

APHCRI@work

Welcome to the first edition of APHCRI@work.

We plan to make this a bi-monthly update for all our research streams, past and present, so you can learn a little more about what we have been doing at the 'hub' and what other 'spokes' are up to.

We hope it will be interactive and encourage you all to send us snippets of news, details of presentations you might be giving, or events you are attending so we can all support your work.

If there is anything you would like to see here, please let us know, we are happy to develop the format so it is interesting to as many of you as possible.

NEWS FROM THE HUB

It has been a busy year for APHCRI, we've hosted a number of events, including seminars, forums and a major meeting looking at making more strategic use of the health dollar. On top of that we have been involved in developing the evidence base for the National Performance Indicators for the Divisions network, along with some of our key stakeholders and partners.

In the past two months APHCRI was a major sponsor of the 4th Health Services and Policy Research Conference, an international bi-annual conference that was held in Canberra.

The Institute brought Professor Huw Davies to the conference where he spoke on: Understanding, increasing and assessing research impact.

Professor Davies also led a workshop at APHCRI on the same topic, attended by representatives from PHCRIS, NICS, GPET, ADGP, CGPIS and the CRC on Aboriginal Health.

APHCRI staff also presented at the conference.

Key APHCRI Events 2005

February 2005:	Judith Smith, Visiting Fellow
July 2005:	Performance Assessment in Primary Health Care forum with John O'Brien, Professor Peter Crampton and Professor Tony Dowel
July 2005:	Professor Jonathan Lomas, keynote speaker at GP & PHC RED conference; also APHCRI workshop in Canberra.
October 2005:	Strategic Use of the Health Dollar meeting
October 2005:	Dr Tikki Pang, Director, Research Policy & Cooperation, World Health Organization seminar
November 2005:	4 th Health Services and Policy Research Conference

STREAM ONE

APHCRI's first stream of research was concluded in July this year, with the results published as a supplement in the 20 November edition of the *Medical Journal of Australia*.

The research projects examined the sustainability of five programs already running in Australia. Secure funding was a key driver of sustainability, as was the importance of social relationships, networks and champions; the effect of political, financial and societal forces; and the motivation and capacity of agents within the system.

To see the MJA supplement click here:

http://www.mja.com.au/public/issues/183_10_211105/suppl_contents_211105.html

Congratulations to all the teams involved in the project. We have enjoyed working with you all and look forward to further development of those relationships as APHCRI continues to develop its activities.

STREAM THREE

Launched in April the four stream three projects have just completed their first six monthly report and all are making great progress.

The four projects covered include:

- Dr Frances Boyle, University of Queensland, who is leading a team studying the links between self-help organisations and general practice to enhance chronic illness care;
- Dr Lena Sanci, University of Melbourne, who is trialing new ways to encourage adolescent Australians to avoid or reduce risk behaviours like smoking, drinking, drug use and unprotected sex;
- Associate Professor Jane Gunn, University of Melbourne, is chief investigator on a project looking at the management of Australia's most common mental health problem, depression, in general practice; and
- Dr Christine Phillips, ANU, whose group, including ADGP members, is examining the expanded role of nurses in general practices.

The nursing in general practice project has a website and blog that you can find at: <http://agpns.blogspot.com/>

If your project has also set up a similar site, please let us know and we can publish it here so other 'spokes' can follow your research successes.

STREAM FOUR

Stream four began in September and researchers from the various teams have already met twice for workshops in Canberra, which were also attended by policy makers from the Department of Health and Ageing.

Stream Four will involve research teams working alongside policy makers to develop relationships and research questions to answer pressing policy questions.

The two workshops to date have been well attended and received, as has the research approach, so we look forward to how this will develop in 2006.

An additional research workshop will take place on 1 February, with Prof Nicholas Mays, the editor of *Health Services Research and Policy*. The journal produced a supplement which has informed Stream Four.

<http://select.ingentaconnect.com/rsm/13558196/v10n3x1/contp1-1.htm>

RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD

The APHCRI Research Advisory Board met in March, June, September and November this year and between these face-to-face meetings has provided advice on Institute matters.

At the final board meeting in November we farewelled four board members:

Dr Peter Del Fante

Professor Louis Pilotto

Dr Sarah Larkins

Dr Cathy Marshall.

RAB Chairman, Professor John Marley, thanked the members for their excellent contribution to APHCRI during the past two years.

events@APHCRI

APHCRI EVENTS IN 2006

Professor Nicholas Mays

Professor Mays will give a public lecture on 'Synthesizing evidence for management and policy-making'.

Bob Douglas Lecture Theatre, ANU Canberra,

30 January 2006

5-6pm

<http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/profiles/mays.html>

Professor Chris Dowrick

Professor Chris Dowrick will hold a seminar at APHCRI on how Australia could implement the National Chronic Disease Strategy.

Bob Douglas Lecture Theatre, ANU Canberra,

6 February 2006

5-6pm

<http://www.liv.ac.uk/primcare/staff/cdowrick.htm>

Professor Larry Green

APHCRI is delighted to announce that it will bring Professor Larry Green to be a keynote speaker at the 2006 GP & PHC RED conference in Perth (5-7 July).

Professor Green is the Senior Scholar in Residence at the Robert Graham Center: Policy Studies in Family Medicine and Primary Care in Washington, DC.

<http://www.graham-center.org/x176.xml>

SPOKE EVENTS IN 2006

Project launch

RE-ORDER : Re-organising care for depression and related disorders in the Australian primary health care setting

Led by Associate Professor Jane Gunn, Department of General Practice, The University of Melbourne Re-Order involves researchers from several Universities (national and international) and is part of Stream Three.

School of Graduate Studies, University of Melbourne

7 February 2006

6-8pm

Please send all information about your events, publications and presentations to the editor for inclusion in future newsletters.

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