

National Rural Health Alliance eforum - 3 September 2010

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A HEARING FOR THE BUSH?

A minority government supported by the Independents could be just the tonic for a stronger national focus on the future of rural and remote Australia.

<http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/cms/uploads/mediareleases/mr-22-08-10.pdf>

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'INTERESTING TIMES' FOR RURAL HEALTH

The 29 national organisations in the NRHA are meeting face-to-face in Canberra this weekend in a time of major opportunity for improved rural and remote health and wellbeing. The four-day meeting will provide greater clarity for parliamentarians from all sides about the priority actions for equity in health outcomes and in access to services for rural Australians.

<http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/cms/uploads/mediareleases/mr-26-08-10.pdf>

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INDEPENDENTS URGED TO CHAMPION RURAL HEALTH SHAKEUP

Rural GP Dr Jenny May, re-elected chair of the 31-member National Rural Health Alliance, will meet with New England MP Tony Windsor to discuss the drive for equal funding for the bush and a plan to ensure the sustainability of rural communities.

<http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/cms/uploads/mediareleases/mr-29-08-10.pdf>

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RURAL GP LEADS ACTION FOR HEALTHIER BUSH COMMUNITIES

Tamworth GP Jenny May has been re-elected unopposed to serve as Chair of the National Rural Health Alliance for a third consecutive term. Dr May is currently based in Alice Springs.

<http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/cms/uploads/mediareleases/mr%202010%20office%20bearers.pdf>

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LEADERS: OVER TO YOU ON RURAL HEALTH!

After meeting in Canberra over four days, the 29 organisations in the National Rural Health Alliance have clearly indicated to parliamentarians on all sides the immediate and medium-term priorities relating to the health of rural and remote people. Rural Australians now want to hear the commitments of the major Parties on this - including how they will demonstrate continuing accountability on the matter.

<http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/cms/uploads/mediareleases/mr-2-09-10.pdf>

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NRHA MEDIA RESOURCES - OVERVIEW

Audio and video files relating to NRHA activities at

<http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/media/?IntCatId=26>

The Health Advocate Magazine

August 2010 Issue

Gordon Gregory, Executive Director of the NRHA, details "What exactly is primary health care?" in the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Associations (AHHA) August edition of The Health Advocate magazine.

<http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/media/docs/The-Health-Advocate-GG-Article.pdf>

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11TH NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

Perth, 13-16 March 2011

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Keynote speakers are being approached and an outline of the program will soon be on the website.

The focus of Keynote addresses will include "resources for regions", child and maternal health, healthy Indigenous communities, workforce redesign, and change management in rural and remote health services.

There will be nine concurrent streams, with sessions on sustainable communities, the rural and remote health workforce, chronic disease, and e-health. beyondblue is supporting special sessions on mental health. There will be presentations from the Women's Health Longitudinal Study. An arts and health stream will also feature again in the concurrent sessions.

All participants, including paper givers, will be encouraged to suggest recommendations for action on rural and remote health services.

REGISTER AT THE EARLY BIRD RATE AND SAVE

For those wanting to register early and save, Early Bird registration is available at \$880 (gst inc) until 18 December 2010. Register now to receive this discount.

Everything you need to know about the 11th Conference is on the Conference Website at <http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>

Further information will be added as it becomes available, so make sure you check the site regularly for the latest news and updated program. You can also follow the Conference on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/nrhalliance>

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ACRRM COUNTRY WATCH NEWSLETTER

(Subscribe at <http://www.acrrm.org.au/country-watch-newsletter>)

27 August 2010

- Sold out! Conference procedural workshop places snapped up
- \$100 early bird saving ends in two weeks: register now!
- Online cancer care course brings valuable skills (and 33 Core PDP points)
- Procedural grants claims close off: 20th of each month
- Free DVD! Diabetes, Depression and Anxiety
- GP Proceduralists are 'the hidden heart': RRM Journal

3 September 2010

- Help assess IMGs for ACRRM's Specialist Pathway
- National Awards closing 17 September 2010
- Professional opportunity: help develop anaphylaxis e-training
- Workshops and hotels filling up. RMA 2010 early bird rates end 11 September
- Trainers: \$8,000 to \$13,000 mental health grants
- Rural LEAP: City GPs can earn their emergency stripes (and \$6,000)
- ACRRM Professional Development opportunities
- Dates for your diary

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NRHA on TWITTER

From <http://twitter.com/NRHAAlliance>

Bob Katter says there are no 'Wilkie's' [special local deals] in his ask of the Parties

Joe Hockey: "the Liberal-National Party - which is and has a focus on rural and regional Australia" -

Radio National Breakfast today

NRHA's seven-point plan for rural wellbeing leads with broadband <http://bit.ly/dn4Tan>

NRHA grows to 31 national members with rural Optoms and College of Ambulance profls.

<http://bit.ly/bEtfSM>

Jenny May pictured in meeting with country Independents <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>

AHHA welcomes ALP-Greens commitment on oral health for next year's Budget <http://bit.ly/bZ6z8d>

Rural health focus should switch to major Parties <http://bit.ly/cSUwx8>

Jenny May re-elected to lead growing Alliance <http://bit.ly/bEtfSM>

croakeyblog Vive la health reform revolution. Some chants for incrementalists, big bangers and

others, ex Gordon Gregory & NRHA: <http://bit.ly/dxAbEJ>

Government in doubt but rural health priorities certain. NRHA meets in Canberra to agree on

immediate action. <http://bit.ly/99kxAy>

croakeyblog Some advice to the independents re your negotiations: what matters in rural health.

<http://bit.ly/9uW73d>

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THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE

Subscribe at <http://www.lowitja.org.au/node/add/profile>

DOWNLOAD WANGKANYI PULKA, NO. 1 AUGUST 2010 at

<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/new-lowitja-institute-newsletter-wangkanyi-pulka>

Institute Update

Kerry Arabena: our new CE

Lowitja Institute and CRCATSIH get settled in Melbourne, Darwin and Brisbane

Editorial - Welcome aboard David Thomas

Program Reports

Program 1: Healthy Start, Healthy Life

Program 2: Healthy Communities and Settings

Program 3: Enabling Policy and Systems

Research Communications

Knowledge exchange at the Institute

Link people gear up for firstcface-to-face

Fresh offerings on the Lowitja Institute website

Report prompts action on unmet transport needs

GPs can help Close the Gap

Dungala Kaiela Oration

New insights into social and emotional wellbeing

ANZJPH devotes entire issue to Aboriginal health

Research suggests Aboriginal people not such heavy smokers

National Policy News

Sexual health strategy targets STIs in communities

Spotlight on government progress against COAG targets
NHMRC launches Road Map II research guidelines
Feds fund IT boost for community health care providers
Future of Batchelor Institute secured
NT race laws reinstated as constitutional reform gains new life
Tweaking the system to improve coronary care
Blindness, pneumonia blight Central Australian communities
Nurse practitioners are go in the NT
Ah Kit in new advisory role at CDU
Wangkanyi Pulka team

e-BULLETIN - 30 AUGUST 2010

- * The Lowitja Institute Welcomes New Chief Executive Officer
- * The first edition of the Lowitja Institute newsletter
- * Contact Details for Head Office in Melbourne
- * The Lowitja Institute Website - Updates
- * Expressions of Interest for Appointment to The Lowitja Institute Board
- * Conferences
- * Jobs
- * Media
- * Publications
- * Resources and Websites
- * Scholarships, Awards, Funding, Grants and Tenders
- * Seminars, Courses and Symposia
- * and Reminders

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Highlights of the new section on the Alliance's website where you can keep in touch and provide your comments on e-health developments in rural and remote areas at (<http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/e-health/?IntCatId=45>)

The Alliance's position paper on the rural and remote implications of a national e-health strategy - <http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/cms/uploads/publications/final%20e-health%20position%20paper.pdf>

* Contribute information and views - <http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/e-health/?IntContId=14852&IntCatId=45>

* Follow the development of broadband and electronic communications in rural and remote communities - <http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/e-health/?IntContId=14851&IntCatId=45>

* Help improve our understanding of progress towards shared individual electronic health records - <http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/e-health/?IntContId=14853&IntCatId=45>

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POLICY NEWS

(From <http://www.apo.org.au/>)

Health workforce modeling, Northern Territory

Two documents were produced as part of the Health Workforce Modelling Project established by the Strategic Workforce Committee of the Department of Health and Families (DHF) to inform workforce planning by projecting future numbers of health professionals in the Northern Territory (NT). The Northern Territory Medical Workforce Model (the medical model) projects the requirement for, and supply of, medical practitioners from 2006 to 2022, and likewise the Northern Territory Nursing Workforce Model (the nursing model) projects the requirement for, and supply of, registered nurses and midwives (nurses) from 2006 to 2022.

http://digitallibrary.health.nt.gov.au/dspace/bitstream/10137/440/1/Medical_Technical_Report_Print_Revised.pdf

http://digitallibrary.health.nt.gov.au/dspace/bitstream/10137/441/1/Nursing_Technical_Report_Print_Revised%20%282%29.pdf

Goreen narkwarren ngrn-toura - healthy family air

Smoking during pregnancy can have serious health effects for babies, including low birth weight, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), preterm births (born too early), and other pregnancy complications. Smoking rates are high in the Victorian Aboriginal community compared to non-Aboriginal people, and pregnant Aboriginal women in Victoria are around five times more likely to smoke during pregnancy than non-Aboriginal women. Smoking rates are also high amongst Aboriginal young people and Aboriginal Health Workers. The Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO), concerned about these high rates of smoking, has developed a project that will strengthen the capacity of Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) and workers in these organisations to deliver support and smoking reduction programs to pregnant Aboriginal women in Victoria. The project, Goreen Narrkwarren Ngrn-toura - Healthy Family Air (Reducing Smoking amongst Pregnant Aboriginal Women in Victoria: An Holistic Approach), has been funded by the former Victorian Department of Human Services (now Department of Health). It involves activities to train Aboriginal Health Workers (AHWs), Koori Maternity Strategy Workers and In-Home Support Workers to help organisations to better support pregnant women and young mothers to quit or reduce smoking; and to deliver a Group Support Program to build capacity, self-esteem, skills and knowledge amongst pregnant Aboriginal women and young mothers.

<http://www.ceitc.org.au/contact>

Working together: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health and wellbeing principles and practice

This book offers a high quality, comprehensive examination of issues and strategies influencing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health and social and emotional wellbeing. It was developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research and the Kulunga Research Network, Telethon Institute for Child Health Research with funding through the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing. The book offers a high quality, comprehensive examination of issues and strategies influencing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health and social and emotional wellbeing.

http://www.ichr.uwa.edu.au/kulunga/working_together/book

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RURAL AND REMOTE HEALTH PAPERS 1991 - 2009 DVD

Where can you easily access 3,189 references to the words 'rural health'? All 3,189 documents can be found on the updated 'Rural and Remote Health Papers 1991-2009' DVD available when you join friends of the Alliance (see <http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/friends/?IntCatId=4>) You will also find 2,510 references to 'remote health', 526 references to 'health reform', 1,359 references to 'aboriginal health', and 315 references to 'oral health'. What will you search for when you get your copy? The DVD contains the proceedings of all ten National Rural Health Conferences, all Alliance policy documents, annual reports, media releases and newsletters. Don't forget friends of the Alliance also receive a discounted registration for the 11th National Rural Health Conference to be held in Perth, 13-16 March 2011.

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JOIN FRIENDS

We would like to encourage you to join friends of the Alliance. The cost of membership is unchanged: \$44 (including GST) for an individual, \$165 for an organisation of less than 50 people, and \$330 for a large organisation. On joining you will receive a friends membership pack including a certificate, the Rural and Remote Health Papers CD, lapel pin, fact sheets and the latest annual report. A membership form can also be found on the friends page of the Alliance website at <http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/friends/?IntCatId=4> The NRHA values the input of friends and finds its advice and contributions invaluable to the work of the Alliance.

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RURAL HEALTH ON THE WEB

CRCD
Welcome to the College of Rural and Community Development Health Programs. Rural Health Programs and Interior Alaska.
<http://ruralhealth.uaf.edu/>

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PARTYLINE

Current and past copies of Partyline are available on the Partyline page of the Alliance website <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au> Subscription is free: partyline@ruralhealth.org.au To contribute to future editions (article, photo, letter to the editor, poem), send your article to partyline@ruralhealth.org.au

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AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF RURAL HEALTH

The Australian Journal of Rural Health is a multidisciplinary journal, which aims to facilitate the formation of interdisciplinary networks to build and advance rural practice for all health professionals. Get published in the Australian Journal of Rural Health! The Journal welcomes short reports and letters to the editor as well as review articles, original research articles and clinical perspectives. For useful tips on submitting your manuscript, read the FREE editorial, How to get published in the Australian Journal of Rural Health.

Manuscripts can be submitted online at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ajrh> Manuscript Central or posted to AJRH. The Australian Journal of Rural Health is published on behalf of the National Rural Health Alliance by Blackwell Publishing Asia Pty Ltd 155 Cremorne Street Richmond Vic. 3121 Tel: +61 (0)3 9274 3100 Fax: +61 (0)3 9274 3101 E-mail: melbourne@johnwiley.com.au

August 2010 issue now available. Contents include:

Editorial - Building capacity for rural and remote research

Conference Report - Progressing rural and remote health research

Original Articles

Pandemic influenza vaccination: Will the health care system take its own medicine?

Rural student doctors top city colleagues: Representation of a rural clinical school in the rural press
Changes in depression-related mental health literacy in young men from rural and urban South Australia

Genital chlamydia in southern New South Wales: An ecological analysis of testing and notification patterns 2004-2008

Evaluating the impact of sustainable comprehensive primary health care on rural health

Caring of ST-elevation myocardial infarction patients in rural community hospital settings:

Determinants of in-hospital mortality

Further information at <http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/loi/ajr>

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LIFELINE INFORMATION SERVICE

The Lifeline Information Service provides access to a variety of self-help tool kits with information about issues such as mental illness, depression, suicide prevention, and more. These resources focus on practical steps to help promote mental health and are available online at

<http://www.lifeline.org.au/infoservice>

A limited number of printed tool kits are available on request by emailing infoservice@lifeline.org.au

. For more information please visit <http://www.lifeline.org.au>

If you are in need of 24 hour crisis support, call Lifeline on 13 11 14

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AUSTRALIAN ORGAN DONOR REGISTER ONLINE

The Australian Organ Donor Register is Australia's only national organ and tissue donor register and serves as a lifeline to the people on the organ transplant waiting lists. Register online at

<http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/public/services/aodr/register.jsp> to be an Australian Organ Donor now!

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BUSH SUPPORT SERVICES (formerly Bush Crisis Line) - 1800 805 391

The Bush Support Services Line is a 24 hour confidential telephone support service for workers, and their families, who work in health related services in remote and isolated situations. It is staffed by qualified psychologists with remote and cross cultural experience, is toll free and available from anywhere in Australia. For more information: <http://www.bss.crana.org.au>

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RURAL HEALTH ON THE ABC

(See <http://www.abc.net.au/health/healthyliving/yourhealth/ruralregionalhealth/>)

Mobiles used to help Indigenous kids' ears

Researchers hope special mobile phone messages will help in the fight against ear disease among Indigenous children in remote communities.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/08/30/2997547.htm>

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RDAA NEWS

Is there an e-future for rural Australia?

1 September 2010

http://www.rdaa.com.au/uploaded_documents/e-Health%20for%20rural%20Australia%20--%20September%202010.pdf

Doctors urge independent MPs to insist on rural looking glass

26 August 2010

http://www.rdaa.com.au/uploaded_documents/Rural%20proofing%20--%20August%202010.pdf

Rural doctors provide Independents with Ammo

23 August 2010

http://www.rdaa.com.au/uploaded_documents/Rural%20doctors%20provide%20Independents%20with%20Ammo.pdf

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GET REGIONAL

Get Regional is the new information and referral service for people living and working throughout country Australia. Engaging and interacting rural, regional and remote communities, via dynamic interactive technologies, to ensure a more sustainable future for the bush. The most up-to-date and independent information service with a wide range of broadcast distribution services.

<http://getregional.com.au>

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LOCAL CONTROL, NATIONAL FOCUS TO CLOSE THE GAP: NACCHO

The Chair of the peak body in Aboriginal health has welcomed the post election examination of regional and local involvement in national politics. Mr Justin Mohamed, Chair of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) said, "NACCHO's Board and our members' services across the country look forward to sharing our expertise in Aboriginal health and working with all the members of parliament to close the gap in Aboriginal health outcomes".

<http://www.naccho.org.au/Files/Documents/Local%20Control,%20National%20Focus%20to%20Close%20the%20Gap%2026-8-10%20%20Media%20Release.pdf>

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CURRENT ISSUE OF eMJA

(Available at <http://www.mja.com.au/>)

Current issue: 16 August 2010

From the Editor's Desk: Conflict between doctors and politicians

Editorials

Mitochondrial disease: recognising more than just the tip of the iceberg

Atypical femur fractures: a complication of prolonged bisphosphonate therapy?

Asbestos still poses a threat to global health: now is the time for action

Towards integrated care: Australia's new model of care for patients with glaucoma

Research

Characteristics, management and outcomes of adults with major trauma taking pre-injury warfarin in a Western Australian population from 2000 to 2005: a population-based cohort study

Door-to-balloon times are reduced in ST-elevation myocardial infarction by emergency physician activation of the cardiac catheterisation laboratory and immediate patient transfer

Trends in anthropometry and severity of sleep-disordered breathing over two decades of diagnostic sleep studies in an Australian adult sleep laboratory

Survival from haematological malignancy in childhood, adolescence and young adulthood in Australia: is the age-related gap narrowing?

Public Health - Trends in the incidence of hospitalisation for injuries resulting from non-traffic crashes in New South Wales, July 1998 to June 2007

Health Care - Contrasts in acute medicine: a comparison of the British and Australian systems for managing emergency medical patients

For Debate - Teaching hospital planning: a case study and the need for reform

Review - Prehospital thrombolysis followed by early angiography and percutaneous coronary intervention where appropriate - an underused strategy for the management of STEMI

Clinical Practice - Legal and ethical aspects of refusing medical treatment after a suicide attempt: the Woollorton case in the Australian context

Letters

Inferior vena cava filters in trauma patients: who is responsible for their removal?

Restricted career paths for overseas students graduating from Australian medical schools: legal and policy considerations

Alarm about computed tomography scans is unjustified

Seizures related to praziquantel therapy in neurocysticercosis

What is the place of a student medical journal?
Supplement - Bipolar disorder: new understandings, emerging treatments
Book Reviews
Hoffenberg. Physician and humanitarian
Inside chronic pain. An intimate and critical account
A primer of clinical psychiatry
Evidence-based practice. Across the health professions

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ARTICLES IN 'RURAL AND REMOTE HEALTH'

'Prophylactic penicillin by the full moon: a novel approach in Central Australia that may help to reduce the risk of rheumatic heart disease'

Indigenous Australians have among the highest rates in the world of acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease. For some, the timing of essential medication can be problematic. This unique study of clients and primary care providers in Central Australia reports on 'The Full Moon Strategy' which uses the natural world as a reminder for monthly penicillin prophylaxis.

<http://www.rrh.org.au/articles/showarticlenew.asp?ArticleID=1464>

'Stoic survival: the journey of parenting a premature infant in the bush'

Recognised family stresses following the birth of a premature infant can be compounded when rural parents must relocate to be with an infant who needs specialized care and life support. This small Australian studies offers a privileged insight into rural parents' experiences, and identifies their coping strategies which are both rually unique and universal.

<http://www.rrh.org.au/articles/showarticlenew.asp?ArticleID=1475>

'2010 Chalmers Oration - What's needed to Close the Gap?'

The 2010 Chalmers Oration was delivered by Dr Tom Calma on 15 August 2010 at Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia. Dr Calma's presentation concerned the groundbreaking roles that he and the Close the Gap Campaign have played in making a difference to the health of Indigenous Australians, especially those who live in rural and remote Australia. The text of his speech will be required reading for all those who are concerned about the health disadvantage of Indigenous Australians, and to those with an interest in Australian Indigenous health policy.

<http://www.rrh.org.au/articles/showarticlenew.asp?ArticleID=1586>

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Healing Our Spirit 2010

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers and researchers are advised to start planning now for Healing Our Spirit Worldwide The Sixth Gathering, which is due to take place on the island of Honolulu in Hawaii from 3 to 10 September 2010. The goal of Healing Our Spirit Worldwide (HOSW) is to celebrate the diverse and unique cultural strengths, knowledge and talents of Indigenous peoples around the world, with a particular focus on successes, best practices and common issues in health, healing and addictions.

The Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health is a proud supporter of and committed

participant in the gathering, which will be hosted by native Hawaiian healthcare organisation Papa Ola Lōkahi (<http://www.papaolalokahi.org>).

For more information:

Maria Halkitis - Contract Manager, 08 8943 5020

Mick Gooda - CEO, 0409 688 403

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AAQHC 2010 Registration Now Open!

The Organising Committee is pleased to announce that registration is now open for the 8th Australasian Conference on Safety and Quality in Health Care to be held in Perth from 6 - 8 September 2010.

The Conference is the premier event on the Australasian Safety and Quality in Health Care calendar and will appeal to all clinicians and managers from acute hospitals, aged care and primary care who are interested in providing safe, quality care to patients and their families. Register now to secure your attendance and take advantage of the early bird rate!

For further information and to view the provisional program please visit the Conference website at <http://aaqhc2010.cmail2.com/t/y/l/oudjrk/udityupl/d>

Contact Details:

8th Australasian Conference on Safety and Quality in Health Care

Managed by arinex pty limited

GPO Box 128, (Level 10, 51 Druiitt Street)

Sydney NSW 2001, Australia

Phone: +61 2 9265 0700

Email: aaqhc2010@arinex.com.au

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GPET Convention: Alice Springs, 8 and 9 September

Under the theme Clinical and Cultural Competence: Everybody's Business, this year's GPET conference aims to share the challenges faced and innovations implemented in the areas of Indigenous health training, and to recognise the important role of the 'GP' within their community and the ever evolving patient-doctor relationship. Early bird closes 27 July 2010. Register Online through the 2010 GPET Convention website at

<http://www.onqconferences.com.au/gpet2010/registration.php>

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14th Chronic Diseases Network (CDN) Conference - 'Health Literacy: Opening doors to health and wellbeing'

Darwin, 9-10 September

The 2010 CDN conference will focus on the role and impact of health literacy on the prevention and management of chronic conditions and its importance in achieving positive health outcomes. More information from CDN, T: (08) 8922 8280, E: chronicdiseasesnetwork@nt.gov.au

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From: Glenn Taylor

Subject: Victorian Nurses Health Program inaugural 'Nursing & Midwifery Wellness Conference 2010'

The VNHP was established in August 2006 to provide advice, support and case management to nurses, midwives and students of nursing facing the challenges presented by their substance use. We expanded our scope in June 2007 due to a demand to support the needs of those with mental health concerns.

We work with individual nurses and midwives to provide confidential assessment, treatment and referral to a variety of services including counselling and financial support, case management, peer support groups and general support regarding industry issues.

We offer advice and guidance to managers and employers who suspect one of their employees is facing these challenges and needs advice regarding how best to support them.

The health impacts that alcohol and drug issues and mental health concerns have on our colleagues in the industry is of real concern to us. We work closely with nurses and midwives whose health is being adversely affected as a direct result of their substance use and or the stress and anxiety they are experiencing at the time.

The conference theme of Wellness was chosen to signify a state of being which we believe is something we should all allow ourselves time to reach, maintain and enjoy!

The inaugural VNHP Nursing & Midwifery Wellness Conference is an opportunity for nurses, midwives and students to take time out of their busy schedule to participate in an event which has been designed to promote a healthy mind, body and soul.

This conference will feature an exciting and engaging program which will include identification of unhealthy workplace behaviours, exposure to strategies to best deal with these and an introduction to a range of innovative ideas and thinking. In addition it will be an opportunity to take some time out to simply recognise the importance of caring for you and you having some fun!

You'll hear from some of Australia's most engaging and informative speakers as well as having access to a range of activities and products which I'm sure you'll find engaging and beneficial.

With that said, September means Spring and there is no better place to be than Melbourne! So, why not take some time out of your busy schedule to join us on 10 September 2010. You could even make a long weekend of it, shopping and sightseeing in this beautiful city!

For more details on the conference and to register go to <http://www.vnhp.org.au>

Glenn Taylor

Chief Executive Officer

Victorian Nurses Health Program

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ACSA Twenty 10

ACSA's annual National Conference. "Explore the possibilities" will be held at the Grand Chancellor Hotel on Hobart's waterfront from Sunday September 19 to Wednesday September 22. The Twenty 10 National Conference is the most important aged and community care event this year and we want you to be part of the action.

In addition to traditional presentations, this year's conference will also include a new concept - an Ideas Market Place. Projects, ideas and innovations suited to PowerPoint presentations displayed on

designated screens, will run throughout the Conference. The Ideas Market Place will allow delegates to gather for informal discussions on the presentations displayed. More details, including how to make a submission for the Ideas Market Place, will be provided in the coming weeks. For any queries contact Conference Design at (03) 6231 2999

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EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Integrating Services for a Healthy Start to Life

21-22 September 2010

Holiday Inn Esplanade, Darwin

Improving the wellbeing of Indigenous children is a national priority and the key to 'Closing The Gap' in a generation.

Play your part at this year's Early Childhood Development in Indigenous Communities Conference which will showcase existing successful initiatives, sharing best practice for integrated services which help 'Close The Gap' on child disadvantage. It will also assess progress made under the National Partnership for Early Childhood Development and identify key priority areas to improve service delivery and community wellbeing.

Download brochure at <http://www.thewebconsole.com/process/link.php?lId=831096&cId=1156791>

Register by 16 July 2010 and SAVE up to \$600

Call 1300 316 882 for more information

Email registration@criterionconferences.com

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Creating Futures 2010 - Harnessing creativity and social enterprise for mental health and wellbeing

Cairns, Far North Queensland

20~24 September, 2010

Creating Futures 2010, auspiced by the Centre for Rural & Remote Mental Health Queensland, is the fourth conference in a series in which the populations of interest are indigenous peoples from Australia, New Zealand, North America and the Pacific Islands and people living and working in rural and remote areas.

As with the previous Creating Futures conferences, there will be a focus on the social determinants of health. Creating Futures 2010 will also highlight creativity and social entrepreneurial approaches, posing the question: How is it possible to harness the creativity and energy of the social enterprise sector to address the underpinning social determinants of mental health and wellbeing in the populations of interest?

A National Workshop about Me and My Community, a Centre for Rural & Remote Mental Health Queensland project aimed at developing leadership capacity and mental health and wellbeing knowledge among young people and women working in the farming sector in rural and remote Australia, will be held on Friday, 24 September. This will follow a dedicated stream of presentations addressing the impact of environmental and other challenges impacting on rural and remote communities on 23 September.

For more information visit the website at <http://www.crrmhq.com.au>

Invitation to attend

Creating Futures convenor, Professor Ernest Hunter, and the Centre for Rural & Remote Mental Health Queensland cordially invite you to attend this exciting, inspiring event that will develop your professional practice and challenge your thinking about mental health and wellbeing in the 21st century. If you wish to be included in the mailing list to receive the advance program and registration brochure, please email your postal address with "Creating Futures" in the subject line to info@conorg.com.au

For further details regarding the meeting, please contact:

The Conference Organiser Pty Ltd
146 Leicester Street
Carlton, Victoria, AUSTRALIA 3053
Phone: Australia: (03) 9349 2220
Email: info@conorg.com.au
Fax: Australia: (03) 9349 2230
<http://www.conorg.com.au>

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Public Health Association Australia (PHAA) 40th Annual Conference

Adelaide, 27-29 September 2010

The PHAA VicBranch is offering a total of five \$750 scholarships for students, Aboriginal workers, and consumers to attend the 40th PHAA Conference. For details on how Victorian Aboriginal people can apply

<http://www.phaa.net.au/documents/email/100621ScholarshipsforAboriginalPeopletattendPHAAConf2010.doc>

Conference website is at <http://www.phaa.net.au/40thPHAANualConference.php>

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The 2nd Rural & Remote Mental Health Symposium 'Winds of Change: New Perspectives on Rural and Remote Mental Health', in Sydney, 29-30 September. The conference will explore new perspectives within the P4 parameters, policy initiatives, primary interventions, promoting recovery, preventing relapse. Call for abstracts is now open. Please see conference website:

<http://www.ausot.com.au/newsArticle.asp?id=208>

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Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINM), 12th Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting, in Sydney, 29 September-1 October 2010. The conference theme, Moving On, encompasses several streams including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health. Abstracts are invited by 16 July for more information contact CATSINM at E: .

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From: Sally Stevenson

Subject: National Centre for Farmer Health Inaugural Conference

'Opening the Gates on Farmer Health'

When: 11-13 October 2010

Where: Hamilton, Victoria

<http://www.farmerhealth.org.au>

The conference aims to develop relationships across agriculture, health sciences, medicine, public health, occupational health, veterinary science and health promotion to provide a better - and broader - understanding of agricultural health issues.

Contact:

Sally Stevenson

P: (03) 5551 8587

E: sally.stevenson@wdhs.net

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Rural Medicine Australia 2010

Scientific forum and conference

Rural Medicine Australia 2010, the national conference of ACRRM and the Rural Doctors Association of Australia, will this year include a scientific forum. The theme for this important gathering of doctors and others passionate about rural and remote medicine is 'Bringing it all together'. The venue is Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart. RMA 2010 will run from 22 to 24 October. Almost 300 people attended Rural Medicine Australia 2009 in Melbourne. We will shortly be calling for abstracts and launching the RMA 2010 website with registration and accommodation information.

<http://www.acrrm.org.au/news/rural-medicine-australia-2010-0>

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Evidence Based Healthcare Conference 'Show the Impact'

Adelaide, 27-29 October 2010

The Conference will provide an opportunity for industry professionals across a wide range of healthcare disciplines to meet and discuss the latest issues and developments in evidence-based healthcare and expand their working knowledge in order to provide the best outcomes of patient care and medical treatment. Early bird registration closes on 30 July. For more information

<http://www.alloccasionsgroup.com/EBHC2010>

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Medical Imaging Conference: Sydney, 11 and 12 November

The Australasian Conference on Error in Medical Imaging, titled Making Imaging Safer, aims to raise awareness of preventable harm to patients due to error in Medical Imaging. For more information, including abstract criteria or registration, please visit the conference website at

<http://www.conferenceworks.net.au/apsf/>

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The inaugural National Indigenous Policy and Dialogue Conference

Sydney
18-19 November
<http://nipdc.arts.unsw.edu.au>

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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Care

This conference highlights strength based approaches to closing the gap. To be held on 23-24 November, Citigate Central Hotel, Sydney. More information, registration details, program available on the flyer at

http://www.aboriginalhealth.flinders.edu.au/Newsletters/2010/Downloads/Aboriginal%20Healthcare_WEB.pdf

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Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs (APSAD)

2010 Conference, in Canberra, on 28 November-1 December. Under the theme, Building on the Capital, the conference will feature international and national speakers with a focus on new treatment, prevention and policy in the areas of drug and alcohol research. Symposia and abstracts that address all aspects of licit and illicit drug use/misuse are invited. For more information,

<http://www.apsadconference.com.au/> or apsad@wsm.com.au

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11TH NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

Perth Convention Centre
13-16 March 2011

<http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>

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2011 Primary Health Care Research Conference

Brisbane
13-15 July 2011

<http://www.phcris.org.au/conference>

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CONTRIBUTION AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMER

The NRHA e-forum is published fortnightly. Contributions are sought on any topic relevant to rural health concerns. Please send contributions to the moderator at grovesc@winshop.com.au (do not "reply" to this email - send contributions to grovesc@winshop.com.au). Contributions received by the Friday of publication will be included in the e-forum.

The NRHA e-forum is edited by a third party moderator, Jim Groves. As such, the Alliance does not control postings and the contents do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Alliance. Nor do

postings necessarily reflect the views of Jim Groves or any organisation he is associated with. Jim Groves can be contacted at grovesc@winshop.com.au
Please forward a copy to any colleague you think may be interested.

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Media Release

22 August 2010

A Hearing for the Bush?

A minority government supported by the Independents could be just the tonic for a stronger national focus on the future of rural and remote Australia.

With neither the Coalition nor Labor able to govern in their own right, they will have to give attention to the issues which caused them to lose ground to the Greens and Independents. It is already clear that, after stability of government, one of the central issues for those two groups will be the sustainability of communities and businesses in rural areas.

This was number one in the Alliance's list of issues for the election campaign, not only because rural and remote regions contribute so much to the Australian economy, but also because the infrastructure and services available in rural areas are key determinants of health and wellbeing.

Bob Katter has summed it up emotively by saying that all he is asking for is "the right of rural Australia to survive".

Dr Jenny May, Chairperson of the Alliance, has pointed to a number of specific issues of potential benefit to rural people which could well be advanced through the new Parliament.

One is high speed broadband for people wherever they live, for business and communications as well as for telehealth. Another is an improved dental care system for those currently disadvantaged in this respect, and this includes people in the bush," she said. "These are some of the issues that a minority government would find widespread support - including from the Independents and the Greens."

There are three levels at which the new government can signal its support for the 32 per cent who live and work in rural areas. First, it can consistently show it understands their special circumstances. Second, it can begin to act on a medium-term vision for rural areas through regional development, taxation reform, telecommunications, health and educational policies. Third, it can act to improve equity of access to health services and education, and to invest urgently in a better distribution of the health workforce.

These things should be part of the agenda for a stable and ethical national government which does not merely "permit" rural areas to survive, but will underpin their economic and social contributions to Australia and deliver health equity to their residents.

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Media Release

24 August 2010

Rural infrastructure under the spotlight

The infrastructure required for productive and healthy living in rural, regional and remote Australia - including broadband applications in health - will be the subject of a free public seminar in Canberra on Monday 30 August.

confirm the importance of continued health reform that will lead to a national system for local action and greater equity.

Other key issues for consideration this weekend by the Alliance include the parlous state of dental health and dental health services in rural and remote areas, e-health, and a guarantee of a fair share of hospital resources for rural areas. The challenge of a better distribution of doctors and other health professionals in rural and remote areas will also be discussed.

On Monday at the National Museum of Australia the Alliance is hosting a free public seminar on rural and regional infrastructure - which will include case studies on local infrastructure for health.

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Media Release

29 August 2010

Independents urged to champion rural health shakeup

Rural GP Dr Jenny May, re-elected chair of the 31-member National Rural Health Alliance, will tomorrow meet with New England MP Tony Windsor to discuss the drive for equal funding for the bush and a plan to ensure the sustainability of rural communities.

On Tuesday she will meet at his request with a second independent MP, Rob Oakeshott, Member for Lyne.

"Rural communities are at a crossroads and no one appreciates that more than Tony Windsor and Rob Oakeshott," Dr May said last night. "Experience has shown that rural Australians know how to do more with less - they are experienced campaigners in the battle against adversity.

"After three days of constructive engagement with the NRHA Council in Canberra, there is much to discuss both with Mr Windsor and Mr Oakeshott in the wider interests of the rural communities that are now being given overdue attention."

The Alliance is expected to provide the MPs with a raft of proposals aimed at delivering better health services in rural and remote areas of greatest need.

Among the issues the Alliance will canvas are:

- * nation-building investment in an affordable national broadband system capable of providing the community with e-health applications and a platform for business;
- * delivery of health infrastructure to rural and remote areas on the basis of the relative needs of each community;
- * commitment to health reform including federal responsibility for funding primary care, aged care and integrated care in smaller communities;
- * an integrated package of measures to rebuild and redistribute the health workforce needed to service rural, regional and remote areas; and
- * an increased focus on oral health, including workforce numbers and distribution.

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Media Release

1 September 2010

Rural GP leads action for healthier bush communities

Tamworth GP Jenny May has been re-elected unopposed to serve as Chair of the National Rural Health Alliance for a third consecutive term. Dr May is currently based in Alice Springs.

immediate need is for Julia Gillard and Tony Abbott is to put their position on the public record and clearly state their intentions.

The Alliance's seven-point plan and the set of commitments it has proposed to the major Parties and the Independent MPs are both at <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>