NCHSR receives project funding from a range of sources including the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, state and territory Departments/Ministries of Health, competitive funding bodies, partner organisations and international sources. Additionally, research infrastructure support is received from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and the University of New South Wales.
Contents

About NCHSR 1
Research priorities 2
Director’s foreword 3
Performance targets and achievements 4

Governance and management 5
NCHSR Management Board 6
Advisory Council 7
Scientific Advisory Committee 7
Centre Management Committee 8
Research Committee 8
Education Committee 9
Dissemination Policy Committee 9
Conference Organising Committee 10
Research support 10
Staff 11

Our research 13
Mapping risk and practice 14
Strengthening prevention responses 18
Negotiating the medical field 23
Critical analysis of health service provision 26
Exploring cultural, social and political dynamics 29
Research transfer and capacity building 31

Postgraduate teaching and research 33
Health, sexuality and culture program 34
Postgraduate student projects 35
Exchange students 37

Engagement and impact 38
NCHSR Consortium 39
NCHSR Clearinghouse 39
Research seminar series 40
The Critical HIV/AIDS Research Initiative 40
Editorial contributions 41
  Editorial boards 41
  Peer reviewing for journals 41
  Reviewing other than for journals 42
Committee membership 43
  International 43
  National 43
  State 44
    The University of New South Wales 45
Research communication 45
  Presentations 45
  Publications 47
  Consultations 47
Collaborating organisations 47

Academic publications and presentations 51
  Articles in refereed journals 52
  Research reports 55
  Conference presentations 56

Funding 59
  NCHSR funding 60
  Statement of financial performance 60
The National Centre in HIV Social Research (NCHSR) is based in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at The University of New South Wales (UNSW). Since its establishment in 1990, NCHSR has undertaken an expanding program of social research related to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), sexually transmissible infections (STI) and viral hepatitis (HCV and HBV).
NCHSR’s multidisciplinary research incorporates a range of social science perspectives and this rich theoretical and methodological mix underpins innovative approaches on health, risk and the impact of blood-borne viruses (BBVs) and sexually transmissible infections (STIs). In particular, NCHSR is known for broadening the focus on the individual in health behaviour research and emphasising the social processes that influence vulnerability to and risk of HIV, STIs and viral hepatitis as well as the experiences of living with chronic infection.

NCHSR aims to improve the health and well-being of affected individuals and communities by undertaking exemplary, multidisciplinary research regarding the social and behavioural aspects of HIV, sexually transmissible infections and viral hepatitis. Working collaboratively with affected communities, policy makers and academics, NCHSR conducts internationally leading research that is scholarly and thought-provoking, as well as informs and strengthens policy and practice in prevention, treatment, care and support.

As laid out in the 2009–2012 Strategic Plan, NCHSR’s priorities are to conduct research in order to:

- identify, understand and monitor sexual and drug-use practices as they relate to the risk for blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections
- explore experiences of health, illness, biomedicine and clinical practice from the perspectives of both healthcare professionals and affected populations
- investigate the ways in which cultural differences, gender and sexuality, stigma and discrimination, and political and economic dynamics shape experiences of BBVs, sexual practices and drug use

In response to its strategic objectives, NCHSR in 2011 has recognized two further priority areas of research to:

- enhance understanding of risk and prevention practices to inform innovative prevention interventions and strengthen the evidence base for current and future policies and programs
- examine the policies and delivery of health services and the evolving needs of the health care workforce, and to evaluate innovative models of health care provision

NCHSR also continues to conduct a comprehensive program of activities to make research findings available to stakeholders, strengthen research partnerships, build research capacity and provide learning opportunities for a new generation of social science researchers.
Director's foreword

Looking back at 2011, it was a busy and exciting year. As you will read in this Annual Report, we have worked on a large number of studies and conducted a substantive amount of knowledge transfer activities. We have also ventured into new areas of research and were awarded new grants that will shape the work of the centre in coming years. The centre also instated a high profile Advisory Council to support and promote its work.

As the following sections of the Annual Report 2011 in much detail document the activities, outputs and achievements of NCHSR, I’ll limit myself in this foreword to noting several highlights. Starting with our research performance, I’m very happy to note that we were successful in obtaining funding for two NHMRC project grants. The importance of the research these grants enable, and of the centre more broadly, was emphasised by the NHMRC inviting me to speak at the announcement of grant outcomes by the Hon. Mark Butler MP, Minister for Mental Health and Ageing. I’m also very proud of the suite of new research projects concerned with health promotion for Aboriginal people. Several studies are concerned with the evaluation of services for Aboriginal people and contribute to our new priority research area regarding the critical analysis of health service provision. In 2011 we also established a new priority area of research concerned with the strengthening of prevention responses, bringing together an increasing number of studies. Building on an initial, unfunded study, in 2011 we have continued our work regarding HIV-related stigma and discrimination and expanded into stigma related to viral hepatitis and injecting drug use.

In 2011 we also continued and expanded our research transfer and capacity building activities. In particular, NCHSR was successful in obtaining funding from AusAID for two Australian Leadership Award Fellowship programs. These programs were conducted in collaboration with the Comprehensive AIDS Research Centre at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China and targeted Chinese leaders in public health and at centres for disease control. With the support of partner organisations, we also continued the successful NCHSR Consortium to support the workforce in HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections. We also continued our exchange program with Utrecht University and welcomed several new research students in our Health, Sexuality and Culture program and said goodbye to students awarded their degree.

In 2011 we also celebrated achievements of many people at NCHSR, and I want to congratulate Joanne Bryant and Limin Mao on their promotion to senior research fellow. I also want to congratulate Prof Carla Treloar with her inaugural professorial lecture and Dr Christy Newman with her Paul Bourke Lecture, sponsored by the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia. Other public lectures delivered by centre staff include my lecture in the ‘So what’ lecture series, showcasing the work of researchers in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

I want to thank the Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG, Mr Bill Bowtell (Chair), Ms Linda Bracken, Ms Levinia Crooks and Mr Garth Young for accepting membership of the NCHSR Advisory Council and for sharing their experience and expertise. I also thank all our collaborators for their invaluable contributions to our effective partnerships; their in-kind and financial support of our work; and for their assistance in our ALAF programs. My warmest thanks go to all staff at NCHSR for all their great work.
The work of NCHSR is guided by its 2009–2012 Strategic Plan that is developed in consultation with its stakeholders. As part of the UNSW strategic planning process, NCHSR sets annual performance targets to address its strategic aims. These targets are aligned with The University of New South Wales Strategic Intent ‘Blueprint to beyond’ (B2B) and support the resulting priorities of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. These encompass outcomes related to supporting and promoting research; education, including learning, teaching and students’ experience; external engagement; and capabilities and resources. The following outlines the performance of NCHSR in 2011 against overall agreed targets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Target</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secure continued funding</td>
<td>Revenue has increased and key grants have been extended or renewed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversify funding base</td>
<td>New funding was awarded from competitive research funding schemes and funding schemes to build international leadership capacity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen research infrastructure revenue</td>
<td>An application for UNSW research infrastructure funding was unsuccessful. However, three years of UNSW strategic funding was awarded for a professional appointment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify and strengthen focus areas of research</td>
<td>Two new programmatic areas were developed, with strong suites of ongoing and newly funded projects in each of these areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure the skills, expertise and experience of NCHSR staff continue to meet requirements of the centre's evolving strategic work plan and broader aspirations</td>
<td>Two academic members of staff were promoted, two academic members of staff were appointed, with a further two new academic appointments planned. A new Centre Manager was appointed, who worked with centre staff to review and update work processes, policies and procedures. NCHSR’s operations and achievements were very positively evaluated in a voluntary centre review.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publish in highly ranked journals</td>
<td>The quantity and quality of publications is stable and high; it remains a goal to increase publications in highly ranked journals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase scholarships for domestic and international students</td>
<td>Opportunities were identified to include PhD scholarships in applications for category 1 funding, but budgets had to be amended.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create a forum of high-profile individuals to support and champion the work of NCHSR</td>
<td>An NCHSR Advisory Council was established and held its inaugural meeting in August.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure the continued effectiveness of NCHSR budgeting and financial management</td>
<td>The guidance provided by the NCHSR Management Board has been enhanced by the appointment of additional members and finance processes have strengthened as necessary.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To guide its operations in 2012, the following key performance targets for NCHSR have been agreed:

- Ensure sustained research funding
- Maintain quality and quantity of research output
- Document impact of NCHSR research
- Reinforce NCHSR profile and branding
- Expand NCHSR involvement in learning and teaching
- Further develop strategic directions for NCHSR
The work of NCHSR is supported by a comprehensive governance structure consisting of a range of committees and boards representing external stakeholders and Centre staff. These committees provide the NCHSR Director with management oversight, platforms for strategic discussion and guidance regarding the operation of the Centre.
Governance and management

NCHSR Management Board

The management board oversees the overall performance and direction of the Centre to ensure the effective, efficient and sustainable pursuit of its objectives and to assist with the development of strategy. It also monitors the operation and finances, and ensures compliance with UNSW policies and procedures.

Chair

Professor James Donald, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of New South Wales

Chair in-lieu

Professor Eileen Baldry, Acting Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of New South Wales

Members

Dr Kristy Muir, Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of New South Wales

Ms Melissa Roughley, Faculty General Manager, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of New South Wales

Ms Urania Stamios, Finance Manager, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of New South Wales

Professor Ilan Katz, Director, Social Policy Research Centre, The University of New South Wales

Professor Anthony Zwi, School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of New South Wales

Attendees

Professor John de Wit, Director, National Centre in HIV Social Research

Professor Carla Treloar, Deputy Director, National Centre in HIV Social Research

Ms Angela Barton, Centre Manager, National Centre in HIV Social Research*

Mr Terry Fairclough, Centre Manager, National Centre in HIV Social Research*

Secretariat

Ms Janice Knapman, Administrative Officer

* part-year
Advisory Council

The council lends its energy, experience and influence to pursuing the mission and vision of NCHSR, and recognising the importance of sector organisations, government and the community to our success. Members are leaders in the health sector, industry and government and are committed to achieving NCHSR’s vision of being globally recognised as a leading social science research centre renowned for its staff and students, the quality of its research and teaching, its relevance and innovation.

Chair
Mr Bill Bowtell, Executive Director, Pacific Friends of the Global Fund

Members
Ms Linda Bracken, Head, Multiplatform and Content Development, ABC Radio
The Hon Michael Kirby, AC CMG
Mr Garth Young, Managing Director, CSAW Health

Attendees
Professor John de Wit, Director, National Centre in HIV Social Research
Professor Carla Treloar, Deputy Director, National Centre in HIV Social Research
Mr Terry Fairclough, Centre Manager, National Centre in HIV Social Research

Secretariat
Ms Janice Knapman, Administrative Officer

Scientific Advisory Committee

This committee brings together experts from social science and public health research as well as government and non-government organisations. It provides advice and guidance on research strategy that informs the strategic and work plans of NCHSR.

Co-chairs
Professor Pranee Liamputtong, Professor of Public Health, School of Public Health, La Trobe University
Professor Jake Najman, Professor of Sociology, School of Social Science, The University of Queensland

Members
Professor James Donald (ex-officio), Dean, Faculty Arts and Social Science, The University of New South Wales
Professor John de Wit (ex-officio), Director, National Centre in HIV Social Research, The University of New South Wales
Mr Michael Costello, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Senior Policy and Programs Officer, Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO)
Mr Simon Donohoe, Manager, National Education Team, Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO)
Ms Janelle Fawkes, Chief Executive Officer, Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association
Ms Annie Madden, Executive Officer, Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League Inc. (AIVL)
Governance and management

Professor Lisa Maher, Head of Viral Hepatitis Epidemiology and Prevention Program, The Kirby Institute, The University of New South Wales
Professor Marian Pitts, Director, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University
Dr Sean Slavin, Assistant Director, Research Programs, National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS (NAPWA)
Mr Darryl O’Donnell, Acting Associate Director, AIDS/Infectious Diseases Branch, NSW Ministry of Health
Ms Helen Tyrrell, Chief Executive Officer, Hepatitis Australia
Dr David Wilson, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for International Health, Curtin University of Technology

Attendees
Professor Carla Treloar, Deputy Director, National Centre in HIV Social Research
Ms Kristan To, Acting Centre Manager, National Centre in HIV Social Research*
Mr Terry Fairclough, Centre Manager, National Centre in HIV Social Research*

Secretariat
Ms Janice Knapman, Administrative Officer

Centre Management Committee

The Centre Management Committee is the forum for discussion on issues related to the daily operation of the Centre and advises the Director regarding resources, policies, procedures and business processes.

Chair
Professor John de Wit, Director

Members
Professor Carla Treloar, Deputy Director
Dr Christy Newman, Senior Research Fellow
Dr Martin Holt, Senior Research Fellow
Ms Angela Barton, Centre Manager*
Ms Kristan To, Acting Centre Manager*
Mr Terry Fairclough, Centre Manager*
Mr Toby Lea, Postgraduate Student Representative*
Mr Kenneth Yates, Postgraduate Student Representative*

Secretariat
Ms Janice Knapman, Administrative Officer

Research Committee

The the of the Research Committee is to support the NCHSR research culture and to further its research agenda through a continuous planning process that guides the direction of the Centre's research.

* part-year
Governance and management

Chair
Professor John de Wit, Director

Members
Professor Carla Treloar, Deputy Director
Dr Christy Newman, Senior Research Fellow
Dr Max Hopwood, Research Fellow
Dr Asha Persson, Research Fellow
Ms Evelyn Lee, Research Officer

Education Committee
The Education Committee oversees the postgraduate programs (Graduate Diploma, Masters by Research, and PhD) in Health, Sexuality and Culture and provides advice to the Postgraduate Coordinator and the Director.

Chair
Professor John de Wit, Director

Members
Dr Jeanne Ellard, Research Fellow and postgraduate coordinator
Professor Carla Treloar, Deputy Director
Dr Philippe Adam, Senior Research Fellow
Dr Loren Brener, Research Fellow
Mr Toby Lea, Postgraduate Student Representative*
Mr Kenneth Yates, Postgraduate Student Representative*

Dissemination Policy Committee
The role of the Dissemination Policy Committee is to oversee NCHSR's communications, including the branding, distribution and appearance of both print and digital publications. It establishes the policies to manage and disseminate the research knowledge of the centre.

Co-chairs
Dr Philippe Adam, Senior Research Fellow*
Mr Peter Hull, Research Officer

Members
Professor John de Wit, Director
Ms Angela Barton, Centre Manager*
Ms Kristan To, Acting Centre Manager*
Mr Terry Fairclough, Centre Manager*
Ms Judi Rainbow, Publications Officer

Secretariat
Ms Janice Knapman, Administrative Officer

* part-year
Conference Organising Committee

NCHSR has organised biennial conferences on social research in HIV, viral hepatitis and related diseases since 1990. They have become a national platform to showcase research on blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections, attracting investigators, health educators, service providers and policy makers both from Australia and overseas.

12th Social Research Conference on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases (2012)

Co-chairs
Dr Joanne Bryant, Research Fellow
Dr Loren Brener, Research Fellow

Members
Professor John de Wit (ex-officio), Director
Ms Rebecca Gray, Research Officer and postgraduate student*
Dr Max Hopwood, Research Fellow
Dr Limin Mao, Research Fellow
Dr Asha Persson, Research Fellow
Ms Angela Barton (ex-officio), Centre Manager*
Ms Kristan To (ex-officio), Acting Centre Manager*
Mr Terry Fairclough (ex-officio), Centre Manager*
Ms Annie Whitelaw, Administrative Officer

Research support

NCHSR employs a team of professional and technical staff to facilitate and support the work of the Centre by carrying out managerial, financial, promotional and knowledge management activities.

Key administrative tasks include developing and implementing efficient and effective internal systems, producing and disseminating NCHSR publications, maintaining the institutional and research websites, managing our offices and facilities, providing executive assistance to the Centre Director, organising conferences, workshops and seminars; performing secretariat functions for committees; budgeting and overseeing project accounts; maintaining effective technical infrastructure; and ensuring adherence to OHS requirements.

* part-year
Staff

Director and Professor
John de Wit, MSc, PhD

Deputy Director and Professor
Carla Treloar, BSc(Hons), PhD

Senior Research Fellows
Philippe Adam, MA, PhD
Joanne Bryant, BSc, MSc, PhD
Martin Holt, BSc(Hons), MSc, PhD
Henrike Körner, BA(Hons), DipEd, MA, PhD
Limin Mao, BMed, MEd, PhD
Christy Newman, BA(Hons), PhD

Research Fellows
Loren Brener, BSocSci, MA, PhD
Jeanne Ellard, BA(Hons), MPhil, PhD
Max Hopwood, BA(Hons), PhD
Asha Persson, BA(Hons), PhD

Research Associates
Dean Murphy, BA(Hons)
Jake Rance, BA(Hons)

Research Officers
Daren Fisher, BSocSci/Crim(Hons)*
Rebecca Gray, BA(Hons), MA*
Robyn Horwitz, BCom, BA(Hons)
Peter Hull, BPsych(Hons)
L. Clair Jackson, BA(Hons), DipEd, DipLib
Evelyn Lee, BA(Hons), MEd
Veronica Saunders, EN, DipEd (Aboriginal)
Hannah Wilson, BSocSci*

Research Assistants
Melissa Burgess, BHS(Hons), (Aboriginal Health and Community Development), GradCertAdEd*
Denton Callander, BA(Psych), BMus
Elena Cama
Katherine Cummings, BA, BLS, AALA*
Sarit Geertjes, MSc*
Jorlijn Hermans, BSc, MSc*
Priscilla Johnson, BHS (Aboriginal Health & Community Development)*
Toby Lea, BA(Psych), PGDipPsych
Jinmei Meng (Alice), LLM, PhD
Jamee Newland, BSocSci, MPS
Merel Ophoff, MSc*
Dana Paquette, BA, MSc
Mandy Schippers, MSc*

Honorary appointments
Peter Aggleton, BA, MEd, MA, PhD
Graham Brown, BBus(Hons), PhD
Raymond Donovan, BA(Hons), PhD
Suzanne Fraser, BA(Hons), PhD
Harm Hospers, MSc, PhD
Joanne Neale, BA(Hons1), MA, PhD
Robert Reynolds, BA(Hons), PhD
Tim Rhodes, BA(Hons), PhD
Marsha Rosengarten, BA(Hons), MA, PhD

* part-year
Governance and management

Centre Manager
Angela Barton, BEc&SocSci*
Kristan To, BTourism*
Terry Fairclough, BA, MA*

Administration Officers
Anne Whitelaw
Janice Knapman (EA to Director)

Finance Officer
Nalini Krishnan

Publications Officer
Judi Rainbow

Publications Assistant
Edwina Morris*

New staff

Terry Fairclough, Centre Manager
Terry has an MA in Geography, a Certificate in Health Promotion, and a Certificate IV in Human Resources Management. He is responsible for leading and managing the operational and business requirements of the Centre. Prior to his move to NCHSR, Terry was Business Services Unit Manager at the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM).

Elena Cama, Research Assistant
Elena joined NCHSR in 2011 as a Research Assistant while completing a Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at UNSW. Currently completing her honours in Criminology, she is also involved in an evaluation of the New South Wales Users and Aids Association’s needle and syringe programmes. Since joining NCHSR, she has primarily been involved in literature searches and reviews, ethics applications, data collection, conducting quantitative and qualitative analyses, and writing research reports and papers.

Jorlijn Hermans Research Assistant
Jorlijn received a Master of Science (Social Psychology) from Utrecht University in the Netherlands. Since joining NCHSR in 2011 as part of the HIV team, Jorlijn has been involved with the How Much Do You Care? and Cybersex Projects.

Edwina Morris, Publications Assistant
After completing a Bachelor of Communications and working in public relations and advertising for several years Edwina returned to university life, enrolling in landscape architecture at UNSW. Edwina joined NCHSR as an assistant in the publications unit where she played a vital support role in the production of the Gay Community Periodic Surveys and the Annual Report of Trends in Behaviour.

* part-year
Our research

Research at NCHSR falls into six priority areas, with international work conducted across these. The following pages showcase NCHSR’s research that was ongoing, completed or newly started in 2011. Findings of many of these studies are available in our Annual Report of Trends in Behaviour. Reports of completed studies are available from the NCHSR website.
Our research

Mapping risk and practice

Studies in this priority area are concerned with identifying, monitoring and understanding sexual and drug-using practices as they relate to the risk for sexually transmissible infections and blood-borne viruses. Studies examine the meanings of safe and unsafe practices in the social contexts of the populations studied.

Gay community periodic surveys

The Gay Community Periodic Surveys (GCPS) are regular surveys of gay men’s sexual practices, drug use, and testing for HIV and sexually transmissible infections. These have been conducted in six states and territories across Australia since 1996. Funded by state and territory health departments and conducted jointly by NCHSR, The Kirby Institute and state AIDS councils/community health organisations, the GCPS are a key component of Australia’s behavioural surveillance system, providing regular snapshots of practices associated with HIV transmission. Rates of unprotected anal intercourse with casual partners, for example, are regarded as a key indicator of the likelihood of HIV transmission. In 2011, surveys took place in Melbourne, Sydney, Queensland, Canberra and Adelaide. Over the past few years, efforts have been made to increase the consistency between the surveys conducted in different states so that more behavioural indicators can be compared over time.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Holt, Mao, Lee, Hull, de Wit
Collaborators: The Kirby Institute, state AIDS councils/community health organisations
Funding: Departments/Ministries of Health in NSW, VIC, QLD, WA and ACT; AIDS Council of South Australia; Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Social norms regarding HIV/STI risk and risk reduction behaviours among MSM in Australia

The aims of the Contemporary Norms in Networks and Communities (CONNECT) study are to 1) identify the patterns of connections between individuals in communities of men who have sex with men (MSM) and assess the association of these connections with the HIV/STI risk and risk reduction behaviours among MSM, 2) describe the relationship between social norms and the HIV/STI risk and risk reduction behaviours among MSM with differing degrees and types of connections to other MSM both within and outside gay communities, and 3) compare the patterns of connections, social norms and risk reduction behaviours of geographically and epidemiologically distinct populations of MSM in three Australian states, in order to identify local barriers to effective HIV prevention. The study started in 2010 and the study protocol, procedures for data collection and data collection instruments have been developed. Ethics clearance was obtained from the Human Ethics Review Committees at the University of New South Wales, Curtin University and participating AIDS Councils in NSW (ACON), Victoria (VAC) and Western Australia (WAAC). All three research sites (Sydney, Melbourne and Perth) have trained data collection staff in place and commenced recruitment of participants in December 2010. While recruitment continued over 2011, initial data analysis has been undertaken and presentations have been given at national conferences.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: de Wit
Collaborators: The Kirby Institute, Western Australian Centre for Health Promotion Research, Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, School of Social Sciences (Australian National University), Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society
Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
HIV seroconversion study

This is an ongoing study for people who have recently been diagnosed with HIV. The aim is to collect information about experiences with HIV, both before and after diagnosis. This study will provide valuable information for health promotion efforts and for policy development, and may be used in the development of health promotion materials for men or women in the gay, straight, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities. Data collection and analysis continues.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Ellard
Collaborators: The Kirby Institute; Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society; Western Australian Centre for Health Promotion Research
Funding: Departments/Ministries of Health in NSW, VIC, QLD, WA, SA, TAS and ACT; Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

The Goanna Project: sexual health and relationships among young indigenous people

This project builds on a past project among young indigenous people in NSW conducted by the National Centre in HIV Social Research and the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW. There is evidence to suggest that the prevalence of STIs among indigenous people may be up to eight times higher than for the non-indigenous population. Despite this, very little culturally appropriate research has been conducted in indigenous communities on sexual health and blood-borne viruses. This project provides the first national profile of risk behaviours, levels of knowledge and the types of health services used by young indigenous people for sexual health and blood-borne viruses. It is being conducted with a team of investigators from The Kirby Institute, the Australian Research Centre in Sex Health and Society, and the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at The University of New South Wales, in partnership with the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Bryant
Collaborators: The Kirby Institute; Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society; School of Public Health and Community Medicine (UNSW); National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
Funding: Australian Research Council; Departments/Ministries of Health in NSW, VIC, QLD, SA and TAS; Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

The exposure and transition study: exposure to injecting and hepatitis C among young people at risk

Many young people are exposed to injecting drug use though their social networks, by having close friends or a sexual or romantic partner who injects, and we know very little about what they know about hepatitis C and injecting drug use, whether they see themselves as being at risk for injecting and/or acquiring hepatitis C. This project examines young people who are exposed to injecting drug use, but may not necessarily be injecting. It aims to examine their understandings of the risks of injecting drug use and for acquiring hepatitis C. It will provide information about the social contexts in which exposure to injecting happens, and about young people’s knowledge and opinions about BBV and drug-related health services. Also, it will focus on experiences of and perceptions about non-injecting and injecting drug use, role of and relationships with others who use and/or inject drugs, knowledge about hepatitis C, and experiences of and perceptions about harm reduction services. The project is a cross sectional study using quantitative surveys and qualitative in-depth interviews.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Bryant, Ellard, Treloar
Collaborators: None
Funding: Department/Ministry of Health in NSW and WA, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
Pharmacy needle and syringe survey: hepatitis C risk and access to sterile injecting equipment in pharmacies

Until recently there has been very little information about people who obtain needles and syringes from pharmacies, including whether they are a different group from those who obtain needles and syringes from needle and syringe programs. In 2006 a pilot study was conducted using eight pharmacies in southeast Sydney. In 2007 and 2008 the project was expanded to include most of metropolitan Sydney and the Newcastle and Hunter Valley regions. In 2009 the project was conducted in all regions of NSW and in Western Australia. The project findings suggest that a considerable proportion of study participants (one in five) use pharmacies exclusively to obtain injecting equipment, and that this proportion increased in suburban and regional parts of NSW. Moreover, this research found a higher incidence of receptive needle sharing and much lower rates of BBV testing and drug treatment than typically found among respondents to surveys recruiting respondents primarily from NSPs. This suggests the need for increased supply of sterile needles and syringes through pharmacies and better connection to BBV-related services. The study will periodically collect data over the coming years.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Bryant, Treloar
Collaborators: None
Funding: Department/Ministry of Health in NSW and WA, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Hepatitis C transmission and intimate injectors: the sharing of drug injecting equipment within intimate relationships

Since the hepatitis C virus (HCV) was first isolated in 1989, considerable effort has been expended in developing health education materials and programs aimed at reducing transmission of HCV through the provision of information and encouragement of behavioural change. Health education is most effective when it targets defined segments of the population and when people identify with its messages. In this context, it is important to ask whether the understandings of the social contexts and relational dynamics of needle and syringe sharing are reflected in health education materials directed towards the prevention of HCV transmission. This project addresses this question by asking what the possibilities are for presenting equipment in a way that influences practice. As the design of fitpacks has changed little over the last two decades, is there a way to redesign the packaging of equipment to meet the needs of couples? This study involves preliminary work to support an NHMRC application.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Treloar
Collaborators: Monash University
Funding: The University of New South Wales, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Hepatitis C seroconversion: using qualitative research to enhance surveillance

This study was designed to improve existing surveillance and to contribute to the prevention of hepatitis C in NSW. This is achieved by improving mechanisms for identifying cases of newly diagnosed hepatitis C infection (seroconversions) and conducting a targeted qualitative study of seroconverters. In partnership with The Kirby Institute, NCHSR conducted the qualitative component of this project, which aimed to explore the circumstances around the acquisition of hepatitis C among people who inject drugs. This qualitative interview study involved interviews with people who had recently confirmed hepatitis C infection. The larger project included a component to inform the development of an HCV seroconversion surveillance mechanism. The interviews explored participants' experiences of both acquisition and diagnosis of hepatitis C. In relation to
exposure to the hepatitis C virus, participants were asked to reflect on what they considered had led to their exposure to the hepatitis C virus, including the micro practices (such as sharing of equipment) as well as social networks and physical environments.

**Status:** Completed  
**Personnel:** Treloar, Newland  
**Collaborators:** The Kirby Institute  
**Funding:** NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

### Injecting practice among heterosexual hepatitis C serodiscordant couples

Available epidemiological data show that the incidence of sharing needles and other equipment is variable among Australian injecting drug users (IDUs) but most commonly occurs between sexual partners, which accounts for about half of all needle sharing. These data reveal the significant contribution that sexual partnerships and the sharing of injecting equipment within those partnerships make to the high number of new HCV infections estimated to occur in Australia annually. Although surveillance data show that rates of equipment sharing are high among sexual partners, very little work in Australia and internationally has addressed the sexual relationship as a site of hepatitis C transmission or prevention. This emphasises the underutilisation of the social relationship as a unit of analysis of risk behaviour. This project, one of a number addressing couples as a site of hepatitis C risk and prevention strategies, aimed to explore patterns of drug use and sharing of injecting equipment in heterosexual serodiscordant couples, including the influence of social networks, relationship dynamics and socio-economic issues; and to explore awareness, negotiation and strategies around blood-borne virus prevention in sexual partnerships. NSP clients with experience of heterosexual, hepatitis C serodiscordant relationships were interviewed. The project was a pilot study for an NHMRC project grant application, and also resulted in a factsheet for NSP workers.

**Status:** Completed  
**Personnel:** Treloar, Brener, Bryant, Gray  
**Collaborators:** South Eastern Sydney Local Health District  
**Funding:** South Eastern Sydney Local Health District, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

### Speak up now! a study on unwanted sexual experiences and behaviours among young people in The Netherlands

Numerous epidemiological studies show that experiences of sexual coercion are highly prevalent among young people, including those in The Netherlands. These sexually coercive experiences are highly diverse and affect young women as well as young men, albeit to different extents. Coercive sexual experiences can have substantial negative impact on the well-being of those affected and it is critical to promote effective prevention and appropriate support. However, available research provides only limited guidance for the development and implementation of adequate prevention and support programs. Building on the wealth of prevalence studies, the aim of this study is to contribute comprehensive understanding of the diversity of coercive sexual experiences and behaviours of young people, from their perspectives. This study also assesses a wide range of individual and social risk and resilience factors. In addition to a cross-sectional assessment, this study is unique by including a prospective follow-up to assess incident-coercive sexual experiences and more confidently establish associations between experiences and risk and resilience factors.

**Status:** Ongoing  
**Personnel:** de Wit, Adam  
**Collaborators:** Social Psychology Unit (Utrecht University, The Netherlands), Rutgers WPF (The Netherlands)  
**Funding:** Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development
Young people’s positive sexual experiences

Sexual health is more than the absence of sexual coercion, unintended pregnancy, sexually transmissible infections and other sexual and reproductive health problems. Nevertheless, research into positive aspects of sexuality remains scarce and understanding of what young people consider positive sexual experiences is limited. Moreover, many potentially pleasurable sexual experiences, such as having sex with a casual partner, are typically seen as risky behaviours. In this study we draw on data previously collected in the ‘Speak up now!’ study of coercive sexual experiences and behaviours of young people in The Netherlands. Using secondary analyses, we assess risk and resilience factors related to sexual practices that are typically seen as ‘risky’, including having one-night-stands, engaging in threesomes and having sex over the internet. In particular, we assess whether young people who report these practices can be classified as vulnerable, as is often done, or as resilient and actively exploring their sexuality. In addition, we also draw on young people's narrative responses to explore what, and why, they consider their most positive sexual experiences.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: de Wit
Collaborators: Social Psychology Unit (Utrecht University, The Netherlands), Rutgers WPF (The Netherlands)
Funding: Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development

Strengthening prevention responses

Studies in this area are concerned with in-depth understanding of risk and prevention practices to inform innovative prevention interventions and strengthen the evidence base for current and future policies and programs. Studies also encompass developing and testing new intervention strategies and the evaluation of proven approaches.

Understanding and addressing individual and social barriers to STI testing among young people in New South Wales

A quantitative online study was conducted between May and October 2010 through the internet research platform www.gettingdowntoit.net. The survey assessed the situation and needs of young people in terms of STI testing and the prevalence and contribution of individual and social factors potentially influencing young people's STI testing. The survey recruited 1,658 eligible, sexually active young participants living in NSW of whom 1,100 provided complete data. Participants were on average aged 20.6 years (range 16–26). Results indicate that beyond STI-knowledge and awareness, key psychosocial determinants of STI testing in young people that need to be addressed by health promotion programs include perceived cons of testing, fears and worries regarding STI testing and subjective norms relating to STI testing. These findings underline that sexual health programs need to rely on more comprehensive appraisals of barriers to and facilitators of STI testing in young people.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Adam, de Wit
Collaborators: NSW STI Programs Unit
Funding: NSW STI Programs Unit, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Barriers to ever testing and to routinely testing for HIV and STIs among men who have sex with men in New South Wales

Only a fraction of gay men routinely test for HIV and STIs according to testing guidelines. New knowledge is needed to understand 1) barriers to testing in men who have never tested and 2) barriers to routinely test in men who have been tested but do not meet the requirements of routine testing guidelines. A quantitative online survey was conducted to assess patterns of testing for HIV and/
or STIs among gay men and to understand complex individual, social and structural barriers and facilitators to routine testing for HIV and/or STIs. The survey (www.howmuchdoyoucare.net) was conducted April–October 2011 and recruited 1274 gay participants (median age 27 years). Testing patterns were found to be associated with factors such as HIV/STI related knowledge, perceived pros and cons of testing, fears of testing and subjective norms of testing. Results will help to prioritise barriers and facilitators that need to be addressed by health promotion messages.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Adam, de Wit
Collaborators: HIV/AIDS & Related Programs Unit, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District; STI in Gay Men Action Group; ACON; Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations
Funding: HIV/AIDS & Related Programs Unit, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District; Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

A randomised trial to increase regular HIV/STI testing among men who have sex with men in Australia

This randomised trial in primary care clinics with a high case load of MSM aims to determine whether enhanced clinical systems can increase the frequency of testing for HIV/STIs in this population. It more specifically aims to develop an intervention, using electronic alerts, SMS reminders and practice nurses, to increase 3–6 monthly HIV/STI testing in gay men and monitor HIV/STI rates. Research tools have been developed, clinic recruitment is ongoing and promotional materials are in production.

Status: Started in 2011
Personnel: de Wit
Collaborators: The Kirby Institute, NSW STI Programs Unit
Funding: UNSW Gold Star Award, NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Rapid HIV testing in Sydney sexual health clinics

A study of rapid HIV testing (RHT) in sexual health clinics in Sydney is underway, designed to assess the acceptability of RHT to gay and bisexual men and to clinicians, and to identify issues in the implementation of RHT. The study is led by Dr Damian Conway at The Kirby Institute. In 2011, staff were trained in RHT and the recruitment of participants commenced in four sexual health clinics. Recruitment is expected to continue until May 2012.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Holt
Collaborators: The Kirby Institute, Albion Street Centre, Parramatta Sexual Health Clinic, Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney Sexual Health Centre
Funding: In-kind support from project partners, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Understanding the contribution of online dating to sexual risk-taking among men who have sex with men

A prospective online cohort study is being conducted to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the dynamics of online chatting and its behavioural consequences in terms of in real life sexual risk taking among men who have sex with men in NSW. More specifically the study explores how fantasizing online about unprotected sex can lead to actual sexual risk taking among individuals who had no prior intention of risk taking. The study is conducted through the Internet-based research platform www.cybersexproject.net. The survey consists of an initial online questionnaire and one short follow-up questionnaire that is sent out three months after completion of the initial questionnaire. More than a thousand MSM from NSW are participating in the study. Results will be used to develop recommendations for novel HIV prevention messages targeting men who find their sex partners online.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Adam, de Wit, Murphy
Collaborators: ACON, Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Positive Life NSW
Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
The PrEPARE study: perceptions of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) among gay and bisexual men

The PrEPARE study explores the attitudes of gay and bisexual men to a new HIV prevention technology, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). PrEP involves prescribing antiretroviral drugs to HIV-negative people to reduce the chance of HIV infection. Using a national online survey and in-depth interviews, this study seeks to understand which Australian gay and bisexual men are interested in PrEP, concerns about its use, and the potential effects of PrEP on safe sex cultures. In 2011, an online survey was completed, recruiting over 1500 men. A small number of follow-up interviews were conducted in Sydney. Results have been disseminated at Australian and international conferences and will be published in peer-reviewed journals in 2012.

Status: Started in 2011
Personnel: Holt, Ellard, Murphy, Persson, de Wit
Collaborators: Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Social Policy Research Centre (UNSW), Goldsmiths College (London, UK)
Funding: UNSW Gold Star Award, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Heptagon Study: exploring seven aspects of knowledge and attitudes towards HCV among gay men.

This study explores gay and bisexual men’s knowledge and perceptions of hepatitis C virus (HCV). In Australia, HCV is most commonly transmitted through injecting drug use. Recent Australian and international research however indicates increasing rates of sexual transmission of HCV among gay men and particularly among HIV-positive men. HCV infection is a significant health issue, particularly among individuals with HIV infection. Co-infection with both HIV and HCV has been associated with more rapid HIV disease progression. There is currently limited research exploring gay and bisexual men’s knowledge and attitudes toward HCV. The study consists of an online survey to ascertain gay and bisexual men’s knowledge and attitudes related to hepatitis C and in particular awareness of the potential for hepatitis C to be acquired through sexual transmission. The study findings will generate timely, strategic research about understandings of hepatitis C among gay and bisexual men which will inform future education and prevention programs.

Status: Started in 2011
Personnel: Ellard, Brener, Murphy, Callander
Collaborators: Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations
Funding: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Staying safe: How do long-term injecting drug users avoid hepatitis C infection?

Although the prevalence of hepatitis C virus (HCV) is high among people who inject drugs (PWID), some long-term injectors manage to avoid HCV infection. This project uses a life history approach to understand how some PWID have "stayed safe" despite having injected for many years in localities where most PWID have acquired HCV. Whereas traditionally the focus has been on people who have acquired infection, this project focuses on those who remain unexposed to HCV over the long-term. Two interviews were conducted with each participant. After the first interview, timeline software was used to create a detailed visual representation of the subject’s life history. We compared visual representations of different topics with the aim of revealing interrelationships between life events, risk avoidance patterns, network support, drug use patterns and other issues. Hypotheses generated about prevention will be explored in future research in order to inform prevention strategies. This project also brings together investigators using similar methods in a number of sites including New York and London.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Treloar, Rance
Collaborators: The Kirby Institute, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Funding: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (UNSW), Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
Technical review of hepatitis C health promotion resources

This study reviewed a catalogue of hepatitis C health promotion materials to examine the range of messages included, identify gaps, and cross-reference these with recommendations from the social research literature. As part of an ARC-funded project, a large collection of over 200 hepatitis C health promotion materials was collected, catalogued and housed at Monash University. This technical review of hepatitis C health promotion messages aimed to establish what resources and messages had been produced, to catalogue the type of message and delivery format, and to examine any evaluation conducted of resources or messages. The review drew on those evaluation findings to identify successful resources and messages to be replicated or built on, to document gaps in the existing range, and to make recommendations for messages and targeting of these for particular priority groups.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Treloar
Collaborators: Monash University
Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

The real deal in hepatitis C prevention: automatic influences on injecting behaviour

Blood awareness messages have been used for some years in hepatitis C prevention efforts but hepatitis C prevention education has achieved only limited success. Innovative means of reaching people who inject drugs (PWID) are required. The innovative methodology of phase 1 of this study involved video footage taken of clients at the Medically Supervised Injecting Centre and subsequent interviews with participants. Phase 1 produced findings and resources to be used to develop education and blood-borne virus (BBV) prevention messages for PWID. The second phase aimed to develop effective hepatitis C prevention messages as well as provide data for the development of a peer education model for BBV prevention among PWID. This second phase involved PWID developing, trialling and providing feedback on peer education messages and strategies and was conducted at three sites and involved participants in a series of three focus group discussions.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Treloar, Rance
Collaborators: NSW Users & AIDS Association
Funding: NSW Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Effectiveness of risk communication and implementation intentions as strategies to promote hepatitis B vaccination in homosexual men

Hepatitis B is one of the most common infectious diseases, and in industrial countries in particular affects gay and other men who have sex with men (MSM). A safe and effective vaccine has been available since the early 1980s and vaccination is offered free of charge to MSM and others at high risk in many countries, including The Netherlands. However, although intentions to obtain vaccination are typically high among MSM in The Netherlands, the actual uptake of vaccination has remained relatively low, and about 40% of MSM in The Netherlands remain unvaccinated against hepatitis B. This low vaccination uptake underscores the importance of effective health promotion programs that stimulate HBV vaccination behaviour among MSM. The present study tests the efficacy of novel communication and self-regulation strategies to promote motivation to obtain vaccination and stimulate the translation of good intentions into action.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: de Wit
Collaborators: Social Psychology Unit (Utrecht University, The Netherlands), Department of Communication Science (VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands), Association of Community Health Services in The Netherlands
Funding: Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development
Is automaticity indeed everywhere? a second generation study of the moderation of impulsive influences on evaluation and behaviour

While a number of processes can explain why individuals fail to consistently act upon their motivation, an important threat to successful goal pursuit arises from action tendencies in the service of conflicting goals that may be less important but have a stronger immediate appeal. The primary concern of this study is with the conditions under which such impulsive processes do or do not affect reflective goal-striving in the domain of health behaviour, in particular with respect to risky sexual decisions. A set of experimental studies is conducted challenging the widely shared but largely unsubstantiated theoretical notion that most human experience and behaviour reflects automatic processes. The project’s main hypothesis holds that, rather than being ubiquitous and pervasive, automatic influences on evaluation and behaviour occur in the absence of strong competing, deliberative goals. The study’s main, novel hypothesis is that individuals’ reasoned goals also influence their decisions and actions in less deliberative cognitive states.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: de Wit
Collaborators: Social Psychology Unit (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)
Funding: Linschoten Institute of Psychology (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)

Prevention of overweight in the workplace: the role of self-regulation in screening and intervention

Overweight is a significant health problem in contemporary societies, including in the workplace. Employees who are overweight are more often ill and absent from work than non-overweight employees, and overweight has also been shown to negatively affect job performance. The resulting economic costs of overweight are estimated at around 2 billion dollars per annum for The Netherlands alone, illustrating the benefits for employers of investing in overweight prevention in the workplace. To date, however, experience with overweight prevention in the workplace is limited in The Netherlands. This study hence evaluates an innovative approach to overweight prevention in the workplace, combining changes in the menu of company restaurants with a behavioural intervention to support employees’ effective self-regulation of their eating behaviour.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: de Wit
Collaborators: Clinical and Health Psychology Unit (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)
Funding: Stichting Instituut GAK, The Netherlands

Temptations to eat moderated by personal and environmental self-regulation tools (TEMPEST)

The prevalence of overweight amongst European children and adolescents has risen at an alarming rate in the past decades, with major repercussions for their health in the short and long term. Existing prevention programmes to combat the epidemic either highlight a public health approach, such as taxing of foods, or an individual-educational approach to encourage young people to adopt a healthy lifestyle. To date, both approaches have however met with limited success and the aim of the TEMPEST project is to investigate how these approaches may complement each other in order to develop more effective preventive interventions. In particular, this project, conducted simultaneously in nine European countries, investigates the critical role of young people’s self-regulatory competence in effectively dealing with the contemporary obesogenic environment.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: de Wit
Collaborators: Clinical and Health Psychology Unit (Utrecht University, The Netherlands), Funding: Seventh Framework Program, European Commission
Negotiating the medical field

Studies in this priority area explore experiences of health, illness, biomedicine and clinical practice from the perspectives of affected populations as well as healthcare professionals. They include surveys, evaluations and in-depth studies of the complex meanings and practices of health and medicine.

The Straightpoz study: men and women living heterosexually with HIV

The Straightpoz study, a qualitative longitudinal cohort study of heterosexual men and women living with HIV including seronegative partners in NSW, explored the needs and experiences of living with HIV in this group. With a total of 48 study participants, three phases of data collection occurred between 2004 and 2009 covering a range of issues including diagnosis, identity, stigma, disclosure, health, treatments, social connectedness, contact with services, health professionals and other positive people, relationships, sexual practice, sexual health and understandings of sexual risk and transmission. The findings established an important basis for the development of appropriate service provision for this under-researched and hidden population and contributed significantly to understanding the intersections of sexuality, gender and illness.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Persson
Collaborators: Heterosexual HIV/AIDS Service NSW (Pozhet)
Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

The impact of alcohol and drug use on the diagnosis and management of depression in gay men: a sub-study of the Primary Health Care Project on HIV and Depression

A three-year study funded by NHMRC, the Primary Health Care Project on HIV and Depression, was completed in 2009. With funding from beyondblue—the national depression initiative, further research was conducted to more closely explore the issues associated with alcohol and drug use in data collected on depression in gay men. Men who used three or more types of drugs in the previous six months were three times more likely to have major depression than other men; however, this was the only drug-use variable independently associated with major depression. Both doctors and their patients felt there was a complex relationship between drug use and depression. However, while doctors were most concerned with the health effects of drug use, patients talked about the beneficial uses that drugs played in their lives. There was good agreement between doctors’ assessments of major depression and patients’ scores on a screening tool for depression; agreement was less likely when men reported frequent use of crystal methamphetamine.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Newman, Bryant, Holt, Paquette, Gray
Collaborators: Flinders University, University of Technology Sydney, National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Social Policy Research Centre (UNSW), Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, ACON
Funding: beyondblue—the national depression initiative, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Explicit and implicit attitudes of mental health care workers towards people with mental illness: are they congruent and do they affect consumer perceptions and outcomes?

The study collected information on the explicit and implicit attitudes of staff of a non-government mental health service providing psychosocial support to people
with mental health difficulties. Information was collected simultaneously on clients’ perceptions of the staff of the service. The aim of collecting information from both staff and clients was to assess the effect of both explicit and implicit attitudes of staff toward the mentally ill on client perceptions and outcomes. This will inform policy on creating supportive and enabling environments and promoting the health and human rights of priority population groups. Data collection has been completed and data analysis and reporting is ongoing.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Brener
Collaborators: Aftercare, School of Psychology (University of Queensland)
Funding: Aftercare

Adjunct to ETHOS: brief questionnaire regarding hepatitis C through various opiate substitution treatment settings

The larger ETHOS project allowed for a number of sub-studies to explore factors facilitating or acting as barriers to the consideration and uptake of hepatitis C care and treatment. This study sought to assess knowledge of hepatitis C and attitudes to treatment and to the provision of peer support during treatment. In 2009, a pilot study was conducted at the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre to trial a knowledge survey using handheld personal data assistants (PDA) which found significant gaps in knowledge of hepatitis C. This study subsequently sought to expand on the pilot study by including questions regarding willingness to consider or take up treatment, and to expand the sample to a number of pharmacotherapy sites. Clients of these services completed a survey on a laptop or PDA which provided feedback to participants regarding their responses to knowledge items.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Treloar, Hull
Collaborators: The Kirby Institute
Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council, NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Evaluation of a hepatitis C community clinic, Canterbury District Health Board

The aim of this evaluation was to determine the nature of the clinic client group, pathways to the clinic, including analysis of barriers and facilitators to access, shared-care arrangements and finally to determine the impacts of the project in participation in HCV or other treatment programs and success of these HCV treatment programs.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Brener, Treloar
Collaborators: The Rodger Wright Centre (Christchurch, New Zealand), Christchurch Community Hepatitis C Clinic (New Zealand)
Funding: Canterbury District Health Board, New Zealand

MHAHS Egyptian community viral hepatitis project

Egypt reports the highest prevalence of hepatitis C virus (HCV) infections worldwide, ranging from 6% to more than 40% in some regions. HCV is predominantly associated with injecting drug users in the developed world, but in developing countries inadequately sterilised medical equipment has been associated with HCV transmission. People of Egyptian origin are at high risk of both having and transmitting hepatitis C. This research assessed the knowledge of and attitudes toward hepatitis C among a sample of Egyptian-born Australians.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Horwitz, Brener, Treloar
Collaborators: NSW Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service
Funding: NSW Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
NUAA PeerLink evaluation

This project evaluated a pilot program of peer distribution to be administered by NSW Health and the NSW Users & AIDS Association. The program is the first of its kind in Australia and involves recruiting people who inject drugs (PWID) to distribute sterile needles and syringes to peers who inject with the aim of increasing distribution of sterile equipment to the general population of PWID, but also to those who are considered ‘hard to reach’ such as younger injectors and Aboriginal people. The study made use of quantitative and qualitative methods to survey and interview volunteer distributors and their recipients, and other key stakeholders.

Status: Started in 2011
Personnel: Treloar, Newland
Collaborators: None
Funding: NSW Users & AIDS Association, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Treatment Service Users’ Project, Phase 2

The benefits of consumer participation in the health system are widely acknowledged and encouraged by commonwealth and state/territory governments. While consumer participation models have been developed and implemented across the Australian health system, the drug treatment sector has lagged behind; there are currently no agreed definitions and models of consumer participation in the drug treatment field. While general models offer features useful for the drug treatment context it is necessary to develop principles and guidelines specifically for drug treatment providers and service users. The Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League and NCHSR successfully completed research on consumer participation in 2007: the Treatment Service Users’ Phase 1 (TSU1). Key findings of TSU1 highlighted that few examples of consumer participation policies in the drug treatment area exist in Australia. This second project subsequently evaluated demonstration projects in five drug treatment services in three Australian states. Qualitative interviews were conducted with consumers and staff in each service at two points in time (baseline and after implementation of the demonstration projects). The demonstration projects were aimed at implementing consumer participation projects in these services.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Treloar, Rance
Collaborators: Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League
Funding: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Evaluation of consumer participation projects in NSW

This project, involving the evaluation of consumer participation projects in three drug treatment services in NSW, will draw heavily on the results of the Treatment Service Users’ Project (Phase 2) project to implement and evaluate second generation consumer participation projects in drug treatment services in NSW. The NSW Users & AIDS Association will be responsible for the implementation and support of the consumer participation projects. NCHSR will conduct a qualitative evaluation of the projects in three sites.

Status: Started in 2011
Personnel: Treloar
Collaborators: NSW Users & AIDS Association
Funding: NSW Users & AIDS Association, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Characterising behaviours associated with hepatitis C transmission and protection, and the impact of prevention measures on incident infection amongst prisoners: risk of hepatitis C in prison

This is a sub-study within a project funded by an NHMRC Partnership Grant, led by the Inflammation and Infection Research Centre at The University of New South Wales. The larger project follows a cohort of NSW prisoners who have reported a lifetime history of injecting drug use. This sub-study will sample a group
of prisoners who in follow-up behavioural surveys report having had recent exposure to blood (such as via injecting drug use, tattooing or fighting). In-depth interviews with selected prisoners will examine their perceptions of risk and the strategies they use to avoid or contain risk in the enclosed environment of prison.

Status: Started in 2011
Personnel: Treloar
Collaborators: Inflammation and Infection Research Centre (UNSW), Justice Health, Corrective Services NSW
Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Prevention and treatment of viral hepatitis among prisoners

Hepatitis B and C infection rates remain very high in some Australian populations, notably prisoners. As this group cycles frequently back to the general community, prevention of transmission is critical. Antiviral treatment uptake remains very low in Australia, yet the prison environment offers a unique opportunity to address this. The specific aims of the project are to assess the effectiveness of existing strategies for the prevention of BBV transmission in NSW prisons, inform the development of new strategies for the prevention of BBV transmission in NSW prisons, expand and evaluate the nurse-led model of hepatitis treatment in NSW prisons, and evaluate the cost-effectiveness of prevention and treatment programs in NSW prisons.

Status: Started in 2011
Personnel: Treloar
Collaborators: Inflammation and Infection Research Centre (UNSW), Justice Health, Corrective Service NSW
Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Aboriginal Patterns of Cancer Care

The aims of the Aboriginal Patterns of Cancer Care (APOCC) study are to assess whether or not Aboriginal people are being diagnosed with cancer at later stages than non-Aboriginal people and, if so, to describe both the barriers to early diagnosis and access to cancer care experienced by Aboriginal people and the care that Aboriginal people with cancer are currently receiving. In addition, the study will compare the level and type of care received by Aboriginal people with that received by non-Aboriginal people.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Treloar, Gray, Newman, Brener
Collaborators: Cancer Council NSW, The University of Sydney
Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council

Critical analysis of health service provision

The studies in this priority area examine the policies and delivery of health services as well as the evolving needs of the healthcare workforce, and evaluate innovative models of health care provision. Studies make use of qualitative, quantitative and economic methods and data.

Investigating the capacity of the general practitioner workforce to meet ongoing HIV primary care needs in Australia

The number of people living with HIV in Australia is increasing and ageing, requiring an expert primary care workforce to provide clinical care into the future. The numbers of GPs training as s100 prescribers may however be insufficient to replace those leaving to retire, reduce hours or change jobs. This study provides
critical and timely evidence for why and how GPs pursue or continue careers in HIV in different caseload and geographical settings across Australia and will produce new knowledge on the role of GPs in maintaining and enhancing the health of people living with HIV. Data collection includes 24 in-depth interviews conducted around Australia with key informants who hold senior roles in government, non-government and professional organisations that shape HIV care policy, and 47 interviews with clinicians, including both current and ex-s100 prescriber GPs working in different geographical and caseload settings, as well as GP trainees and other members of the general practice workforce with an interest in HIV.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: de Wit, Newman, Ellard
Collaborators: Flinders University, Macquarie University, National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, general practitioners in private practice
Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Evaluation of the GP initiation of hepatitis C treatment pilot

To increase access to hepatitis C treatments, ASHM has developed a program of training and support for general practitioners (GPs) who want to initiate and manage hepatitis C treatment within private practice. NCHSR is conducting a study to examine the experiences of clients who decide for and those who decide against having hepatitis C treatment via their GP, as well as the experiences of GPs and nurses who initiate and manage hepatitis C treatment through private practice. Recruitment and data collection for this study was ongoing in 2011, and data analysis was initiated. Preliminary findings suggest that clients who decided to be treated by a GP have reported positive experiences. Notably, clients say that appointments are easy to make with their GP, they appreciate the convenience of attending their local doctor's surgery, and report it is easier and quicker to establish rapport and trust with a GP in comparison to specialist physicians and allied healthcare professionals at large liver clinics with whom they have had no prior relationship.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Hopwood, Treloar
Collaborators: ASHM
Funding: Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Evaluation of a model for assessment and treatment of hepatitis C virus among injecting drug users in the opiate pharmacotherapy setting (ETHOS)

The need to increase the number of people undertaking hepatitis C treatment has led to an expansion of treatment access points, including the opiate pharmacotherapy clinic. This study examines clients’ and clinicians’ experiences and attitudes to the delivery of hepatitis C treatment in this setting. The component conducted by NCHSR aims to evaluate patient and provider attitudes and barriers towards the provision of services for assessment and treatment of HCV infection in the opiate substitution treatment setting, and evaluate peer-based support as a strategy for enhancing knowledge and uptake of treatment for HCV infection in the opiate pharmacotherapy setting. Interviews will be conducted with clients and staff of selected ETHOS sites (opiate pharmacotherapy clinics incorporating hepatitis C treatment access) and peer workers in sites where peer support programs are in operation. Four sites will be included in this qualitative evaluation.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Treloar, Rance
Collaborators: The Kirby Institute
Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council, NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
Evaluation of NSP service models in Western Sydney

There is strong evidence of the cost-effectiveness of Australian Needle and Syringe Program (NSP). However, there are various ways in which to deliver sterile injecting equipment and the available evidence does not provide guidance to NSP managers regarding which types of services best meet the needs of clients. This study describes the costs of NSP service provision and patterns of client access to services in one area of NSW, with a view to developing a model of service mix based on cost, client access and preference. The match between service provision and client preference (or need) will be examined using principles of market segmentation drawn from the social marketing literature.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Treloar, Mao, Hull
Collaborators: Western Sydney Local health District
Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

A qualitative evaluation of the NSW program to increase capacity in the delivery of hepatitis C care and treatment for Aboriginal people

NSW Health has invested in a program of work to develop the capacity of Aboriginal Medical Services (AMS) and mainstream health services to support the care and treatment of Aboriginal people living with hepatitis C. This study aims to provide qualitative information to be used in the development and implementation of cultural competency training for hepatitis C treatment providers to build their capacity to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and by AMS to support the care and treatment of Aboriginal people living with hepatitis C.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Treloar, Brener
Collaborators: Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW, NSW Ministry of Health
Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

A quantitative evaluation of the NSW program to increase capacity in the delivery of hepatitis C care and treatment for Aboriginal people

In conjunction with a qualitative evaluation (see above), this study entails a quantitative evaluation among people living with hepatitis C regarding decisions about treatment and experiences of treatment for hepatitis C. This study specifically aims to provide quantitative information to be used in the development and implementation of cultural competency training for hepatitis C treatment providers to build their capacity to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and by AMS to support the care and treatment of Aboriginal people living with hepatitis C.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Treloar, Brener
Collaborators: Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW, NSW Ministry of Health
Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
An evaluation of NUAA’s NSP services

An evaluation of NUAA’s NSP services

The aim of this study is to provide information to be used in the operation of Needle and Syringe Program (NSP) services in Sydney. More specifically, this study evaluates the fixed-site NSP operating at NUAA, the vending machine in Crown Street (Surry Hills) and the NSP service operating out of Cabramatta.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Brener, Bryant, Cama, Wilson
Collaborators: NSW Users and AIDS Association
Funding: NSW Users and AIDS Association, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
Exploring cultural, social and political dynamics

Studies in this priority area focus on the diverse contexts in which health and risk are enacted. They explore the ways in which cultural difference, gender and sexuality, stigma and discrimination, and political and economic dynamics shape sexual practices, illicit drug use and experiences of living with sexually transmissible and blood-borne viruses.

HIV-positive people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds: negotiating the intersections of migration, culture, gender and sexuality

For HIV-positive people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds the experience of living with HIV, including access to health and social services, is inextricably linked to migration, gender and sexuality. Using a purposeful sample of HIV-positive women, gay and heterosexual men from CALD backgrounds and in-depth qualitative interviews, this study explored how these aspects interact with each other in shaping the lives of these men and women. In identifying how these contingencies are interwoven, the study provided insights into the specific social needs of HIV-positive people from CALD backgrounds.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Körner
Collaborators: NSW Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service
Funding: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (UNSW), Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Thai gay men and HIV risk in Sydney

This study explores how Thai gay men in Sydney perceive and experience HIV risk, and how they manage this risk in their lives as men who are an ethnic minority within the predominantly Anglo-Australian gay community. More specifically, this project explores how Thai gay men in Sydney engage with the gay communities in Sydney and in Thailand, their perceptions and attitudes towards HIV risk, the ways in which they prioritise risk in relation to other aspects of their lives as members of an ethnic community, and the ways in which they negotiate and manage risk in sexual encounters with other men.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: Körner
Collaborators: The Kirby Institute
Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Barometer survey of HIV-related stigma and discrimination

According to both anecdotal evidence and findings from international research, stigma and discrimination remain major ongoing challenges for individuals living with HIV. Research on HIV-related stigma and discrimination in Australia is however limited and the aims of this study were to assess and understand HIV-related stigma and discrimination experienced by HIV-positive people in Australia, as well as to assess the attitudes of HIV-negative and untested people towards people living with HIV. This study in particular aimed to inform programs to challenge and to reduce HIV related stigma and discrimination.

Status: Completed
Personnel: de Wit, Murphy, Adam
Collaborators: Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations
Funding: In-kind support from project partner, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
HIV and HCV discrimination in particular in healthcare settings

This study consisted of a review of the Australian and international peer reviewed and grey literatures on stigma and discrimination in relation to hepatitis C and HIV, with a specific focus on patient experiences in the health care sector. Based on the literature review and stakeholder interviews, this study has developed recommendations for intervention to attempt to break the cycle of experiences of HIV/hepatitis C related stigma and discrimination within the health care sector.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Brener, de Wit, Ellard, Horwitz, Callander
Collaborators: Australasian Society for HIV Medicine
Funding: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

How effective are positive speakers in changing attitudes: views of speakers and audience members

This study explored whether an affected speaker-based program has the potential to change attitudes towards people with hepatitis C. This program provides an opportunity for people living with hepatitis C to speak with community groups and health service providers about their lives and experiences. By conducting interviews with audience members and speakers, this study hopes to gain a better understanding of the effectiveness of positive speakers in reducing stigma and discrimination towards hepatitis C.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Brener, Wilson, de Wit
Collaborators: Hepatitis NSW
Funding: Hepatitis NSW, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

NAPWA Stigma Audit: online survey of PLHIV

This study assesses HIV-related stigma and discrimination among PLHIV in Australia, using standardised, proven instruments to measure HIV stigma, self-esteem, resilience, depression, anxiety and stress. This national survey is part of a larger project carried out by the national Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS (NAPWA) that also includes in-depth interviews and a ‘research into practice component’. The overall aims of this project are to provide data from PLHIV to inform programs designed to challenge and reduce HIV related stigma and discrimination and work to strengthen programs to build resilience and coping strategies for PLHIV.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: de Wit, Brener, Adam, Callander
Collaborators: National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS
Funding: National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Under construction: the social and cultural politics of hepatitis C in Australia

The identification of hepatitis C was relatively recent and social, clinical and other knowledge continues to evolve. This project aimed to investigate the ways in which hepatitis C is constituted as a disease medically, socially and culturally in Australia in order to develop insights into how it might be confronted both medically and socially without further stigmatising those affected by it. It involved interviews with people living with hepatitis C and analysis of a number of texts such as self-help monographs and reviews in medical journals.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Treloar
Collaborators: Monash University, Curtin University of Technology
Funding: Australian Research Council, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
Research transfer and capacity building

These activities are concerned with making research findings available to stakeholders and strengthening research partnerships. Activities also include building research capacity and providing learning opportunities.

Annual Report of Trends in Behaviour (ARTB)

Behavioural monitoring is a key component of effective surveillance of risk for blood-borne virus. The Annual Report of Trends in Behaviour (ARTB) collates and discusses behavioural data on HIV, viral hepatitis and related diseases to effectively inform policy and community responses. The ARTB is a key resource to inform the Australian BBV response and aims to support the work of researchers, community organisations and policy makers.

Effective dates: Ongoing
Personnel: NCHSR researchers
Collaborators: NCHSR research partners
Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Data analysis/review

This activity is designed to generate and disseminate knowledge from ongoing HIV/STI research to affected communities, community-based organisations, health service providers and policy makers in NSW. The work includes ongoing and on-demand data analyses, and, in collaboration with the Kirby Institute, the organisation of an annual community forum to discuss recent surveillance findings. This activity also provides support for service providers regarding the evaluation of their activities.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: NCHSR researchers
Collaborators: The Kirby Institute, NCHSR community and public sector research partners in NSW
Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Social research conference on HIV, hepatitis and related diseases

The HHARD conference is integral to Australia’s efforts in understanding the social and behavioural dynamics of epidemics of sexually transmissible infections and blood borne viruses. The biennial conference invites researchers, health professionals, policy makers and community members from across a variety of fields to engage with research and practice from a multi-disciplinary perspective.

Status: Ongoing
Personnel: NCHSR staff
Collaborators: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (UNSW)
Funding: Conference sponsors, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

NCHSR Scientific Advisory Committee

The role of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) is to provide guidance to NCHSR in matters of strategy and policy, including the strategic and work plans. This committee brings together representatives of government, non-government and community organisations, as well as senior investigators from across Australia. SAC is a key platform to discuss the NCHSR research agenda.

Status: ongoing
Personnel: de Wit, Treloar, Fairclough, NCHSR researchers
Collaborators: Represented NCHSR research partners
Funding: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
Making a difference: multidisciplinary research to develop effective health intervention in urban and regional Aboriginal communities

This study was designed to contribute to capacity building activities in Aboriginal health. More specifically, this study aimed to contribute to skill building among Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers to develop and evaluate intervention programs to improve Aboriginal health. The study also contributed to the awarding of two Aboriginal health project grants by NSW Health and the development of an NHMRC Project Grant application.

Status: Completed
Personnel: Treloar, Brener
Collaborators: The Sax Institute, The University of Sydney
Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Capacity building on HIV and the law for Chinese leaders in public health, HIV and the law

This Australian Leadership Awards Fellowship (ALAF) program aimed to promote understanding of the importance of enabling social contexts for effective HIV prevention and enhance the capacity of combating HIV/AIDS in China. Chinese leaders in public health, HIV and the law engaged in three weeks of intensive discussions at the University of New South Wales about HIV law and policy. The fellows also participated in a number of site visits, exposing them directly to programs and services that are key parts of the Australian responses to the HIV epidemic. This program has also pioneered for NCHSR the way to bring a delegation of Chinese leaders in the HIV response to Australia to exchange information and discuss future partnerships.

Status: Completed
Personnel: de Wit, Mao, Meng
Collaborators: Comprehensive AIDS Research Centre, Tsinghua University (Beijing, China)
Funding: AusAID

Promoting enabling social environments for HIV prevention: fostering capacity among leaders of Centres for Disease Control in China

This ALAF program aimed to strengthen China’s capacity to combat HIV/AIDS, in particular through promoting a supportive social environment and to build capacity in addressing social issues related to HIV prevention, treatment and care. This program for public health experts specifically promoted the incorporation of a human rights perceptive into China’s HIV response and provided evidence-based examples of highly effective community involvement in combating the HIV epidemic. The program, which also included site visits to provide first-hand experience with programs, services and organisations, strengthened fellows’ awareness of the social aspects of the HIV epidemic, built their capacity to identify and respond to HIV-related social issues, and provided networking opportunities for the Chinese fellows and Australian counterparts.

Status: Completed
Personnel: de Wit, Mao, Meng
Collaborators: Comprehensive AIDS Research Centre, Tsinghua University (Beijing, China)
Funding: AusAID
The National Centre in HIV Social Research offers a postgraduate program in Health, Sexuality and Culture. The program is guided by a social science paradigm that understands persons and communities as social beings. It is designed to provide the empirical skills necessary to participate in the global fields of sex and drug research, and to equip students with an understanding of critical debates in social theories of sex, drugs and the politics of health and medicine. It is this mix of practical empirical skills and critical inquiry that makes the Health, Sexuality and Culture program unique.
Health, sexuality and culture program

The Health, Sexuality and Culture Program offers PhD and Masters by Research degrees as well as Graduate Diplomas.

Our program has links with other programs in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, as well as with the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, The Kirby Institute, and the College of Fine Arts, all at the University of New South Wales.

In 2011 two students were awarded a PhD:

Dana Paquette
The role of respondent-driven sampling in the behavioural surveillance of people who inject drugs

This study examined the feasibility of conducting a respondent-driven sampling (RDS) survey in south east Sydney, described who gets captured by an RDS survey, and determined whether the information on social networks gathered in such a survey could contribute to the understanding of blood-borne-virus-associated risk behaviour in this population.

Supervisors: Professor John de Wit (NCHSR) and Dr Joanne Bryant (NCHSR)

Jinmei Meng
HIV, sex work and China’s human rights

This research study explored the decriminalisation of sex work in China in the context of human rights protection and HIV prevention focussing in particular on the impact of China’s anti-prostitution law on human rights and HIV prevention.

Supervisors: Dr Henrike Körner (NCHSR) and Professor Daniel Tarantola (The UNSW Initiative for Health and Human Rights)

In 2011 one student was awarded a Graduate Diploma:

Maureen Steele
Drugs and love: the role of women who inject drugs within heterosexual relationships

The thesis examined women’s role in heterosexual relationships where both partners inject drugs.

Supervisors: Dr Max Hopwood (NCHSR) and Dr kylie valentine (SPRC)

In 2011 a number of NCHSR staff supervised postgraduate students enrolled in other programs at UNSW and other universities:

Long-term clients who access commercial sexual services in Australia
Hilary Caldwell (Master of Applied Science, Faculty of Health Sciences, The University of Sydney)
Supervisors: Dr Zakia Hossain (The University of Sydney) and Professor John de Wit (NCHSR)

Exploring meanings of HIV and ‘safe sex’ within a sample of Australian gay men recently diagnosed with HIV
Ian Down (PhD, The Kirby Institute, UNSW)
Supervisors: A/Professor Garrett Prestage (The Kirby Institute) and Dr Jeanne Ellard (NCHSR)

The role of HIV service organisations in supporting migrants’ access to HIV care in Sydney
Sangnim Lee (Master of Public Health, School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW)
Supervisors: A/Professor Heather Worth (SPHCM) and Dr Henrike Körner (NCHSR)
Novel approaches to HIV testing for men who have sex with men
Damian Conway (PhD, The Kirby Institute, UNSW)
Supervisors: Dr Rebecca Guy (The Kirby Institute) and Dr Martin Holt (NCHSR)

Social identities as facilitators of healthy behaviour
Kasia Banas (PhD, Centre for Population Health Sciences, The University of Edinburgh)
Supervisors: Dr John Forbes (The University of Edinburgh), Professor Marie Johnston (University of Aberdeen), and Professor John de Wit (NCHSR)

Postgraduate student projects

Exploring online sexual racism and its relationship to the sexual practices of men who have sex with men
Denton Callander (Masters)
This explores the phenomenon of sexual racism online and its relationship to the sexual practices of men who have sex with men (MSM). Sexual racism is the application of preconceived ideas about an individual or group of people based on their ethnicity in the romantic and sexual arenas of one’s life. Past research has identified this as being more prevalent online and among MSM. Additionally, it has been suggested that experiences of racial discrimination faced by men have an effect on their safer sexual practices. Through a mixed-methodological approach this research hopes to better understand, explore, and describe online sexual racism, its effects, and make recommendations to Internet-use policy.
Supervisors: Dr Christy Newman (NCHSR) and Dr Martin Holt (NCHSR)

‘ACON(ic) Images’
Trevor Dougherty (Masters)
This research is investigating how image has been used in the ACON HIV-prevention campaigns. In particular it will ask what influence does post-colonial culture have on imagery utilised in HIV prevention campaigns targeted at gay men? What is the symbolism and meaning of this imagery? Have these images challenged, redefined or reinforced the iconic images and mythology of postcolonial Australia? By asking these questions, the thesis will contribute to knowledge about both the changing place of gay men and women within broader Australian society, and the place of multiculturalism in the changing visual representations of gay community since the beginning of the HIV epidemic.
Supervisors: Dr Christy Newman (NCHSR) and Dr Leong Chan (College of Fine Arts)

An investigation of information needs and information-seeking practices of people with hepatitis C
Maude Frances (PhD)
This mixed methods study aims to understand how people with hepatitis C use the internet to access and share health-related information. Drawing on theories and methods from sociology and information studies, findings from the study are intended to inform provision of online information services for this group.
Supervisors: Professor Carla Treloar (NCHSR) and Dr Joanne Bryant (NCHSR)
The dynamics of shame: implications for counsellors who work in alcohol and other drug settings

**Rebecca Gray (PhD)**

This project aims to explore the relationship between counsellor and client, and how this therapeutic dynamic is affected by shame and stigma. The research will draw from textual and interview data to examine how problematic drug use, the identity of the ‘addict’, treatment models, and treatment setting impact on counselling.

Supervisors: Dr Kylie Valentine (SPRC) and Dr Christy Newman (NCHSR)

Sexuality and nightlife in Sydney: the experiences of same-sex attracted young people

**Toby Lea (PhD)**

This project explores the relationships between sexuality, the commercial gay/lesbian/queer scene of bars and clubs, and alcohol and other drug use among same-sex attracted young people in Sydney. The study utilises an exploratory, mixed methods design comprising in-depth interviews and an online survey.

Supervisors: Professor John de Wit (NCHSR) and Associate Professor Robert Reynolds (Macquarie University)

Contract surrogacy, kinship practices and gay men

**Dean Murphy (PhD)**

This project explores how contract surrogacy influences (and is influenced by) understandings of kinship. In particular, the project examines the repertoires of nature, biogenetics, value and choice. Data comprises interviews with gay men in Australia and the United States, online advertisements, print media, popular culture, and policy documents.

Supervisors: Dr Suzanne Fraser (Monash University) and Dr Asha Persson (NCHSR)

The role of social networks in hepatitis C harm reduction

**Jamee Newland (PhD)**

This qualitative research project study aims to explore the impact of social networks on hepatitis C harm reduction among people who inject drugs. It focuses on issues of social relationships, peer education, secondary syringe exchange, environmental and structural factors and how these issues positively or negatively affect hepatitis C risk and transmission.

Supervisors: Professor Carla Treloar (NCHSR) and Professor Ralph Hall (School of Social Sciences and International Studies)

Sexuality, social disadvantage and syndemics in health-risk behaviours and HIV/AIDS

**Maheswar Satpathy (PhD)**

This study is an exploration of interactivity and syndemic association between social disadvantage and the health-risk behaviours among young men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender (TG) people in India. Through a mediation and moderator analysis and multivariate analysis of community-based data collected from a large cross-sectional sample of young MSMs and TGs the study aims to identify causal inter-linkage between social disadvantage, low self-esteem and self-efficacy, mental health and subsequent health-risk behaviours such as higher substance abuse and high risk sexual practices.

Supervisors: Professor John de Wit (NCHSR) and Dr Philippe Adam (NCHSR)
Assessing the potential role of tattooists in delivering harm reduction information to at-risk clients

**Hannah Wilson (Masters)**

This research project aims to assess the potential role of tattooists in delivering harm reduction information to their clients who may be at risk of hepatitis C due to their involvement or affiliation with injecting drug use. This study employs quantitative research methods to examine the occupational identity of tattooists, the relationship that can exist between tattooists and their clients, tattooists knowledge of hepatitis C, tattooists attitudes towards hepatitis C and PWIDs, and their willingness to deliver harm reduction to at risk clients.

Supervisors: Dr Loren Brener (NCHSR) and Dr Joanne Bryant (NCHSR)

Client profiling and models of service provision in needle and syringe programs in greater Western Sydney

**Kenneth Yates (PhD)**

This research project aims to critically examine the range of NSP service delivery modes in Western Sydney. Health audience segmentation, an aspect of social marketing in the context of public health, will be used to produce data about NSP clients. This data will emerge from the use of survey questionnaires of service clients, and in-depth interviews of service clients and staff. The data will be analysed and used to develop client profiles that can be used to shape NSP service provision according to local needs.

Supervisors: Dr Limin Mao (NCHSR) and Professor Carla Treloar (NCHSR)

Exchange students

Since 2008, NCHSR has also hosted postgraduate students from Utrecht University. As part of this very active exchange program, each year a number of students from Utrecht University work with NCHSR staff to conduct research for their theses which they write as part of their MSc(Psych) program. Increasingly, NCHSR is also hosting overseas PhD students who spend time at the centre to work with staff. In 2011 the following students visited our Centre:

**Session 1**

Chantal den Daas, Utrecht University (PhD Psychology)

Mario Keer, University of Amsterdam (PhD Communication Science)

Merel Ophoff, Utrecht University (MSc Psychology)

Sarit Geertjes, Utrecht University (MSc Psychology)

**Session 2**

Mirjam Pot, Utrecht University (MSc Psychology)

Else van Miltenburg, Utrecht University (MSc Psychology)

Helen Brouwers, Utrecht University (MSc Psychology)
Engagement and impact

NCHSR is committed to significantly contributing to practice by working in partnership with community organisations, government and other research organisations. Our work supports the development of policies and programs through conducting workshops, seminars and presentations; providing research feedback, policy and program advice and access to resources; and acting as members of government, community and academic committees and boards.
NCHSR Consortium

In 2010, the NCHSR Consortium was established to continue the successful program of workshops previously conducted by The Consortium for Social and Policy Research on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases whose funding ceased at the end of 2009.

NCHSR Consortium members include the National Centre in HIV Social Research and the Social Policy Research Centre, both at The University of New South Wales, ACON, Positive Life NSW, Hepatitis NSW, Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service, the NSW Users & AIDS Association, the NSW Health Workforce Development Program situated at the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine and the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council. The Consortium Board also includes representatives of the AIDS and Infectious Diseases Branch of NSW Health. Consortium workshops aim to

- assess the research needs of the HIV, hepatitis C and related diseases sector
- investigate new and innovative research methods, and
- provide non-researchers with the opportunity to learn basic research methods.

In 2011 one workshop was conducted; details appear below.

Where we’ve been, where we are, what’s in the future? Working with Aboriginal communities to improve HIV, STI and BBV outcomes: access, respect, partnership and success
Sponsored by ASHM Workforce Development Program

The keynote speaker was James Ward, Head of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Program, The Kirby Institute, The University of New South Wales

Other guest speakers were: Natalie Beckett, Aboriginal Hepatitis Liaison Officer, HARP Unit, NSW Health; Bruce Cherry, Education and Development Project Officer, Hepatitis NSW; Brian Doyle, Aboriginal Project Officer, Kirketon Road Centre, South Eastern Sydney Local Health Network; Kristie Harrison, NSW ADAN Project Officer, AH&MRC; Monique McEwan, Harm Minimisation Project Officer, AH&MRC; Anna McGowan, Aboriginal Women’s Project, HARP Health Promotion Team, Sexual Health Service, Sydney Local Health Network, and Dina Saulo, Sexual and Reproductive Health Project Officer, AH&MRC.

The workshop was jointly facilitated by Peter Patterson, NSW Aboriginal Sexual Health Workforce Development Coordinator, Hunter New England Area Health Service and Norman Booker an independent consultant working in the fields of planning and evaluation, change management, facilitation and professional learning.

NCHSR Clearinghouse

The NCHSR Clearinghouse is a searchable web-based database that was initially funded by the former NSW Consortium for Social and Policy Research on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases. It aims to provide easy access to Australian resources and documents that support research, policy and practice relating to HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C and illicit drug use. The original 2500 items in the Clearinghouse include research articles and reports, conference presentations, policy documents, theses, media releases and community media articles.

In a joint project with the UNSW Library, the Clearinghouse was migrated to a more sustainable repository system in 2010 and is accessible through the NCHSR website. Over the course of 2011, 3380 new records were added from a previously established database that include historical research and policy documents as well as campaign and health promotion materials. Full text items of ANCAHRD resources were also included that were previously available from the NCHSR website.
Research seminar series

NCHSR hosted a series of research seminars where staff and postgraduate students from NCHSR together with other stakeholders shared their work with academics from within and outside the Centre. The seminars were also attended by a range of professionals who work with people affected by HIV, viral hepatitis and illicit drugs.

8 February  The role of the lesbian and gay scene and alcohol and other drug use in the lives of same-sex attracted young women in Sydney, Australia
Toby Lea, Doctoral candidate

8 March  Good connections make for good places
Daren Fisher

12 April  Identifying and addressing individual and social barriers to STI-testing among young people in New South Wales: Results from the online survey ‘Getting down to it’
Dr Philippe Adam

10 May  Improving health through access to sterile needles and syringes for people who inject drugs research project
Dr Jason Prior, University of Technology, Sydney

12 July  Does the T belong in the GLBT?
Kate Cummings, NSW Gender Centre

9 August  Workforce worries: The changing worlds of HIV medicine and the GPs who provide it
Dr Christy Newman

6 September  Condom use among gay men today
Dr Limin Mao

11 October  Offences against the (moral) person: HIV transmission offences in Australia
Dr Annette Houlihan, Social Sciences and International Studies, UNSW

8 November  Research translation: speaking truth to power?
Professor Alison Ritter, Drug Policy Modelling Program, UNSW

13 December  Opening doors: engaging with young people to deliver youth friendly harm reduction: any lessons for Australia?
Dr John Howard, National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre, UNSW

The Critical HIV/AIDS Research Initiative

Staff at five leading international universities joined forces to create CHARI, the Critical HIV/AIDS Research Initiative. Drawing upon a common set of understandings, work within each of the centres is generating better understanding of the epidemic, and contributing to improvements in HIV/AIDS prevention, impact mitigation and care.

This international collaboration currently brings together the combined resources of:

- The University of New South Wales, Australia: National Centre in HIV Social Research, Social Policy Research Centre
- University of Pretoria, South Africa: Centre for the Study of AIDS
- University of São Paulo, Brazil: Nucleus for the Study of AIDS
- University of Sussex, United Kingdom: School of Education and Social Work
- University of Toronto, Canada: HIV Social, Behavioural and Epidemiological Studies Unit
Consultatively and collaboratively, the CHARI initiative seeks to promote:

- Innovative thinking about the epidemic, its course and development
- New research paradigms and perspectives
- Recognition of the importance of relationships, culture and the social structure as drivers of risk and vulnerability
- New thinking about gender and sexuality as they relate to HIV and AIDS
- Innovation and integration within the field of sexual health
- Social theory of relevance to HIV prevention and HIV/AIDS care

Editorial contributions

NCHSR staff in 2011 contributed to scholarly publications as editors, guest editors and members of the editorial board of a range of peer-reviewed journals. In addition, staff acted as peer reviewers for a large number of prestigious journals, conferences and funding bodies.

Editorial boards

Addiction (Carla Treloar)
AIDS (John de Wit)
AIDS Care (John de Wit)
Health Education Research (John de Wit, Guest Editor)
International Journal of Drug Policy (Carla Treloar)
Open Journal of Preventive Medicine (Limin Mao)
Psychology & Health (John de Wit, Associate Editor)
The Open Ethics Journal (Henrike Körner)
The Open Health Services & Policy Journal (Henrike Körner)
Youth Studies Australia (Joanne Bryant)

Peer reviewing for journals

Addiction
AIDS
AIDS and Behavior
AIDS Care
Archives of Women’s Mental Health
Asia-Pacific Journal of Public Health
Australian Family Physician
BioMedCentral (BMC) Public Health
Biomedicine Central Public Health
BMC Public Health
Bulletin of the World Health Organization
Canadian Review of Sociology
Contemporary Drug Problems
Croatian Medical Journal
Culture
Culture, Health & Sexuality
Depression Research and Treatment
Drug and Alcohol Dependence
Drugs: Education Prevention and Policy
European Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
Expert Review of Anti-infective Therapy
Health Education Research
Health Promotion Journal of Australia
Health Psychology
Health Sociology Review
History of Human Sciences
HIV Medicine
Human Organization
International Journal of Asia Pacific Studies
International Journal of Drug Policy
International Journal of Qualitative Methods
International Journal of STD and AIDS
Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes
Journal of Adolescent Health
Journal of AIDS and HIV Research
Journal of Behavioral Medicine
Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology
Journal of Homosexuality
Journal of the International AIDS Society
Nederlands Tijdschrift voor Geneeskunde
NSW Public Health Bulletin
Psychology and Health
Public Health
Qualitative Health Research
Sexual Health
Sexually Transmitted Infections
Social Science & Medicine
Sociology of Health & Illness
Sociological Perspectives
Substance abuse treatment prevention and policy
The Open Health Services & Policy Journal
The Open Health Services & Policy Journal
Text and Talk

**Reviewing other than for journals**

Staff at NCHSR have also reviewed grant applications, conference abstracts, strategy documents and other materials for:

1st International HIV Social Science and Humanities Conference, Durban
6th IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, Rome
10th International AIDS Impact Conference, Santa Fe
16th International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa, Addis Ababa
23rd Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference, Canberra
41st Public Health Association of Australia, Annual Conference, Brisbane
Canadian Public Health Association, 2011 Annual Conference, Montreal

AIDS Fonds (Netherlands), Scientific Research Grants
Australian Research Council, Discovery Projects Grants Round
Australian Research Council, Future Fellowships
Health Research Council of New Zealand, Initiative to inform HIV infection prevention programmes
National Health and Medical Research Council, Project Grants
National Institute for Health Research (United Kingdom), Programme Grants for Applied Research
Committee membership

NCHSR has established relationships with other research institutions, universities, government bodies, non-government organisations, and the community. In 2011, NCHSR staff served on the following committees:

**International**

AIDS Fonds, The Netherlands
- Scientific Advisory Council (John de Wit)

AIDS Impact Conferences
- International Scientific Committee (John de Wit)

Harm Reduction 2010: IHRA’s 21st International Conference
- International Programme Advisory Group (Carla Treloar)

HIV in Europe
- Conference Organising Committee (John de Wit)
- Steering Committee (John de Wit)

International AIDS Conference
- Conference Bidding Committee (John de Wit)

International Microbicides Conference
- Organising Committee (Dean Murphy)
- Scientific Committee (Dean Murphy)

Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom
- Research Advisory Group (Carla Treloar)

**National**

Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference
- National Program Committee (Christy Newman)

Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference
- Organising Committee (Carla Treloar)
- Co-chair of Community and Social Research Theme (Carla Treloar)

Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations
- Biomedical Prevention Policy Reference Group (John de Wit, Martin Holt)

Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
- Expert Reference Committee, National Hepatitis C Testing Policy (Carla Treloar)

Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society
- Scientific Advisory Committee (John de Wit)

Communicable Diseases Network Australia
- National Blood-borne Virus and Sexually Transmissible Infections Surveillance Sub-committee (John de Wit)

Hepatitis Australia
- National Hepatitis C Needs Assessment (Max Hopwood)
- Love Your Liver Campaign Advisory Group (Carla Treloar)
- Health Promotion Conference Project Reference Group (Carla Treloar)

Heterosexual HIV/AIDS Service
- Serodiscordance Resource Working Group (Asha Persson)

The Kirby Institute for infection and immunity in society
- Annual Surveillance Report Advisory Committee (Limin Mao)
- Combined Working Group–Biomedical Prevention (John de Wit)
- Combined Working Group–Viral Hepatitis (Carla Treloar)

Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections (Carla Treloar)
- Co-chair, Research and Evaluation Working Group (Carla Treloar)
- Legal and Discrimination Working Group (Carla Treloar)
State

ACON
- Board of Directors (John de Wit)
- Research Ethics Review Committee (Martin Holt)
- The Metro Gay Men’s HIV Interagency CALD working group (Limin Mao)

Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW
- Harm Minimisation Expert Advisory Panel (Joanne Bryant)

ASHM Workforce Development Program
- Advisory Group (Carla Treloar)

Community Restorative Centre NSW
- Jailbreak, Consultative Health Project (Carla Treloar)
- Harm Reduction NSW (Joanne Bryant, Carla Treloar)
- Hepatitis NSW
  - Medical and Research Advisory Panel (Carla Treloar)

Heterosexual HIV/AIDS Service
- Serodiscordance Resource Working Group (Asha Persson)

Justice Health Hepatitis C Incidence and Transmission in Prisons
- Project Management Group (Carla Treloar)

NSW Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service
- Steering Committee for the TRAIDS Transitional Group (Max Hopwood)

New South Wales Ministry of Health
- Ministerial Advisory Committee on Hepatitis (Carla Treloar)
- NSP Sub-committee (Carla Treloar)
- Ministerial Advisory Committee on HIV and STI Infections (John de Wit)
  - Education Resources sub-committee (John de Wit)
  - Health Promotion sub-committee (Philippe Adam)
- ETHOS NHMRC Partnership Group
  - Peer support Advisory Group (Carla Treloar)
  - Project Steering Group (Carla Treloar)

Framework and Implementation Plan for Consumer Participation and
Representation in Drug & Alcohol Services Advisory Group for SESLHD (Carla Treloar)

Improving Access to Hepatitis C Treatment Among Aboriginal People Project
- Advisory Committee (Carla Treloar)
- Social Marketing Campaign Advisory Group (Carla Treloar)

Macquarie University Addiction and Moral Agency Project
- Advisory Group (Carla Treloar)

New South Wales HIV/STI Surveillance Forum
- Steering Committee (John de Wit)

New South Wales Users and AIDS Association (NUAA)
- Advisory Committee for Community Programs and Services Team (Joanne Bryant)
- Community Mobilisation Team (Loren Brener)
- Deregulation of Needle and Syringe Provision Advisory Group (Carla Treloar)
- Research Ethics Advisory Group (Carla Treloar)
- Steering Committee for Users’ News (Max Hopwood)
- Users’ News Advisory Committee (Joanne Bryant)
- Website Advisory Group (Max Hopwood)

NSW HIV+ Health promotion Interagency (Jeanne Ellard)

NSW Metropolitan Gay Men’s HIV Prevention Interagency (John de Wit, Martin Holt, Limin Mao)

NSW Pharmacy and Harm Reduction Interagency (Joanne Bryant, Max Hopwood)

Positive Life NSW
- Board Advisory Group (John de Wit)
- Sexually Transmissible Infections in Gay Men Action Group (STIGMA)
- Steering Group (Philippe Adam)
The University of New South Wales

Human Research Ethics Advisory Panel, Social/Health Research
(Henrike Körner, Convenor)
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Dean’s Advisory Committee (John de Wit)
Dean’s Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee (Joanne Bryant)
Higher Degree Committee (Jeanne Ellard)
Higher Degree Research Student Experience Working Party (Martin Holt)
Occupational Health and Safety Committee (Janice Knapman, Employer Representative; Nalini Krishnan, Employee Representative)
Research Committee (Carla Treloar)
Standing Committee (John de Wit)

Research communication

To ensure that our research effectively informs policy and practice, NCHSR staff extensively communicate and discuss research results with partner organisations and community members and provide tailored advice regarding policy and program implications.

Presentations


Adam, P. C. G. (2011, November). *Barriers to and facilitators of testing for HIV and other STIs among MSM. Results from the online survey How much do you care?* Invited presentation at the HARP Unit, South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service.


De Wit, J. B. F. (2011, October). *NCHSR Research Agenda: A focus on priorities, plan and ideas for HIV/STI research with gay men*. Invited presentation at the STIs in Gay Men Action group (STIGMA), Sydney.


De Wit, J. B. F. (2011, December). *Understanding and changing sexual risk behaviour: the importance of theory*. Invited seminar at the Comprehensive AIDS Research Centre, Medical School, Tsinghua University, Beijing, P.R. China.


Körner, H. (2011, November). I know where to get a test ... And sometime I very scare. I don’t want to go there. Thai gay men in Sydney and HIV testing. Invited presentation at NSW Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service, Sydney.


Mao, L. (2011, December). What does social research tells us about the HIV epidemic? Invited presentation at the Comprehensive AIDS Research Centre, Tsinghua University, Beijing, P.R. China.


Publications


Consultations


Treloar, C. (2011, October). Submission to ACT Government’s Community Consultation on the Public Health Association of Australia’s (PHAA) report into the proposed Needle and Syringe Program at the Alexander Maconochie Centre, ACT.

Collaborating organisations

In 2011, NCHSR continued to work closely with national and international researchers, community organisations and government partners that support those affected by blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections.

Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW, Sydney
ACON, Sydney
AIDS Action Council of the ACT, Canberra
AIDS Council of South Australia Inc., Adelaide
Albion St Centre, Sydney

Disclaimer:
While we have carefully assembled the following list of collaborating organisations, we apologise for any inadvertent omissions or inclusions.
Engagement and impact

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney
Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Sydney
Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users’ League (AIVL), Canberra
Australian Research Centre for Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University, Melbourne
Cancer Council New South Wales, Sydney
Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Burnet Institute, Melbourne
Centre for Health Research in Criminal Justice, Justice Health, Sydney
Centre for the Study of AIDS, University of Pretoria, South Africa
Chinese Consulate-General, Sydney
Clinical Research Unit for Anxiety and Depression, St Vincent’s Hospital, Sydney
Comprehensive AIDS Research Centre, Tsinghua University, Beijing, P.R. China
Confucius Institute, The University of New South Wales, Sydney
Corrective Services NSW, Sydney
Department of Clinical and Health Psychology, Utrecht University, The Netherlands
Department of Clinical, Health and Neuropsychology, Leiden University, The Netherlands
Department of Communication Sciences, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Department of Communication Sciences, VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Department of Health and Families, Northern Territory Government, Darwin
Department of Infectious Diseases, Amsterdam Health Service, The Netherlands
Department of Infectious Diseases, Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney
Department of Social Psychology, Utrecht University, The Netherlands
Department of Student Services, University of Applied Sciences, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Dr Nicholas Doong Surgery, Sydney
East Sydney Doctors, Sydney
Faculty of Arts, Macquarie University, Sydney
Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience, Maastricht University, The Netherlands
Flinders University, Adelaide
Forbes Chambers, Sydney
Goldsmiths College, London
Harm Reduction Victoria, Melbourne
Hepatitis Australia, Canberra
Hepatitis C Victoria, Melbourne
Hepatitis NSW, Sydney
Heterosexual HIV/AIDS Service (Pozhet), Sydney
HIV Social, Behavioural and Epidemiological Studies Unit, University of Toronto, Canada
HIV/AIDS Legal Centre, Sydney
HIV/STI Intervention & Prevention Studies Program, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, United States
Holdsworth House Medical Practice, Sydney
Journalism and Media Research Centre, The University of New South Wales
The Kirby Institute for infection and immunity in society, The University of New South Wales
Kirketon Road Centre, Sydney
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London, United Kingdom
Medical Psychology Research Unit, The University of Sydney
Medically Supervised Injection Centre (MSIC), Sydney
Melbourne Sexual Health Clinic
Mid North Coast Division of General Practice, Coffs Harbour
Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service, Sydney
National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation, Canberra
National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Sydney
National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth
NSW Ministry of Health (AIDS and Infectious Diseases)
NSW Sexually Transmissible Infections Programs Unit, Sydney
NSW Users & AIDS Association, Sydney
NSW Workforce Development Project, Sydney
O'Brien Street Practice and the Care and Prevention Program, Adelaide
Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, United Kingdom
Pacific Friends of the Global Fund, Sydney
People Living with HIV/AIDS, Melbourne
Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, Canberra
Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Canberra
Positive Life NSW, Sydney
Queensland Association for Healthy Communities, Brisbane
Queensland Health, Brisbane
Queensland Positive People, Brisbane
Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Melbourne
Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne
Rutgers, Utrecht, The Netherlands
The Sax Institute, Sydney
Scarlet Alliance, Sydney
School of Education and Social Work, University of Sussex, United Kingdom
School of Political and Social Inquiry, Monash University, Melbourne
Sex Workers Outreach Program, Sydney
Social Policy Research Centre, The University of New South Wales
South Australian Department of Health, Adelaide
St Vincent's Alcohol and Drug Service, Sydney
Sydney Children’s Hospital, Paediatric HIV Service, Sydney
Sydney Sexual Health Centre, Sydney Hospital, Sydney
Taylor Square Private Clinic, Sydney
Trimbos Institute, Netherlands Institute of Mental Health and Addiction, Utrecht, The Netherlands
School of Humanities and Communication Arts, University of Western Sydney, Sydney
Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Men’s Health Centre, Melbourne
Victorian Department of Health, Melbourne
WA Health
Western Australian AIDS Council, Perth
Western Australian Centre for Health Promotion Research, Curtin University of Technology, Perth
Academic publications and presentations

NCHSR aims to undertake exemplary, multidisciplinary research that advances understanding of the social and behavioural aspects of the HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections epidemics. Researchers at NCHSR make significant contributions to scholarly knowledge and policy debates by extensively publishing research results in peer reviewed journals and books and by presenting at a wide range of scholarly conferences.
Articles in refereed journals


Grebely, J., Bryant, J., Hull, P., Hopwood, M., Lavis, Y., Dore, G. J., & Treloar, C. (2011). While we have carefully assembled the following list of collaborating organisations, we apologize for any inadvertent omissions or inclusions. *Journal of Viral Hepatitis, 18*, 104–116. http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2893.2010.01370.x


Academic publications and presentations


Academic publications and presentations


Academic publications and presentations


Research reports


Academic publications and presentations


Conference presentations


Ellard, J., Murphy, D., Hrudka, M., & Valentine, K. (2011, June). 'If there was no criminalisation, I would love to see the HIV family tree': exploring HIV phylogenetic analysis, ambivalence, and criminalisation. Paper presented at 1st International HIV Social Science and Humanities Conference, Durban, South Africa.


Funding

All NCHSR research projects are partly or fully funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

Additional funding sources are indicated in the project descriptions in the section, Our Research.
NCHSR funding (excluding GST) received in 2011

Australian and state and territory governments
- Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing: $1,229,292
- NSW Ministry of Health (AIDS and Infectious Diseases): $951,273
- ACT Government Health Directorate: $12,420
- Queensland Health: $57,615
- AIDS Council of South Australia Inc.: $22,233
- Victorian Department of Health: $62,309
- beyondblue: $7,498
- NSW Users & AIDS Association Inc.: $26,026
- Australasian Society for HIV Medicine: $34,696
- AusAID: $607,532

Research Councils
- National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC): $241,070

International funding
- World Health Organisation–UNAIDS: $7,895
- Canterbury District Health Board, New Zealand: $26,184

Total external funding/revenue: $3,286,043

The University of New South Wales
- Postgraduate Support: $1,624
- Research Training Scheme/Institutional Grants Scheme: $340,071
- Vice-Chancellor’s Strategic Priorities: $226,563
- Early Career Research Scheme: $4,249
- NCHSR Consortium workshops: $48,546
- Career Advancement Scheme for academics post maternity leave: $5,000

Total UNSW funding/revenue: $626,053

Statement of financial performance for the year ended 31 December 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011 $000s</th>
<th>2010 $000s</th>
<th>2009 $000s</th>
<th>2008 $000s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External Funds*</td>
<td>3,269</td>
<td>2,656</td>
<td>3,188</td>
<td>3,416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNSW Contribution</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>863</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>3,896</td>
<td>3,519</td>
<td>3,965</td>
<td>4,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll</td>
<td>2,699</td>
<td>2,355</td>
<td>2,586</td>
<td>3,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td>3,556</td>
<td>2,811</td>
<td>3,412</td>
<td>4,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating result</strong></td>
<td>340</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus (deficit) bfw from prior year</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>-550</td>
<td>-406</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correction of prior year Accumulated Fund</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>-144</td>
<td>-50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adjusted brought forward</strong></td>
<td>-234</td>
<td>-474</td>
<td>-560</td>
<td>-40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated funds surplus (deficit)</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The discrepancy of $16,095 in reported external revenue between the two tables above reflects (timing of) debtors financial movements that are captured differently in the NCHSR cash-based financial statements (top table) compared to the UNSW ledger system based on accrual accounting principles which factor in invoiced as well as cash revenue streams (bottom table).