

National Rural Health Alliance E-forum 10 July 2009

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July 2009 E-news from the NRHA

Have you visited the post-Conference website?

<http://10thnrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/?IntContId=38>

Transcripts, presentations and photographs of the keynote speakers can be seen on the Keynote Speakers page at <http://10thnrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/keynotes/?IntCatId=15>. The remaining transcripts will be progressively added as they become available.

Other information such as the full set of recommendations, the communiqué and a photo gallery are also now available. There is a list of sponsors and exhibitors with links to those organisations and all the information in the e-satchels. The full Conference Proceedings, including concurrent session papers, will also be available online soon.

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

AJRH Writing for Publication Seminar

The Board of Management of the Australian Journal of Rural Health (AJRH) sponsored a pre-Conference seminar on 17 May 2009 in Cairns. The presentations made at the seminar are available from the AJRH page at

<http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/ajrh/?IntContId=14758&IntCatId=20>

NRHA policy work

The Rural Health Standing Committee of the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) met in Hobart on 24-25 June 2009 and the Alliance attended that part of the meeting focusing on development of a new national strategic framework or plan for rural and remote health. Preparation of such a plan will be important work over the next 12 months, complementary to strategic reform in other areas of the health sector (including the National Health and Hospital Reform Commission's (NHHRC) proposals for 'ending the blame game',

investing in maternity services, a new national preventative health care strategy and a national primary care strategy).

The Alliance has welcomed the Senate's report on men's health, which includes strong support for a longitudinal study, and is pleased at the prospect of the Commonwealth Government developing a national policy on men's health.

The Alliance is preparing for the debates now expected on strategic reforms in health by unpacking some of the details on regional governance and engagement, and the relationships between sustainable communities and good health. In this latter respect there is a keen eye on the 'Territory Towns' proposal which would apparently see the Federal and NT Governments collaborate to confine future investments in infrastructure (and services and workforce?) to selected nodes, to the potential detriment of smaller places and outstations.

Recommendations and contacts from the 10th Conference have re-energised the Alliance's work on climate change and health, and on the links between arts, health and community development.

There is mounting frustration in the general community that there is no apparent progress on patients' travel and accommodation, and ongoing concern about oral and mental health in The Bush.

The likely impacts on rural oral and mental health, and on the health of Indigenous people, should be key factors in determining Governments' approach to health reform.

NRHA Fact Sheets

The Alliance produces Fact Sheets on key rural and remote health issues. We hope you find them useful and we are happy to work in collaboration with other organisations on new factsheets. See <http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/factsheets/?IntCatId=41>

Partyline No 36 Out Soon

The next edition of Partyline will be out soon and will include a wrap-up of the 10th Conference. <http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/publications/?IntContId=57&IntCatId=6>
Please let us know if your postal/email address has changed.

We are happy to continue to send you Partyline in hardcopy, but if you would prefer to receive it electronically let us know by email: nrha@ruralhealth.org.au

Australian Journal of Rural Health

Issue 17(3) of the Australian Journal of Rural Health was published online on 21 May 2009 and is now available to subscribers in hard copy.

Key topics include missed opportunities for rural health research; a case study of a successful postgraduate program designed to meet the needs of remote health practitioners; the impacts of rural clinical placements on health students; body fatness and small screen activity among regional Victorian children; stress and help-seeking for drought stricken citrus growers in the Riverland SA; and accommodation support for adults with intellectual disability.

Access AJRH online at: <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/118489045/home>

NRHA News <http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/news/?IntCatId=8>

You can now read up-to-date news from the Alliance in the NRHA News section on our homepage.

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SENATE INQUIRY INTO REGIONAL AND REMOTE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

The Senate Select Committee on Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities has tabled its second report. The report makes 11 recommendations, two of which relate to the BasicsCard, introduced as part of the NTER income management measures. The committee found that some roadhouses that had refused to sell non-sniffable Opal fuel in the Petrol Sniffing Strategy Zone in Central Australia had been licensed as BasicsCard merchants to sell fuel. The committee recommended that these roadhouses be prevented from being licensed unless they agreed to sell Opal fuel. The committee also found that some communities did not have access to a licensed store and were therefore unfairly required to travel long distances often at great expense to access their income managed funds. The committee recommended that alternative arrangements be made so that people in these communities can access their income managed funds more easily.

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/indig_ctte/index.htm

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CLICK TO GIVE FREE MAMMOGRAMS

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

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COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENTS' MEETING, 2 JULY 2009

Australia faces ongoing economic and social challenges which Australian Governments are determined to address. COAG had a broad ranging discussion on further measures to overcome Indigenous disadvantage.

The Chair of the Productivity Commission, Mr Gary Banks AO, gave a presentation to COAG on the findings of the report *Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage: Key Indicators 2009*. The report shows that while there has been some progress against the Closing the Gap targets, such as infant mortality, employment and home ownership, overall the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians remains unacceptable.

Given this context, COAG agreed that effective implementation of the existing National Agreements and National Partnership Agreements was vital to close the gap in Indigenous outcomes. As part of COAG's increasing focus on implementation issues, particular effort will be needed on Indigenous outcomes. In addition, COAG asked the Working Group on Indigenous Reform to prepare a national strategy to improve food security for Indigenous people living in remote Australia before the end of 2009, adopted a National Integrated Strategy for Closing the Gap, agreed to a Closing the Gap: National Indigenous Education Statement, and signed a Closing the Gap: National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Public Internet Access. COAG also agreed to a Closing the Gap; National Urban and Regional Service Delivery Strategy to address Indigenous disadvantage in urban and

regional locations.

http://www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2009-07-02/index.cfm

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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

June 2009 issue now available. Contents include:

Editorial - 'A fair go' in rural areas: What progress since 1991?

Review Article - Sixteen years on: Has quality of care for rural and non-compensable traumatic brain injury clients improved?

Original Articles

Funding for rural health research from the Australian Research Council: A missed opportunity?

The frontline and the ivory tower: A case study of service and professional-driven curriculum
Loss of income and levels of scholarship support for students on rural clinical placements: A survey of medical, nursing and allied health students

Relationships between body fatness, small-screen sedentary activity and regionality among schoolchildren in Victoria, Australia

Stress and help-seeking for drought-stricken citrus growers in the Riverland of South Australia

Promoting mental health care in a rural paediatric unit through participatory action research

Adults with intellectual disability in regional Australia: Incidence of disability and provision of accommodation support to their ageing carers

Short Report - Exploration of the preconceptions of living in a rural community by general practitioner registrar partners

Letter to the Editor - Trichiasis: Out of mind, out of sight

From the Journal Associates - Providing a voice for rural nurses and midwives: Rural Nursing and Midwifery Faculty, Royal College of Nursing Australia

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

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Bridges and barriers: addressing Indigenous incarceration and health - Report by the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee

Despite the investment by governments to reduce incarceration, Indigenous Australians have continued to fill our correction systems at alarmingly disproportionate rates, making up

almost one quarter of Australian's prison population and over half of Indigenous juveniles in corrective institutions. This paper calls for action to address this 'disturbing problem' revealing Indigenous adults are 13 times more likely to be in prison than other Australians. The paper recommends individual education support funds be launched for every Indigenous young person and the eligibility of current diversion programs be changed to enable Indigenous people greater access to alcohol and drug treatment instead of prison.
http://www.nidac.org.au/publications/pdf/nidac_bridges_and_barriers.pdf

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Join *friends* of the Alliance now for 2009 and get discounted registration for the 10th Conference in Cairns in May. People who pay the *friends* fee after 1 September are members for the whole of the following calendar year. *friends* members will also receive the updated CD 'Rural and Remote Health Papers 1991-2009' (due out in late 2009), connection with the Alliance's policy work and regular issues of the *Partyline* newsletter. Above all, membership of *friends* gives you the opportunity to support the Alliance and its work. The *friends* Advisory Committee is: Alicia Eaton (Vic), John Ferguson (Qld), Jane Fisher (ACT), Janet Fletcher (NT), Pauline Glover (SA), Nigel Jefford (WA), Marie Lally (SA), Suzanne Little (Qld), Irene Mills (WA), Beth Smith (TAS), Janie Smith (NSW), Janet Struber (NT), David Templeman (ACT), David Thompson (Vic) and Robin Toohey (NSW). Members of the Committee are soon to elect a Chairperson, who will be a Member of the NRHA Council.

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SCRIPT RIGHTS NOT A PRIORITY: EXPERT

(Extract from Pharmacy News, http://www.pharmacynews.com.au/articles/Script-rights-not-a-priority-expert_z489846.htm)

A proposal for pharmacists operating in remote Aboriginal communities to be given rights to prescribe medications has been dismissed by a prominent expert on indigenous pharmacy. Rollo Manning, a pharmacy consultant in the Northern Territory, said increasing dispensing fees for pharmacists working with indigenous communities and freeing up pharmacy ownership restrictions should be given higher priority than prescribing rights - an idea which was recently recommended by the Australian Pharmacy Council (APC). Mr Manning said prescribing involved diagnosis, which was something that pharmacists did not receive much training in.

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

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NEWS

FUNDING TO KEEP MEDICAL STUDENTS IN NT

For the first time, NT medical students will be able to complete their entire medical degree without having to leave the Northern Territory. The Government expects the NT medical program to increase the number of graduates who choose to practise in the NT after finishing their medical degree. These facilities, which will be centred around the Royal Darwin Hospital and Charles Darwin University, will enable the NT medical program to be delivered. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr09-nr-nr100.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2009&mth=7>

Delivering More Health Professionals to NT Communities

A significant milestone has been reached with the Remote Area Health Corps placing its 100th health professional in a remote Indigenous community in the Northern Territory. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr09-ws-ws005.htm>

Health Care Boost for Indigenous Australians

Health care for Indigenous Australians received a significant boost on 1 July with the introduction of programs aimed at improving services. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr09-ws-ws006.htm>

Health Care Initiatives Boost for Rural & Remote Australians

People living in rural and remote areas of Australia will receive a significant boost to their health services with the introduction from 1 July of a number of Australian Government initiatives. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr09-ws-ws004.htm>

Health is at hand for all Australians

Newborn babies, Indigenous Australians and people with sleep problems are among the beneficiaries of a raft of new medical research projects that have received funding from the Australian Government. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr09-mb-mb002.htm>

State of Our Hospitals 2007-08

The State of Our Public Hospitals report for the 2007-08 year was issued 30 June. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr09-nr-nr090.htm>

Priority National Broadband Network investment for regional Australia

The Rudd Government today announced the first round of regional locations for the \$250 million priority rollout of the National Broadband Network. http://www.minister.dbcde.gov.au/media/media_releases/2009/059

Closing the gap: remote Indigenous internet access

The Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Senator Stephen Conroy, today welcomed the signing of a new agreement that will bring improved internet access and basic computer training to remote Indigenous communities. http://www.minister.dbcde.gov.au/media/media_releases/2009/060

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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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CRCAH News

Disadvantage report highlights need for more and better research
July 3 2009

The Productivity Commission's bi-annual report on Indigenous disadvantage has highlighted the continuing need for improved research and evaluation to inform government policies and programs and ensure that funding is targeted in a way that makes the most impact according to the CRC for Aboriginal Health (CRCAH).

http://www.craah.org.au/communication/downloads/Disadvantage%20report_03July09.pdf

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BUSH CRISIS LINE - 1800 805 391

Bush Crisis Line is a twenty-four hour confidential telephone support and debriefing service for multi-disciplinary remote and rural health practitioners and their families. 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.bushcrisisline.org.au>

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RURAL HEALTH ON THE ABC

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

Specific rural health program vital for the future says lobby group

The National Rural Health Alliance says Australia needs a tailor-made rural health plan.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/200907/s2619075.htm>

'Bureaucracy to blame' for Indigenous gap

An expert on Indigenous policy says the Federal Government needs to change its approach to the widening gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/07/03/2616419.htm>

Indigenous at 'higher risk' of swine flu

Indigenous Australians may be more susceptible to swine flu, compounding the many health problems they already face, according to new medical research.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/07/03/2616530.htm>

Damning report: Indigenous gap grows

The gap between Aboriginals and Torres Strait islanders and the rest of Australia seems to be widening instead of narrowing when it comes to child abuse.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/07/02/2615420.htm>

Remote communities to get better H1N1 treatment access

The Health Department says it is aiming to ensure remote WA communities have access to treatment for swine flu.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/06/30/2612575.htm>

Doctor questions incentives scheme

A central Victorian doctor is campaigning against recent classification changes that offer the same incentives to doctors in major regional Victorian cities as in smaller towns.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/06/26/2609485.htm>

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AIHW REPORT

Scale of homelessness varies widely

Rates of homelessness vary widely across Australia, not only between states and territories but within them, according to national research commissioned by all jurisdictions and published by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW). The reports showed higher rates of homelessness in inner city areas, and that, outside cities, homelessness rates in northern Australia are very high. In the Kimberley region, for example, there were 1,870 homeless people but a rate of 638 people per 10,000. These rates partly reflect issues of Indigenous transience and inadequate housing, although non-Indigenous Australians also experience higher rates of homelessness in remote areas.

AIHW statement at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/mediacentre/2009/mr20090709.cfm>

AIHW publication at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10832>

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POLICY NEWS

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

Reported gambling problems in the Indigenous and total Australian population - Gambling Research Australia

This study investigated factors that correlate with gambling-related problems among the Indigenous population. The significant correlates for the Indigenous population fall under the domains of regional, demographic socioeconomic, social networks, social and community safety and health.

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

TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN: OVERSEAS TRAINED DOCTORS WORKING IN RURAL INDIGENOUS AREAS

Between mid-1990s to 2004, there has been an eighty per cent increase in overseas trained doctors working in rural areas, compared with an eight percent increase for Australian trained doctors. Despite this increase, overseas trained doctors often find themselves in a different culture, with different healthcare models and often feel ill prepared, unsupported and have no control over how the service operates. Other challenges noted include: a change in biomedical and familiar disease treatment schedules; bureaucratic and communication challenges; and transitioning from paper- based to computer- based systems. A higher recruitment and retention rate for overseas trained doctors in Indigenous communities can be achieved through increased cultural and communication training, fostering equality within the rural healthcare, avoiding top-down organisational models and approaching issues in an open

and flexible manner.

<http://www.ipp-shr.cqu.edu.au/podcasts/?id=71>

Self-employed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, 2006

ABS Cat 4722.0.55.009

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/4722.0.55.009?OpenDocument>

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AMA NEWS

COAG should maintain focus on improving Indigenous health

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting is a crucial opportunity to focus on achieving concrete long-term health improvements for Indigenous people, the AMA said.

<http://www.ama.com.au/node/4797>

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CURRENT ISSUE OF eMJA, 15 June 2009

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

Rapid Online Publications: *H1N1 influenza*

ASID/TSANZ guidelines: treatment and prevention of H1N1 influenza 09 (human swine influenza) with antiviral agents - 7 July 2009

Epidemiological characteristics of pandemic influenza H1N1 2009 and seasonal influenza infection - 6 July 2009

The general practice experience of the swine flu epidemic in Victoria - lessons from the front line - 1 July 2009

Australia's influenza containment plan and the swine flu epidemic in Victoria - 17 June 2009

Swine flu update: bringing home the bacon - 17 June 2009

Current issue: 6 July 2009

From the Editor's Desk: Medicare meltdown

Editorials

New treatments and outcomes in peritoneal carcinomatosis

Non-invasive prenatal diagnosis - toward a new horizon

A conversation about health care safety and quality

Conference Report - Acute medical admissions in our hospitals: getting it right

Research

Black Saturday: the immediate impact of the February 2009 bushfires in Victoria, Australia

National survey of management of transient ischaemic attack in Australia: *Take Immediate Action*

Evaluation of non-invasive prenatal *RHD* genotyping of the fetus

Research Enterprise - The challenge for academic health partnerships

Health Care

Making cars and making health care: a critical review

Sustaining Medicare through consumer choice of health funds: lessons from the Netherlands

Medical Education

Building capacity in medical education research in Australia

Medical education: revolution, devolution and evolution in curriculum philosophy and design

Clinical Update - A pandemic that's not bird flu? Pigs might fly
Notable Cases - Congenital tuberculosis after in-vitro fertilisation
Letters

Acute lingual tonsillitis: an overlooked cause of severe sore throat in adults who have had a palatine tonsillectomy?

Paradoxical nutritional deficiency in overweight and obesity: the importance of nutrient density

Childhood obesity in Australia remains a widespread health concern that warrants population-wide prevention programs

Comparison of the Framingham and United Kingdom Prospective Diabetes Study cardiovascular risk equations in Australian patients with type 2 diabetes from the Fremantle Diabetes Study

Snapshot - Hand-foot syndrome after treatment with docetaxel

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General Practice & Primary Health Care Research Conference 2009: Driving Change
15-17 July, Melbourne VIC

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, form collaborations and network with speakers and other delegates.

<http://www.phcris.org.au/conference/2009>

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Catholic Health Australia 2009 National Conference - Hand in Hand Hotel Grand Chancellor
Hobart, 17 - 19 August 2009 <http://www.cha.org.au/>

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Linking Indigenous policy with service delivery 2009
Tuesday 25 August 2009 9:00 am - Wednesday 26 August 2009 5:00 pm
Cairns, Queensland

<http://www.indigenous-policy.com/>

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Indigenous Policy Forum 2009
26th - 28th August 2009, the Mercure Hotel, Brisbane

Indigenous Policy Forum 2009 will address the core issues surrounding the development and implementation of Indigenous policy nationwide.

Tel: +61 2 9224 6060

Email: conferences@TonkinCorporation.com

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7th Australasian Conference on Safety and Quality in Health Care

6-9 September 2009
Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre
Darling Harbour, Sydney

<http://www.aaqhc2009.org.au>
aaqhc2009@tourhosts.com.au

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The Rural Medicine Australia 2009 Conference

Conference Hosts:

Rural Medicine Australia 2009 is the tenth annual conference jointly hosted by the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM), and the Rural Doctors Association of Australia (RDAA). This year, we welcome the participation of the Rural Doctors Association of Victoria (RDAV) and the National Rural Medical Family Network.

Rural Medicine Australia 2009 will present outstanding opportunities for doctors and other health professionals working in rural and remote medicine to connect with colleagues, learn new skills, share their knowledge - and enjoy a brief respite from the pressures of work.

The conference sessions and workshops will emphasise practical skills and knowledge with immediate application to the demands of rural medicine. The conference welcomes other professionals - including allied health workers and government representatives - who share the commitment to quality health care for Australians living in rural and remote communities.

Rural Medicine Australia 2009 will run from Thursday, 29 October to Sunday 1 November 2009 in Melbourne.

Information available at <http://www.acrrm.com.au/>

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Year of the Blood Donor 2009

An anticipated doubling of demand for blood and blood products within 10 years has led the Australian Red Cross Blood Service to launch a nationwide recruitment drive in 2009 Year of the Blood Donor. The Blood Service is appealing for more than 100,000 new blood donors this year, in addition to the 40,000 who registered across Australia to give blood in the week after the Victorian bushfires.

http://www.healthinsite.gov.au/news/Year_of_the_Blood_Donor_2009

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1st International Conference on Health Services Delivery Management (1st CHSDM) Phitsanulok Thailand 14-16th October 2009

The 1st International Conference on Health Services Delivery Management (1st CHSDM) is open to all individuals interested in the field of health services delivery management. The particular focus of the conference is on strengthening the management of Primary Health Care and district rural health services. Australian (including Indigenous) speakers will feature

alongside international and Thai presenters. Call for abstracts is now open.

Conference partners include WHO SEARO, Australian College of Health Service Executives (ACHSE), University of New England (UNE) Australia and Naresuan University Thailand, Thai Ministry of Public Health and Thailand Cardiac Children's Foundation.

The conference partners welcome participants from developing and developed countries who want to work collaboratively towards improving health systems to deliver quality health care by learning from each other and comparing health systems in international contexts.

For further details please go to the Conference website <http://www.health.nu.ac.th/hdm2009>

Contacts: Dr. David Briggs UNE dbriggs@une.edu.au; Dr P. Taytiwat taytiwat@yahoo.com; Carolyn Marsh ACHSE cmarsh@achse.org.au

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From: Elisia Dowling
Subject: International *Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress*

With the increasing recognition of the value of nature to human health and wellbeing worldwide, Parks Victoria will host the inaugural International *Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress* at the new Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Australia from 11-16 April 2010.

This will be a unique opportunity to bring together delegates from all relevant sectors (i.e. planning, community development, physical and mental health, tourism, climate change, education, recreation, ecology and park management) to explore how we can take better advantage of the way nature significantly contributes to our wellbeing and broader societal benefits.

We are seeking proposals under the following themes: Healthy Communities, Healthy Parks, Healthy Participation, Healthy People and subthemes.

In addition to the partners displayed on the website, the support of the World Health Organisation, United Nations World Tourism Organisation, US Federal Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and the Australian Federal Government Department of Health & Ageing is being sought.

<http://www.healthyparkshealthypeoplecongress.org>

Elisia Dowling
Project Officer
International Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress April 11-16, 2010
Parks Victoria
Level 10/535 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Vic 3000, Australia
Ph: (03) 8680 2138 Fax: (03) 9613 4722 M: 0428 598 322

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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>).

Event organisers are now accepting abstracts, presentations and proposals for the sharing of cultural practices and performing arts. These need to be submitted by 8 September 2009 via the link on the home page of the HOSW website (<http://www.hosw.com>).

For more information:

Maria Halkitis - Contract Manager, 08 8943 5020

Mick Gooda - CEO, 0409 688 403

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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 (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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