.G. (2007) Prisoners and drug use. Invited presentation at the 16th Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Symposium - Working Out What Works, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 18-19 September 2007.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2007) Monitoring Indigenous and non-Indigenous alcohol problems in Australia: a model for Canada? Invited keynote presentation at Responding to alcohol: monitoring, treatment, policy and harm reduction, SFU Harbour Centre, Vancouver, Canada, 11 May 2007.
- Chikritzhs, T. (2007) Unscrambling apparent protective effects for alcohol consumption on IHD. Presented at the 16th Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Symposium - Working Out What Works, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 18-19 September 2007.

# Dissemination Activities

## Presentations (continued)

Donovan, R. (2007) Prevention Strategies. Invited keynote presentation at the WA Illicit Amphetamine Summit, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, Perth, WA, 3 July 2007.

Donovan, K., Donovan, R.J., Howat, P. and Weller, N. Magazine alcohol advertising compliance with the Australian alcohol beverages advertising code. Presented at the 16th Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Symposium - Working Out What Works, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 18-19 September 2007.

Hallett, J., Howat, P., McManus, A., Maycock, B. and Kypri, K. Alcohol use by university students: reducing hazardous and harmful drinking. Presented at the 16th Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Symposium - Working Out What Works, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 18-19 September 2007.

Lenton, S. (2007) The WA Cannabis Infringement Notice Scheme: Reflections on the first 3 years. Invited presentation at the 16th Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Symposium - Working Out What Works, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 18-19 September 2007.

Loxley, W. (2007) 20 years of drug research in WA – what's the same? What has changed? Presented at the 16th Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Symposium - Working Out What Works, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 18-19 September 2007.

Pascal, R. (2007) Indigenous National Alcohol Indicators Project: Working towards a better system to inform local Indigenous communities. Presented at the 16th Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Symposium - Working Out What Works, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 18-19 September 2007.

Wilkes, T. (2007) Aboriginal Welcome. Invited presentation at the 16th Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Symposium - Working Out What Works, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 18-19 September 2007.

Wilkinson, C. (2007) Alcohol and an Ageing Population: A Speculative Conundrum. Invited presentation at the 16th Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Symposium - Working Out What Works, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA, 18-19 September 2007.

## Workshop Presentations

Allsop, S. (2007) Drug use in the community - implications for the workplace. Invited keynote presentation at the Industrial Foundation for Accident Prevention (IFAP) breakfast presentation, Kings Park Function Centre, Perth, WA, 12 October 2007.

Chikritzhs, T. (2007) Time is money: getting a handle on the true cost of alcohol-related incidents to frontline police resources. Invited presentation at the Alcohol and Other Drugs Key Stakeholder Prevention Workshop, 6-9 February 2007.

Chikritzhs, T. (2007) The links between consumption, availability, licensed environments and harm: what the evidence says. Invited presentation at the Alcohol and Other Drugs Key Stakeholder Prevention Workshop, 6-9 February 2007.

## Seminar Presentations

Allsop, S. (2007) Current patterns of drug use: impact on children and the family. Invited presentation at Caring for Children, Where to Next?, Subiaco, WA, 24-25 November 2007.

Allsop, S. (2007) Swimming with the crocodiles: responding to amphetamine use problems in Australia. Invited keynote presentation at the Murdoch School of Psychology Research Seminar Series (Semester 2, 2007), Senate Conference Room, Perth, 10 August 2007.

Allsop, S. (2007) The role of psychiatry in the treatment of addictions. Invited presentation at Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists WA Branch, University Club, Crawley, WA, 15 September 2007.

Carruthers, S.J. (2007) Hepatitis C and injecting drug use. Invited presentation at the Lecture presented to 4th year medical students at Notre Dame University, Perth, WA, 4 April 2007.

Carter, O. (2007) Advertising restrictions and children: lessons from the tobacco industry. Invited presentation at the Psychology and Ethics of New Marketing, University of Melbourne, VIC, 6 August 2007.

Lenton, S. (2007) Cannabis, mental health and the law. Invited presentation at the DAO Seminar Series, Drug and Alcohol Office, Mount Lawley, WA, 15 May 2007.

Lenton, S. (2007) More than evidence: bridging the gap between drug policy research and drug policy practice. Invited presentation at the VSRUF Seminar, Turning Point, Melbourne, VIC, 30 October 2007.

Midford, R. (2007) Community-based prevention: the Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP). Invited presentation at the Notre Dame University Student Health Promotion Seminar, Notre Dame University, WA, 22 October 2007.

Moore, D. (2007) 'Workers', 'clients' and the struggle over needs: understanding encounters between street-based injecting drug users and service providers in an Australian city. Invited presentation at the Contemporary Societies and Cultures Seminar Series, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, VIC, 24 October 2007.

## Meeting Presentations

Gray, D. Indigenous Australian youth: alcohol and other drug status. Invited presentation at the Joint Meeting of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Council and the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee, Australian Department of Health and Ageing, Woden, ACT, 25 June 2007.

Lenton, S. (2007) Multivariate analysis of CIN expiation, CES attendance and high expiation police districts. Invited presentation at the Meeting of the Cannabis Infringement Notice Legislative Review Group, Drug and Alcohol Office, Mt Lawley, WA, 30 May 2007.

Moore, D. (2007) Thinking about pleasure in relation to drugs. Invited presentation at the Injecting Drug Harm Reduction Network, Melbourne, VIC, 11 October 2007.

# Dissemination Activities

## NDRI Seminar Series

### NDRI Seminar Series 2007

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 2007 program was one of the busiest on record, combining presentations by NDRI staff with visitors to Perth on a diverse range of topics, from the effects of drugs on the developing brain and the positive flow-ons from improving prisoner health, to law enforcement and the link between healing and alcohol and drug issues in Indigenous communities.

At least one NDRI seminar, *Prisoner's health – why bother?*, tapped into an area where little research has been done in Western Australia but that holds tremendous potential for improving public health. Associate Professor Tony Butler's presentation was so popular it ran twice.

Another seminar that attracted significant demand was *Healing, trauma and alcohol in Aboriginal Australia*, conducted by Indigenous author and academic Dr Gregory Phillips. Feedback from the seminar, which was coordinated and organised by NDRI and held at Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Services in East Perth, showed attendees found it both inspiring and of practical use to their work.

The NDRI Seminar Series program is available on the NDRI website, at [www.ndri.curtin.edu.au/home/seminars.html](http://www.ndri.curtin.edu.au/home/seminars.html).

29 January 2007

**What do molecular and cellular studies tell us about substance use and treatment?**

*NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth*

Dr Marcus Rattray, King's College London, University of London, UK

29 March 2007

**NDRI - the first 10 years, or how green was our valley?**

*NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth*

David Hawks, NDRI

10 May 2007

**Health related quality of life and injecting drug users - is it the virus or the drugs?**

*NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth*

Susan Carruthers, NDRI

21 June 2007

**Policing and drug and alcohol issues**

*NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth*

Superintendent James Migro, Western Australian Police Service, Perth, WA

19 July 2007

**Investigating a community's readiness for changing the way it deals with alcohol: the Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP)**

*NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth*

Fredrik Welander, NDRI

16 August 2007

**Prisoner's health - why bother? (first run)**

*NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth*

Tony Butler, NDRI

17 September 2007

**Drugs and the brain: implications for policy and prevention**

*NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth*

Dr Dan Lubman, ORYGEN Research Centre,  
University of Melbourne, Melbourne, VIC

11 October 2007

**Prisoner's health - why bother? (second run)**

*NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth*

Tony Butler, NDRI

17 October 2007

**Welcome and overview of NDRI research activities at the information evening for 2008 Honours and Masters students**

*NDRI Seminar Room, NDRI, Perth*

Steve Allsop, NDRI

27 November 2007

**Healing, trauma and alcohol in Aboriginal Australia**

*Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Services, East Perth*

Dr Gregory Phillips, Executive Director, Abstarr Consulting

# Finance Report

The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing provided \$2,744,660 to the Institute's core funding for the period January to December 2007. Details of income and expenditure follow.

<b>National Drug Research Institute Core Income and Expenditure 2007</b>		
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>Total</b>
AGDHA	2,744,660	
AERF Grant Research	19,000	
RPI and DEST PhD Income	54,000	
Sundry Income	1,662	
Interest	69,923	
<b>Surplus BF from December 2006</b>	<b>282,763</b>	<b>\$3,172,008</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Salaries	1,896,560	
Operating costs	245,543	
Capital Costs	39,852	
PhD Scholarships	39,065	\$2,221,020
<b>Surplus at 31 December 2007</b>		<b>\$950,988</b>
Add Reserves	68,268	\$68,268
<b>Total funds available at 31 December 2007</b>		<b>\$1,019,256</b>

# Finance Report

National Competitive Grants and Tenders				
Project	Funder	Total grant approved for project	Grant received in 2007	Expenditure in 2007
Illicit drug reporting system (IDRS)	NDLERF via NDARC	\$320,101	\$52,864	\$72,127
Ecstasy and related drugs reporting system (EDRS)	NDLERF via NDARC	\$228,783	\$48,520	\$49,976
Policing implications of petrol sniffing and inhalant misuse in Aboriginal communities	NDLERF	\$139,440	\$13,944	\$649
Research into alcohol outlet density and related harm	NDLERF	\$58,481	\$0	\$210
Improving understanding of psychostimulant-related harms in Australia: an integrated ethno-epidemiological approach	NHMRC	\$603,910	\$170,810	\$115,520
2005 NHMRC population health career development award	NHMRC	\$271,500	\$90,500	\$105,392
Building indigenous research workforce capacity	AERF	\$179,780	\$0	\$31,136
Concurrent alcohol and party drug use (PhD Scholarship)	AERF	\$99,993	\$0	\$28,483
Kalgoorlie alcohol action project (KAAP)	AERF	\$799,981	\$200,000	\$200,566
Multi-site investigation of the social meanings of alcohol misuse among young adults in recreational settings	AERF	\$308,286	\$60,000	\$83,774
Review of restrictions on the sale and supply of alcohol in Australia and Western Australia	AERF	\$61,808	\$0	\$20,571
Enhancement of the patrol monitoring and evaluation database	AERF	\$247,446	\$0	\$5,704
NDRI 20th anniversary research symposium	AERF	\$20,000	\$19,000	\$19,000
Working with homeless people who use drugs	ANCD	\$63,587	\$42,424	\$37,646
Identifying areas of greatest need in indigenous substance misuse intervention	ANCD	\$94,174	\$0	\$16,864
		<b>\$3,497,269</b>	<b>\$698,062</b>	<b>\$787,619</b>

State Competitive Grants and Tenders				
Project	Funder	Total grant approved for project	Grant received in 2007	Expenditure in 2007
Assessment of the effectiveness of the regulation of alcohol in WA (WALL)	WAHD	\$27,053	\$0	\$1,089
Towards a model of care for IDU in hepatitis C treatment	CSRGS	\$9,959	\$0	\$1,043
MHRIF Round 9 Award - Simon Lenton	WAHD	\$11,977	\$0	\$11,977
MHRIF Round 9 & 10 Award - Dennis Gray	WAHD	\$26,811	\$17,383	\$39,216
MHRIF Round 9 Award - Nyanda McBride	WAHD	\$11,252	\$0	\$11,252
NIRIS Award - Richard Midford	WAHD	\$17,227	\$17,227	\$0
NIRIS Award - Tanya Chikritzhs	WAHD	\$10,000	\$0	\$2,219
NIRIS Award - Tony Butler	WAHD	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$302
Training of health staff for the implementation of the smoke free WA health system policy	WAHD	\$200,000	\$7,500	\$7,500
Review of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island community controlled alcohol and other drugs sector	QAIHC	\$41,679	\$16,672	\$1,272
Indigenous alcohol and other drug misuse and harm service provision	WANADA	\$97,798	\$48,899	\$57,792
		<b>\$463,756</b>	<b>\$170,181</b>	<b>\$126,162</b>

Other Grants				
Project	Funder	Total grant approved for project	Grant received in 2007	Expenditure in 2007
Evaluation of the Australian Responsible Parenting Initiative	AIC	\$37,681	\$9,758	\$6,654
DUMA research into drug use and offending	AIC	\$29,590	\$0	\$17,529
Inquiry into the misuse/abuse of benzodiazapines and other forms of pharmaceutical drugs in Victoria	DCPC, Vic	\$78,314	\$62,711	\$73,661
Development of a national amphetamine-type stimulant strategy 2007-2009	AGDHA	\$133,320	\$133,320	\$121,618
WA CIN scheme cannabis evaluation phase 2 (substudy 1 - public attitude survey)	DAO	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Research into factors associated with young people's risky drinking, particularly at events (PhD scholarship)	OCY & OCP	\$95,376	\$0	\$3,027
Development of key performance indicators for local government in Australia	Fairfield City Council	\$66,538	\$9,091	\$31,765
Provision of pharmaceutical drug misuse research	Turning Point	\$33,078	\$12,029	\$8,940
National prison entrants bloodborne virus and risk behaviour survey	DJ Vic, DCS Qld, JH NSW, DCS WA	\$32,000	\$24,000	\$6,064
Research infrastructure funding (RPI) 2007	Curtin	\$147,220	\$147,220	\$145,936
PhD allocation 2007	Curtin	\$43,044	\$43,044	\$27,317
		<b>\$774,718</b>	<b>\$491,173</b>	<b>\$497,503</b>

# Finance Report

Summary of NDRI Funding in 2007	
Area of Funding	Grant Received
Core funding (AGDHA)	\$2,744,660
National competitive grants	\$698,062
State competitive grants	\$170,181
Other grants	\$491,173
<b>Total funding received</b>	<b>\$4,104,075</b>

Sources of Research Grants Received in 2007	
Funding Source	Grant Received
Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation	\$279,000
Australian Institute of Criminology	\$9,758
Australian Government Dept of Health and Ageing	\$2,877,980
Australian National Council on Drugs	\$42,424
Curtin University of Technology	\$190,264
Department of Corrective Services, Queensland	\$8,000
Department of Corrective Services, Western Australia	\$8,000
Drug and Alcohol Office, Western Australia	\$50,000
Fairfield City Council	\$9,091
Justice Health, New South Wales	\$8,000
National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund	\$115,328
National Health and Medical Research Council	\$261,310
Premier's Drug Prevention Council, Victoria	\$62,711
Queensland Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health Service	\$16,672
Turning Point	\$12,029
Western Australian Health Department	\$104,610
Western Australian Network of Alcohol and Drug Agencies	\$48,899
<b>Total additional research grants received</b>	<b>\$4,104,075</b>

# Appendix 1

## Full list of research projects

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

#### NEW PROJECTS

##### Developing a national minimum dataset for prisoners' health

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Funded by: AIHW

##### Nutritional information labelling for alcoholic beverages

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: Turning Point

Funded by:

##### Prevalence and cost of alcohol-caused hospital admissions in rural NSW

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: NDARC

Funded by: AERF

##### Re-analysis of the 2004 NDSHS drinking prevalence estimate

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada; National Alcohol Research Centre, California, USA

Funded by: AGDHA

##### The range and magnitude of alcohol's harm to others

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre

Funded by: AERF

#### ONGOING PROJECTS

##### Alcohol outlet density and related harm

NDRI staff: Paul Catalano, Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: WAHD, WAPS

Funded by: NDLERF

##### DUMA research into drug use and offending

NDRI Staff: Wendy Loxley

Project partners: AIC

Funded by: AIC

##### Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)

NDRI staff: Jessica George, Simon Lenton

Project partners: NDARC

Funded by: AGDHA

#### GENACIS

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre; Deakin University

Funded by: NHMRC

##### Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)

NDRI staff: James Fetherston, Simon Lenton

Project partners: NDARC

Funded by: AGDHA

##### Monitoring of alcohol-related violence and crime in NSW

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: NSW BOCSAR; NSW Attorney General's Department Drug Programs Bureau; NSW Health

Funded by: NSW Health

##### National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP)

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Richard Pascal

Project partners: Turning Point

Funded by: AGDHA

##### Pouring practices of 65 - 74 year old current drinkers: Implications for drinking guidelines and estimates of risk (PhD project)

PhD student: Celia Wilkinson

PhD supervisors: Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: AERF, NDRI

#### COMPLETED PROJECTS

##### Evaluation of the reliability of the WAPS Information Management System mandatory alcohol field

NDRI Staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Partners: WAPS

##### Indigenous National Alcohol Indicators Project (INAIP)

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Tanya Chikritzhs, Zaza Lyons, Richard Pascal,

Project partners: CSR, ECU; NIDAC

Funded by: NDS, AGDHA

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

#### NEW PROJECTS

##### Identifying areas of greatest need in Indigenous substance misuse intervention

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne

Funded by: National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee

##### Indigenous alcohol and other drug misuse and harm service provision

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Anna Stearne

Funded by: WANADA

##### Review of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Alcohol and other Drugs Sector in Queensland

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars; Ted Wilkes

Project partners: CSR, ECU

Funded by: Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council

#### ONGOING PROJECTS

##### Beyond the big smoke - a clear vision for Aboriginal tobacco control

NDRI staff: Bruce Maycock, Peter Howat

Funded by: Australian Respiratory Council

##### Bibliographic database on Indigenous Australian alcohol and other drug use

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars, Anna Stearne

Project partners: CSR, ECU

Funded by: AGDHA

##### Building Indigenous research workforce capacity

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Ed Garrison

Project partners: Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service

Funded by: AERF

##### Development of best practice guidelines for Indigenous residential alcohol and drug rehabilitation programs (Fellowship)

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars

Project partners: Menzies School of Health Research; CSR, ECU

Funded by: NHMRC

# Appendix 1

## Full list of research projects

### Development of Tangentyere Council Research Hub

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars  
Project partners: Tangentyere Council; CSR, ECU; Centre for Remote Health (Flinders University & Charles Darwin University)  
Funded by: AGDHA

### Enhancing the management of alcohol-related problems among indigenous Australians

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray, Steve Allsop, Sherry Saggars, Ted Wilkes, Violet Bacon  
Project partners: CSR, ECU; QUADREC  
Funding: AGDHA

### Enhancement of the patrol monitoring and evaluation database

NDRI staff: Anna Stearne, Dennis Gray  
Project partners: Tangentyere Council; Julalikari Council; Kununurra-Waringarri Aboriginal Corporation  
Funded by: AERF

### Evaluation of the 'Makin Tracks' 2 project

NDRI staff: Anna Stearne, Dennis Gray  
Project partners: ADAC (SA)  
Funded by: AGDHA

### Evaluation of "youth led futures" partnership grants with Indigenous communities

NDRI staff: Sherry Saggars, Anna Stearne  
Project partners: CSR, ECU  
Funded by: Foundation for Young Australians

### Indigenous alcohol and drug staff development initiative

NDRI Staff: Ed Garrison, Dennis Gray  
Funded by: AERF, AGDHA

### Loss and its consequences among town campers in Alice Springs: The role of alcohol and other drugs (PhD project)

PhD student: Jane Ulrik  
PhD supervisor: Dennis Gray, Sherry Saggars  
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

### Not just scholars but leaders: Learning circles in Indigenous health research

NDRI staff: Dennis Gray  
Project partners: Curtin University of Technology; TICHR; Menzies School of Health Research; CUCRH  
Funded by: NHMRC

## COMPLETED PROJECTS

### Evaluation of the DASA outreach program

NDRI staff: Anna Stearne, Dennis Gray  
Project partners: Drug and Alcohol Services Association, Alice Springs  
Funded by: AERF

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

### NEW PROJECTS

#### 2007 national prison entrants' bloodborne virus and risk behaviour survey - WA component

NDRI staff: Tony Butler  
Funded by: Part funded by DCS, WA

#### An investigation of pharmaceutical drug misuse and harms among drug treatment clients in Victoria, Tasmania, West Australia and Queensland

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers  
Project partners: Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre  
Funded by: Ministerial Council on Drugs

#### Hepatitis C in magazines aimed at youth

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers  
Funded by: AGDHA

### ONGOING PROJECTS

#### Future directions in the prevention of hepatitis C among injecting drug users: What are the needs of the using community?

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers  
Project partners: AIVL  
Funded by: NDRI

#### Towards developing a model of care for injecting drug users in hepatitis C treatment: Assessing current services and identifying barriers to participation

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers  
Funded by: CSRGs

#### MY-Peer project

NDRI staff: Susan Carruthers  
Funded by: Healthway

#### WA Prisoner Health Survey

NDRI staff: Tony Butler  
Project partners: ECU  
Funded by: ECU

## Key Priority 4: The impact of legislative, regulatory and educational strategies to minimise alcohol and other drug-related harm

### NEW PROJECTS

#### A longitudinal study of pharmacological smoking cessation aids efficacy in real-life settings

NDRI staff: Rob Donovan, Owen Carter  
Funded by: NHMRC

#### A multi-component intervention for smoking cessation (NSW, QLD, WA)

NDRI staff: Tony Butler  
Funded by: NHMRC

#### Cannabis Commission chapter on reforms at national and subnational levels

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton  
Funded by: Beckley Foundation (UK)

# Appendix 1

## Full list of research projects (continued)

### Development of the National Amphetamine-Type Strategy 2007-2009

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Simon Lenton

Project partners: AIC

Funded by: AGDHA

### Effects of anti-smoking advertising, tobacco control policies on smoking behaviour

NDRI staff: Rob Donovan

### Evaluation of the 'Make Smoking History' passive smoking campaign: Ghost Cigarette (Waves 17 and 18)

NDRI staff: Owen Carter, Geoffrey Jalleh, Rob Donovan

### Multivariate analysis of Cannabis Infringement Notice data

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: NDRI

### Book on prevention policy in relation to alcohol and other drugs

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

### That's disgusting! Evaluation of a youth oriented tobacco control advertisement distributed via chain email

NDRI staff: Owen Carter, Rob Donovan

Funded by: Cancer Council of WA

### Training of health staff for the implementation of the smoke free WA health system policy

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop, Richard Midford, Owen Carter

Funded by: HDWA

### WA CIN scheme cannabis evaluation - phase 2 (sub-study 1, public attitude survey)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs, James Fetherston

Funded by: DAO

### WA CIN scheme cannabis evaluation - phase 2 (sub-study 2, regular users study)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs, Tanya L'Veena, J Taubman

Funded by: NDRI

## ONGOING PROJECTS

### Assessment of the effectiveness of the regulation of alcohol in WA (WALL)

NDRI staff: Wendy Loxley, Tanya Chikritzhs, Steve Allsop, Richard Pascal

Funded by: HDWA

### Evaluation of a best practice integrated intervention for regular methamphetamine users with co-morbid depression

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

Project partners: Centre for Mental Health Studies, University of Newcastle;

Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Queensland; NDARC

Funded by: Beyondblue National Depression Initiative

### Preventing and reducing alcohol-related harm in students

NDRI staff: Peter Howat, Bruce Maycock

Funded by: Healthway

### Use of online forums by Australian party drug users: Making drug use safer or more dangerous? (PhD project)

PhD student: Monica Barrett

PhD supervisors: Simon Lenton and Matthew Allen (Curtin University)

Funded by: NDRI scholarship

### WA CIN scheme cannabis evaluation - phase 2 (sub-study 7 - evaluation in schools)

NDRI staff: Simon Lenton, Tanya Chikritzhs

Funded by: DAO and NDRI

## COMPLETED PROJECTS

### Cancer Council alcohol policy

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs

Project partners: Cancer Council

### Development of a drug research action plan

NDRI staff: Wendy Loxley, Zaza Lyons

Project partners: Centre for Adolescent Health, Murdoch Children's Research Institute

Funded by: Premier's Drug Prevention Council, Victoria

### Review of restrictions on the sale and supply of alcohol in Australia and Western Australia

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Sherry Saggars, Dennis Gray, Zaza Lyons

Project partners: CSR, ECU

Funded by: AERF, HDWA

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

### NEW PROJECTS

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

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

### COMPLETED PROJECTS

#### Editing special edition of *Drug and Alcohol Review* journal on school drug education

NDRI staff: Richard Midford

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

### NEW PROJECTS

#### Develop key performance indicators for local governments in Australia: Achievements on drugs and alcohol action and community safety (KPI)

NDRI staff: Richard Midford, Steve Allsop, Tanya Chikritzhs, Rina Cercarelli

Funded by: National Local Government Drug and Alcohol Advisory Committee

#### Long term evaluation of Liquor Licensing Restrictions in Port Hedland

NDRI staff: Richard Midford

Funded by: Health Department of WA

#### People with mental health disorders and cognitive disability in the criminal justice system (ARC linkage project)

NDRI staff: Tony Butler

Project partners: UNSW

Funded by: Australian Research Council

# Appendix 1

## Full list of research projects (continued)

### ONGOING PROJECTS

**A case control study of lifestyle factors in the aetiology of ovarian cancer (PhD project)**

PhD student: Dada Su  
PhD supervisor: Colin Binns

**Alcohol and drugs in the workplace project with South Australia**

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop  
Project partners: DASC (SA)  
Funded by: DASC (SA)

**Alcohol and smoking in breastfeeding (PhD project)**

PhD student: Roslyn Giglia  
PhD supervisor: Colin Binns  
Funded by: AERF, AGDHA and NHMRC scholarship

**Alcohol use during pregnancy: Formative intervention research**

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

**Dampier Peninsula prevention project**

NDRI staff: Richard Midford  
Funded by: AERF via Kimberley Community Drug Service Team

**Interventions to reduce alcohol use during pregnancy: Systematic literature review**

NDRI staff: Nyanda McBride

**Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project (KAAP)**

NDRI staff: Richard Midford, Fredrik Welander, Lianne Auld  
Project partners: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder  
Funded by: AERF

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

### NEW PROJECTS

**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 partners: NDARC  
Funded by: NDARC

**Young People, Alcohol & Other Drug Use at Large Events (PhD project)**

PhD student: Tina Lam  
PhD supervisor: Steve Allsop  
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

### ONGOING PROJECTS

**Alcohol consumption, smoking and lifestyle characteristics for Japanese patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (PhD project)**

PhD student: Fumi Hirayama  
PhD supervisor: Colin Binns  
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

**An evaluation of cannabis contamination and potency in Australia**

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop  
Project partners: NDARC; Chemistry Centre WA  
Funded by: NDARC

**Analysing alcohol advertising's impact on recall of drinking experiences**

NDRI staff: Rob Donovan  
Funded by: Australian Research Council

**Co-existing mental health and drug problems book**

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop

**Does moderate drinking prevent heart disease? A meta-analysis**

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs  
Project partners: University of California, San Francisco, USA; Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley, USA; CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada  
Funded by: AERF

**Medications and crash involvement for older drivers: A population based study**

NDRI staff: Andy Lee  
Funded by: Australian Transport Safety Bureau, Road Safety Research Grant

**Methadone data-linkage project**

NDRI staff: Tony Butler  
Project partners: NDARC  
Funded by: NHMRC

**Reducing impulsive behaviour in repeat violent offenders using a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor**

NDRI staff: Tony Butler  
Funded by: NSW Health

**Review of alcohol and prostate cancer**

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs  
Project partners: Department of Social and Behavioural Science, University of California; CARBC, University of Victoria, Canada

**Sexual Health & Attitudes of Australian Prisoners Survey (Queensland component)**

NDRI staff: Tony Butler  
Funded by: NHMRC

**Tobacco capacity building scholarship**

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

**Web-based alcohol and tobacco intervention**

NDRI staff: Peter Howat, Bruce Maycock  
Funded by: Healthway

### COMPLETED PROJECTS

**A multi-site randomised controlled trial of the adolescent cannabis checkup**

NDRI staff: Steve Allsop  
Project partners: NDARC; NCETA  
Funded by: NHMRC

**The relationship between non-fatal overdose of pharmaceutical medications, suicidality and depression (PhD project)**

PhD student: Penny Heale  
PhD supervisor: Wendy Loxley  
Funded by: NDRI scholarship

# Appendix 1

## Full list of research projects (continued)

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

#### ONGOING PROJECTS

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

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

An examination of injection drug use sites in Vancouver: The influence of social and physical context on drug-related harm and public health interventions (PhD project)

PhD student: Will Small (enrolled University of British Columbia, Canada)  
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Jean Shoveller, Mark Tyndall (University of BC)

Conceptualising varying patterns of drug use: Exploring drug users' socially constructed conceptualisations of drug use in the search for an alternative discourse (PhD project)

PhD student: Laura Willis (enrolled Curtin)  
PhD supervisors: Ali Marsh, Brian Bishop (Curtin School of Psychology) and David Moore

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

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

Social, cultural and economic processes in illicit drug markets and their public health consequences (PhD project)

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

The ethno-epidemiology of party drug use and related harm in the Melbourne club/rave scene (PhD project)

PhD student: Christine Siokou  
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Helen Lee (La Trobe University)  
Funded by: NHMRC

The ethno-epidemiology of psychostimulant use and related harm amongst street-based injecting drug users in Sydney (PhD project)

PhD student: Susan Hudson (enrolled UNSW)  
PhD supervisors: Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW) and David Moore  
Funded by: NHMRC

The ethno-epidemiology of recreational party drug use and related harm in Perth (PhD project)

PhD student: Rachael Green  
PhD supervisors: David Moore and Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, UNSW)  
Funded by: NHMRC

The harm associated with concurrent alcohol and party drug use amongst young people: Risk environments and the implications for prevention (PhD project)

PhD student: Amy Pennay  
PhD supervisor: David Moore and Simon Lenton  
Funded by: AERF scholarship

Working with homeless people who use drugs

NDRI staff: Jeremy Northcote, Zaza Lyons  
Project partners: St Bartholomew's House, Perth  
Funded by: ANCD

#### COMPLETED PROJECTS

An investigation of the links between social and economic disadvantage, alcohol consumption and related harm (alcohol and poverty study)

NDRI staff: Tanya Chikritzhs, Paul Catalano  
Project partners: Turning Point; Deakin University  
Funded by: AERF

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

NDRI staff: David Moore  
Project partners: Australian Drug Foundation; Turning Point  
Funded by: AERF

# Appendix 2

## List of abbreviations

ADAC (SA)	Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (South Australia)
AERF	Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation
AGDHA	Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
AIC	Australian Institute of Criminology
AIVL	Australian Intravenous League
ANCD	Australian National Council on Drugs
APSAD	Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs
ATSIC	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission
CABRC	Centre for Addictions Research of British Columbia
CSRGS	Curtin Strategic Research Grant Scheme
CSR, ECU	Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University
CUCRH	Combined Universities Centre for Rural Health
DASA	Drug and Alcohol Services Association
DASC	Drug and Alcohol Services Council of South Australia
DAO (WA)	Drug and Alcohol Office of Western Australia
DCPC, Victoria	Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee, Parliament of Victoria
DCS, Qld	Department of Corrective Services, Queensland
DCS, WA	Department of Corrective Services, Western Australia
DJ VIC	Department of Justice, Victoria
ECU	Edith Cowan University
JH, NSW	Justice Health, New South Wales
KAAP	Kalgoorlie Alcohol Action Project
MHRIF	Medical and Health Research Infrastructure Fund
(I)NAIP	(Indigenous) National Alcohol Indicators Project
NCETA	National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction
NDARC	National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre
NDLERF	National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund
NDRI	National Drug Research Institute
NDS	National Drug Strategy
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
NIDAC	National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee
NIRIS	New Independent Researcher Infrastructure Award
NSW BOCSAR	Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, New South Wales
OCP	Office of Crime Prevention, Western Australian Police Service
OCY	Office of Children and Youth, Department of Community Development
PDPC, Victoria	Premier's Drug Prevention Council, Victoria
QAIHC	Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council
QUADREC	Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre
RPI	Research Performance Index
TICHR	Telethon Institute of Child Health Research
WAHD	Western Australian Health Department
WANADA	WA Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies
WAPS	Western Australian Police Service
WHO	World Health Organization





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