

**National Rural Health Alliance eforum - 3 May 2010**

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From: Sarah Smith  
Subject: **RDAQ 2010**

RDAQ 2010  
11 - 13 June 2010  
Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre  
Contact: Sarah Smith / 07 3105 7800 / [ssmith@healthworkforce.com.au](mailto:ssmith@healthworkforce.com.au)

This conference is a unique opportunity for all healthcare professionals to access key politicians and decision makers and to have their say on the future of rural health.

Sarah Smith  
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From: Natalie Quinn  
Subject: **National Heart Week, 2-8 May**

Learn the warning signs of heart attack  
During Heart Week 2010, the Heart Foundation is urging all Australians to learn the warning signs of heart attack. Play your part in Heart Week by encouraging people in your workplace to learn about the warning signs of heart attack by visiting <http://www.heartattackfacts.org>

In the lead up to Heart Week you may be interested to know:

Heart attack is the number one cause of death for Australian men and women. In Australia, more than 50 per cent of heart attack deaths occur out of hospital and about 25 per cent of those who have a heart attack die within one hour of their first ever symptom. Many lives could be saved if people experiencing a heart attack received early medical treatment. People can save their own lives by recognising the warning signs of heart attack and taking appropriate action. The Heart Foundation is committed to saving lives and reducing the burden of long term illness caused by heart attack in Australia. If you would like more information about Heart Week or the Warning Signs of Heart Attack program please contact Natalie Quinn by email [Natalie.quinn@heartfoundation.org.au](mailto:Natalie.quinn@heartfoundation.org.au) or by phone 9388 3343.

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### **NRHA on TWITTER**

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

Characteristics of the PHI rebate: regressive (ie unfair); a very indirect way to support public hospitals; subject of a statement/promise  
Govt decided (21 April) to go for a Human Rights Framework - and not a Human Rights Act as proposed and supported by many in the know  
Good news? - now that CPRS/ETS are off the agenda, PMO and PM&C can concentrate on managing complexities of a new health system  
PM on 'allying' the LHN's geog. footprint with that of the PHCO and aged care network so we have systems which properly talk to each other  
Key for rural/remote: relationship Local Hosp. Network/Primary Care Org. Some areas they shd be one. Or share KPIs for better health  
'Health reform': a catch-all for several years' worth of new initiatives: watch this space for analysis of rural/remote implications

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### **NRHA on YouTube**

<http://www.youtube.com/user/RuralHealthAlliance>

Nurse TV: The Country's Voice  
Public Seminar 2009

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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 -

\* 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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**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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**High-tech health in the bush**

Technological innovation is an important part of supporting the health and wellbeing of communities writes Ben O'Mara in Eureka Street.

The Rudd Government has recognised the positive impact that new and emerging digital technology can have in creating better health outcomes by its commitment to eHealth in the planned reform of Australia's health and hospital system, the introduction of the Individual Electronic Patient Health Record (IEHR), and the contribution of significant funding to the National eHealth Transition Authority. eHealth, it seems, is the way of the future.

The problem is that the rollout of the IEHR and other eHealth projects face challenges due to the differences between and among communities across Australia in relation to their quality and frequency of access to technology, and the ways in which health and wellbeing are understood and communicated.

Full article at <http://www.eurekastreet.com.au/article.aspx?aeid=20408>

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**JOIN FRIENDS**

We would like to encourage you to join or renew your membership of friends of the Alliance for another year. 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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### **MARCH EDITION OF PARTYLINE OUT NOW**

Partyline 38 is available on the National Rural Health Alliance website. This edition was produced in conjunction with the Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute (APHCRI) at the ANU and contains two feature articles from APHCRI. It has a focus on health reform and includes responses to health announcements from both the Prime Minister and the Opposition Leader. Two remote area nurses reflect on the challenges faced by their profession, and some RAMUS scholars report on their rural placements. There are articles on dental health, regional development, rural GP locum schemes, and an e-health update, as well as information on resources and news on rural health.

To contribute to future editions (article, photo, letter to the editor, poem), contact [partyline@ruralhealth.org.au](mailto:partyline@ruralhealth.org.au) Back copies are available on the Partyline page of the website at <http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/publications/?IntContId=57&IntCatId=6>

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### **Has the central proposal for Indigenous health reform been dropped?**

(Extract from Croakey, April 28, 2010. Full article at <http://blogs.crikey.com.au/croakey/2010/04/28/has-the-central-proposal-for-indigenous-health-reform-been-dropped/>)

A "radical change" in the organisation of health care for Indigenous Australians was one of the highest priority recommendations from the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission (at least judging by its prominent position towards the top of the executive summary of the Commission's final report). So what has happened to the proposal in the 10-months since it was put to the Government? Is there any intention to advance it?

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### **CLICK TO GIVE FREE MAMMOGRAMS**

<http://www.thebreastcancersite.com/clickToGive/home.faces?siteId=2>

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### **NSW RURAL DOCTORS NETWORK SCHOLARSHIPS - APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN**

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

Applications are now open for the following scholarships from the NSW Rural Doctors Network:

- \* Bush Bursary/Country Women's Association Scholarships (Applications close 3 May 2010)
- \* NSW Rural Resident Medical Officer Cadetships (Applications close 2 August 2010).

Students must be in their second or later year of their medical degree. For scholarship information, eligibility criteria and application forms, go to the RDN website at <http://www.nswrdn.com.au> and click on 'Students & Scholarships' then 'RDN Scholarships'. For further enquiries, contact Marie Kelliher on 02 8337 8100 or email [students@nswrdn.com.au](mailto:students@nswrdn.com.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](mailto:melbourne@johnwiley.com.au)

April 2010 issue now available. Contents include:

- Editorial - Health reform and the immediate needs of rural and remote communities
- Policy Review - A brief history of 'Health reform' in Australia, 2007-2009
- Viewpoint - Charting the future course of rural health and remote health in Australia: Why we need theory
- Original Articles
  - From rural beginnings to statewide roll-out: Evaluation of facilitator training for a group-based diabetes prevention program
  - Urban-rural differences in psychiatric rehabilitation outcomes
  - Evaluation of a mobile screening service for abdominal aortic aneurysm in Broken Hill, a remote regional centre in far western NSW
  - Availability of antidotes for the treatment of acute poisoning in Queensland public hospitals
- Short Reports
  - Rural Birth Index for Australia?
  - Medical students out of town but not out of touch: Use of personal digital assistants to improve access to clinical information and enhance learning at the point of care in rural and remote Australia
  - Factors to consider when starting up a videoconference medical oncology outreach clinic

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

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### **RURAL HEALTH ON THE WEB**

The NRHSN has created the Rural High School Visit website to assist Rural Health Clubs. It explains how to run a Rural High School Visit, includes an electronic version of the new RHSV Kit, and shows the latest visits. The site is also a great resource for high school students, teachers and parents who want further information about the program.

<http://www.nrhsn-rhsv.org.au/>

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### **LIFELINE INFORMATION SERVICE - 1300 13 11 14**

Your Rural Mental Health Information Service Lifeline's Information Service is a rural mental health information service. Information provided includes: referral to services and web sites, printed material and a range of self help resources. The self-help resources focus on practical steps to help promote mental health in a range of areas. For information and copies of resources call or visit <http://www.lifeline.org.au/infoservice> and further information is available at [infoservice@lifeline.org.au](mailto:infoservice@lifeline.org.au) and <http://www.lifeline.org.au>

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### **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NEWS**

Council of Australian Governments Meeting - 19 and 20 April 2010, Canberra

[http://www.coag.gov.au/coag\\_meeting\\_outcomes/2010-04-19/index.cfm](http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2010-04-19/index.cfm)

#### **\$637,000 funding to enhance Wellbeing Centre and Clinic in Mossman Gorge**

The Minister for Indigenous Health and Rural and Regional Health, Warren Snowdon, announced a \$302,000 investment to expand facilities at the Mosman Gorge Wellbeing Centre in Queensland's Cape York region. The funding for the Wellbeing Centre is part of an additional \$2.4 million allocated by the Rudd Government for upgrades to four Wellbeing Centres across Cape York, in Coen, Hope Vale, Aurukun and Mossman Gorge. The Mossman Gorge Wellbeing Centre continues to evolve as a community hub, and has established supporting groups, for women.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr10-ws-ws031.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2010&mth=4>

#### **\$2.4 million to enhance Wellbeing Centres across Cape York**

Mr Snowdon in visiting the region with the Member for Leichhardt, Jim Turnour, said the funding will expand facilities and provide: Aurukun Wellbeing Centre with two additional counsellor positions, as well as an additional meeting and counselling room and a staff house (\$885,000) Mossman Gorge Wellbeing Centre with enhanced meeting and counselling facilities, and a car parking space (\$335,000) Hope Vale Wellbeing Centre with provide an addition staff house and space for meeting and counselling facilities (\$536,800) Details of the expansion of the Coen Wellbeing Centre will be released in the near future. The Wellbeing Centres were established in mid 2008, as part of the Cape York reform trial, and were designed to help address concerns from Cape York Elders and Leaders about deteriorating social and economic conditions and they are proving to be popular.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr10-ws-ws032.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2010&mth=4>

#### **\$14 Million to Support Palliative Care**

Minister for Ageing Justine Elliot, announced \$14 million to support initiatives that improve palliative care support and services for patients, their families and carers. Palliative care is the specialised care of someone who has an advanced terminal illness. Included in the announcement is \$3 million to the Australian General Practice Network (AGPN) for 35 Divisions of General Practice, or consortia of Divisions, to continue to provide coordinated palliative care to patients and families in rural and regional areas.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr10-je-je032.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2010&mth=4>

### **More Money to Boost Services for Indigenous Mums and Bubs in WA, VIC, SA, TAS**

Indigenous babies will have a better chance of being born healthy and staying healthy following the announcement today of additional Rudd Government funding for nine mothers and babies services.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr10-ws-ws034.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2010&mth=4>

### **\$13 Million to Establish a Drug And Alcohol Service in Cape York**

At the end of a tour of the Cape York region, the Minister for Indigenous Health and Rural and Regional Health, Warren Snowdon has announced funding of \$13 million to establish a new, residential rehabilitation service near Cooktown. Provide clients with intensive treatments including work readiness programs, support and counselling, and relapse prevention programs Provide approximately 20 staffing jobs Be accessible to people across the Cape York region 'This is great news for individuals, families and the broader community across the Cape who are affected by drug and Alcohol issues,' Mr Snowdon said. 'This service will ensure there will be a comprehensive suite of drug and alcohol services available to the people of the Cape and surrounding areas.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr10-ws-ws033.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2010&mth=4>

### **National Indigenous Health Award Winners Announced**

Indigenous organisations and Individuals that have promoted quality and excellence in health care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have been recognised in new national award ceremony.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr10-ws-ws035.htm>

### **Helping Indigenous people with a mental illness**

Indigenous people living with mental illness, grief, and trauma will have greater access to much needed support through new and expanded Australian Government Personal Helpers and Mentors (PHaMs) services.

[http://jennymacklin.fahcsia.gov.au/internet/jennymacklin.nsf/content/indigenous\\_mental\\_illness\\_21apr2010.htm](http://jennymacklin.fahcsia.gov.au/internet/jennymacklin.nsf/content/indigenous_mental_illness_21apr2010.htm)

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### **Federal health reforms not enough for regional Australia - Academic**

A Charles Sturt University (CSU) health researcher does not believe the latest round of health reforms announced yesterday (20 April) in Canberra will address the difference in health services available to rural and metropolitan residents. "The current focus on hospital services will not necessarily improve the health of rural people. Improving acute care in major

hospitals by reducing hospital waiting lists for elective surgery and waiting times in emergency rooms is great for our regional cities," said Associate Professor Sue McAlpin, the Associate Head of the University's School of Dentistry and Health Sciences. But rural people need much improved access to primary health services, GPs and allied health services, as well as better coordination between aged care and community based services."

<http://news.csu.edu.au/director/latestnews.cfm?itemID=1EE0A2600A0820D813C6D38FF204EF55>

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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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**ABS RELEASES**

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2008  
(Cat 4714.0)

This publication presents summary results from the 2008 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS). The survey was conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) from August 2008 to April 2009, collecting information from approximately 13,300 Indigenous Australians living in private dwellings in remote and non-remote areas, including discrete communities.

<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4714.0Main+Features12008?OpenDocument>

1379.0.55.001 National Regional Profile, 2004 to 2008

The National Regional Profile (NRP) presents, for all Australia, a range of data for various types of small regions. Data are available for Local Government Areas, Statistical Local Areas and other larger geographies.

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1379.0.55.001?OpenDocument>

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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/>)

**Rudd plan to inject health dollars**

The Federal Government is providing up to \$13.6 million to support additional clinical training places for university students in a range of services from metropolitan rehabilitation services to rural and remote health services.

<http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2010/04/16/2874601.htm>

**Rural health groups nervous about COAG talks**

Rural health lobby groups are closely watching today's meeting on health reforms at the Council of Australian Governments. The Rural Doctors Association is urging the Premiers not to sign the Federal Government's healthcare plan until there's a solution to attract and keep doctors in rural and remote Australia.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/201004/s2876490.htm>

**What healthcare reforms mean for rural areas**

The Federal Government has made a deal with the states and territories, except Western Australia, on a new health plan for the country.

In this report: Steve Sant, CEO of the Rural Doctors Association of Australia; Associate Professor Sabina Knight, Centre for Remote Health, Alice Springs; Sue Brumby, Sustainable Farm Families

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/telegraph/content/2010/s2878857.htm>

**Scepticism about health reform benefits for rural Australia**

Rural health experts are sceptical that the Federal Government's health and hospital reforms will cut bureaucracy in the bush.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/201004/s2878784.htm>

**Swine flu hit Indigenous people hardest: study**

New research shows the Northern Territory's Indigenous population recorded the highest hospital admission rates for swine flu in Australia.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/04/22/2880241.htm>

**How the health deal will roll out in the regions**

<http://www.abc.net.au/local/audio/2010/04/22/2879651.htm>

**Calls to use cigarette tax hike on Indigenous health**

An Aboriginal health service is calling on the Federal Government to allocate more tobacco tax revenue for Indigenous anti-smoking programs.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/05/01/2887652.htm>

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**RDAA NEWS**

**Ensure states don't short-change rural, doctors urge Rudd Government**

28 April 2010

[http://www.rdaa.com.au/uploaded\\_documents/COAG%20outcome%20--%20April%202010.pdf](http://www.rdaa.com.au/uploaded_documents/COAG%20outcome%20--%20April%202010.pdf)

**Rural doctors urge state governments: don't buy Healthcare House from Rudd Real Estate until the 'rural foundations' are fixed**

18 April 2010

[http://www.rdaa.com.au/uploaded\\_documents/States%20urged%20not%20to%20sign%20up%20to%20healthcare%20plan%20--%20April%202010.pdf](http://www.rdaa.com.au/uploaded_documents/States%20urged%20not%20to%20sign%20up%20to%20healthcare%20plan%20--%20April%202010.pdf)

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**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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### ARTICLE IN 'RURAL AND REMOTE HEALTH'

"Latte rural": the tangible and intangible factors important in the choice of a rural practice by recent GP graduates'

What is the desired rural practice environment for generations X and Y GPs? "Latte rural"! To find out what coffee has to do with rural workforce, read this intriguing Australian research into the motivation of the next generations of rural GPs.

<http://www.rrh.org.au/articles/showarticlenew.asp?ArticleID=1316>

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### CURRENT ISSUE OF eMJA

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

Expiry of patent protection on statins: effects on pharmaceutical expenditure in Australia - 27 April 2010

Disproportionate impact of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza on Indigenous people in the Top End of Australia's Northern Territory - 22 April 2010

Pandemic influenza A (H1N1) 2009 in an urban Aboriginal medical service - 22 April 2010

Current issue: 19 April 2010

From the Editor's Desk: e Rating doctors

Editorials

Appearances may deceive: what's going on with Australian suicide statistics?

Primary care services and emergency medicine

Research

Suicide in Australia: meta-analysis of rates and methods of suicide between 1988 and 2007

Cost-effectiveness of volumetric alcohol taxation in Australia

Impact of coronial investigations on manner and cause of death determinations in Australia, 2000-2007

Health Care - The effect of a general practice after-hours clinic on emergency department presentations: a regression time series analysis

Public Health - Achieving standardised reporting of suicide in Australia: rationale and program for change

Systematic Review - Homeopathy: what does the "best" evidence tell us?

Viewpoint - Iodine deficiency in Australia: is iodine supplementation for pregnant and lactating women warranted?

For Debate

How can we reduce alcohol-related road crash deaths among young Australians?

Alcohol policy reform in Australia: what can we learn from the evidence?

Notable Cases - Relapsing vivax malaria despite chemoprophylaxis in two blood donors who had travelled to Papua New Guinea

Diagnostic Dilemmas - Visceral leishmaniasis due to *Leishmania donovani* in a patient with advanced HIV infection

Letters

Expecting the unexpected: intravenous insulin at Sydney's medically supervised injecting centre

Coeliac genetic testing: prone to misuse

Sudden bilateral deafness and *Chlamydomphila* infection

Risks associated with low functional health literacy in an Australian population

Pregnancy after aortic replacement graft

Book Review - Mosby's dictionary of medicine, nursing & health professions

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## **BUILDING THE AGENDA: THE FIRST NATIONAL FORUM ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN PRIMARY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH**

May 2010 will see an important national Forum on Safety and Quality in Primary and Community Health. The Forum, to be held in Sydney, will bring together practitioners, consumers, administrators, researchers and academics across the spectrum of community based health care.

It will be the first gathering in Australia concerning health service safety and quality, targeted to multi-disciplinary primary care including indigenous health, general medical practitioners, mental health, drug and alcohol, health promotion, aged care, as well as rural and remote health services.

Auspiced by the National Primary and Community Health Network, the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, NSW Health and the Quality Improvement Council, the forum will be held on 10 May 2010.

The Forum will be an opportunity to exchange information and to explore the quality implications of the federal government's health reforms. Well known media personality and facilitator Julie McCrossin has been booked to ensure the event is interactive.

Find out more about the Forum, including program and registration details at <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/aipc/pchnetwork/national.htm>

For further information please contact Jenny Macmillan, Australian Primary and Community Health Network (03) 9479 1772 [j.macmillan@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:j.macmillan@latrobe.edu.au)

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**Lunch Time Talk: 'Indigenous Minds': A paradigm for Primary Health Care Research**

**by John Binda Reid**

WHEN: Monday 10 May 2010

WHERE: Flinders University

Talk commences 12.30pm by John Binda Reid Indigenous: Research Fellow (Centre for Remote Health - PHCRED).

John is a member of the Kokatha nation (located in Northern SA). He presented at last year's Tri State Conference in Alice Springs and was very well received, he is an RDP fellow with the PHCRED program in Alice Springs. <http://www.crh.org.au/content/view/195/35/>

His paper examines a philosophical approach to theory of knowledge approaches to Indigenous health. John will be visiting Flinders from 10 - 13 May, 2010 I hope that you can attend.

Please RSVP to [raelene.burnley@flinders.edu.au](mailto:raelene.burnley@flinders.edu.au) to assist with catering for lunch

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**2nd Rural and Remote Health Scientific Symposium**

The Alliance is one of four organisations auspicing the 2nd Rural and Remote Health Scientific Symposium to be held in Brisbane, 9-11 June 2010. Further information:

<http://rrhss.ruralhealth.org.au/>

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**Inaugural National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Conference (NIDAC 2010): Listening, Learning and Leading.**

16 - 18 June 2010

Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, South Australia

The National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Conference aims to assist and contribute to further develop the capacity of those working to address the harms associated with the use of alcohol and other drugs in meaningful and practical ways. The Conference will also showcase and celebrate the quiet efforts and achievements of those striving to improve the health and well being of our communities. It is a time for listening, learning and leading the way on what can be accomplished on this important health and social issue within Australia.

To view flyer and details go to <http://www.nidaconference.com.au/>

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**PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCH AND HEALTH REFORM: IMPROVING CARE CONFERENCE**

Wednesday 30 June 2010 - Friday 2 July 2010

Darwin, Northern Territory

Come to Darwin for the 2010 PHC Research Conference - Primary health care research and health reform: Improving care, and participate in one of the premier primary health care networking events.

This conference is a must for anyone with an interest in primary health care research,

evaluation and development. It will provide essential opportunities for researchers, decision makers, practitioners and consumers to share ideas, debate critical PHC matters, form collaborations and network with speakers and other delegates.

The program is an exciting blend of plenary sessions, workshops, symposia, poster and paper sessions, and influential presenters from both Australia and overseas. Funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, it is supported by both the Australian Association of Academic Primary Care (AAAPC) and the Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute (APHCRI, based at ANU).

Earlybird registration is available until Friday 14 May

Presented by PHCRIS

Event website: <http://www.phcris.org.au/conference/2010>

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**NAIDOC WEEK**

4-11 July 2010

<http://www.naidoc.org.au/index.aspx>

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**National University Rural Health Conference**

NURHC '10 will be held in Alice Springs from 15-17 July. With Ernie Dingo confirmed as our conference MC, over 400 nursing, allied health and medical members attending, inspiring speakers, student presentations, interactive workshops and several awards for members, there is no better place to be this July. More information at

<http://www.nrhn.org.au/site/index.cfm?display=166567>

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**2010 Secretariat for National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC) Conference**

Alice Springs, 27-29 July

<http://www.snaicc.asn.au/policy/conference>

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**Assistive Technology: The tip of the iceberg**

Australian Rehabilitation & Assistive Technology Association National Conference

Tuesday 10 - Friday 13 August 2010, Hobart, TAS

On behalf of the conference organising committee, it is our pleasure to invite you to the 2010 ARATA National Conference, AT: The tip of the iceberg, to be held in Hobart, Tasmania, from Tuesday 10- Friday 13 August 2010. With the conference being held in Hobart, Tasmania, the home of the ice breakers heading to the Antarctic, papers will similarly crack through the surface to look more deeply at what lies beneath, explore new frontiers and meet the challenges of the pitfalls and crevasses. There will be an emphasis on thinking beyond the

prescription of equipment to look more deeply at the issues of funding, training and support for users and their support personnel, and helping consumers to have the endurance to persevere with their equipment, despite the obstacles. Like the Antarctic explorers, there will be a focus on research and discovery - showcasing new products and ensuring ease in the use of equipment by capitalising on universal design and mainstream products. 'ARATAS 2010' will be full of new territory to explore, with the promise of many adventures to come in the field of Assistive Technology.

Karen Frost & Christopher Bryg  
Convenors, ARATAS 2010

For information about ARATA, and the 2010 conference, visit the website at <http://www.e-bility.com/arata/conf.php>

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### **9th World Indigenous Women and Wellness Conference**

Hosted by the Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation

22-25 August 2010

Darwin

The corporation welcomes all people who are interested in, or concerned with, Indigenous women and wellness to get involved in the conference and particularly encourages the participation of Indigenous women. More information from Jodie Farrow, Community Health Engagement/Health Promotions Officer, Danila Dilba Health Service, email [jodie.farrow@daniladilba.org.au](mailto:jodie.farrow@daniladilba.org.au) T: 08 89435100, F: 08 89435101, W: <http://www.daniladilba.org.au>

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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 Druitt Street)  
Sydney NSW 2001, Australia  
Phone: +61 2 9265 0700  
Email: [aaqhc2010@arinex.com.au](mailto:aaqhc2010@arinex.com.au)

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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](mailto:chronicdiseasesnetwork@nt.gov.au)

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From: Karina Crawford  
Subject: **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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**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](mailto: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](mailto:info@conorg.com.au)  
Fax: Australia: (03) 9349 2230  
<http://www.conorg.com.au>

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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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**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](mailto:apsad@wsm.com.au)

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The **11th National Rural Health Conference** will be held in Perth on 13-16 March 2011.

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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](mailto:grovesc@winshop.com.au) (do not "reply" to this email - send contributions to [grovesc@winshop.com.au](mailto: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](mailto:grovesc@winshop.com.au)

Please forward a copy to any colleague you think may be interested.

