

NRHA eforum - 28 June 2010

National Rural Health Alliance eforum - 28 June 2010

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RURAL AND REMOTE INTERESTS KEEP PRESSURE ON HEALTH REFORM

Representatives of leading rural and remote health interests met today with Warren Snowdon, Minister for Rural and Regional Health, to keep an appropriate focus on how health reform will impact on people in the Bush. In a useful exchange of information, the Minister confirmed the importance of having the structure, functions and governance of Local Hospital Networks (LHNs) and Medicare Locals settled in a way that will work best for rural communities and their health professionals.

The full text of the Alliance statement is at <http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/cms/uploads/mediareleases/mr-22-06-10.pdf> and is reproduced below.

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11TH NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE E-NEWS, JUNE 2010

11th National Rural Health Conference
13-16 March 2011
Perth, WA

Rural and Remote Australia: The Heart of a Healthy Nation

The National Rural Health Alliance invites you to participate in the 11th National Rural Health Conference to be held in Perth, WA, 13-16 March 2011.

The 11th Conference is the key biennial event for individuals and organisations interested in Australia's rural, regional and remote health and we encourage you to take this opportunity to network, celebrate, listen and have your say about issues that concern you.

Everything you need to know about the 11th Conference is on the Conference website <<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. You can also follow us on Twitter <<http://twitter.com/NRHAlliance>>

Call for Abstracts

The Call for Abstracts is now open. We seek abstracts for refereed and general papers, workshops, posters, multi-media and arts and health activities. The themes include:

- * social and economic determinants
- * health reform in rural and remote regions
- * a new generation of health professionals
- * community and consumer engagement
- * the strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- * economics and equity
- * capturing the benefits of new technologies
- * creative aged care in the community
- * multidisciplinary health care teams
- * adapting research results
- * chronic conditions in the bush

For a full list of themes, abstract guidelines and details about the submission process visit the Conference website <<http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>>

Sponsorship Opportunities

By partnering with the NRHA in the 11th Conference in Perth, you will have exposure to over a thousand leaders of the rural, regional and remote health sector, as well as contributing to a very worthy cause: helping to ensure that the people of rural, regional and remote Australia have equivalent health and a fair go in access to health and health-related services. You will be joining the growing support team for the 11th National Rural Health Conference, currently comprising:

- * the National Rural Health Alliance;
- * the West Australian Dept of Health (Principal Sponsor); and
- * Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) (Sponsor of the 11th Conference Proceedings).

A range of sponsorship opportunities is available and details are on the sponsorship page of the Conference website <<http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>>

Very Early Bird Registration Now Open

For those wanting to get in early and save, the Very Early Bird registration is available at \$759 from now until 31 July 2010. The Early Bird fee of \$880 will apply from 1 August 2010 to 18 December 2010 and the Full Fee from 10 January 2011. For a full list of registration fees or to register online visit the Conference website <<http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>>

Participate as an exhibitor

The 11th National Rural Health Conference will host an associated Exhibition as an integral part of this prestigious event. This is an excellent opportunity for companies, organisations, government departments and others to showcase their services and products to health service providers, academics, policy makers, students and consumers. It is anticipated there will be

over 1,000 delegates who will be looking to the exhibition to supply them with information, ideas and inspiration relating to rural and remote health services, products and organisations. Exhibition booking details will be available on the Conference Website <<http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>> from 21 June 2010.

We encourage you not just to attend but to get involved. Write an abstract for a spot in a concurrent session: tell others in the sector what's working well in your area; come clean with your concerns about the plans for health reform or workforce retention; stake your claim as a rural/remote health leader of the future.

Let's not settle for a two-speed health system in Australia. Instead, let's mine the public and government good will and support a Great Big New Commitment to equivalent health for people in rural and remote Australia!

Help us get to the heart of the issue....

National Rural Health Alliance
PO Box 280 DEAKIN WEST ACT 2600
Phone: 02 6285 4660 Fax: 02 6285 4670
Email: conference@ruralhealth.org.au
Web: <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>

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NRHA on TWITTER

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

- Legislation for individual Healthcare Identifiers passed by Federal Parliament while we were all looking another way - <http://bit.ly/blBu7k>
- Will your organisation run a pre-conference event in Perth, 12-13 March 2011? <http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>
- Biennial conference is to showcase successes in rural and remote health service: <http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>
- 59 - all!! Maybe one of them will have to serve against themselves?
- NHMRC c'tee member irrepressible 'Anne from Lyneham' among those at launch of Road Map for improving Indig health: <http://bit.ly/9Bct9I>
- Rural and remote interests keep pressure on health reform - <http://bit.ly/buNvPE>
- Mental health is in the headlines again today. Here some questions about it: <http://bit.ly/bG4GDC>
- 11th Conference will help meet Alliance's vision: Good health and wellbeing in rural and remote Australia. <http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>
- Biennial national rural health conference is NRHA's largest project. <http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>
- Perth conference will produce recommendations to Govt's - one of which will have been recently elected. <http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>
- Paramedics and ambulance services: another topic to discuss in Perth, 13-16 March 2011. <http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>
- Many of the 1000 delegates will care about a better PATS scheme: a critical mass for this critical mess? <http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>

- After today's news about the Nat (Health) Funding Auth - even more vital Cwlth confirm LHNs will be local & that they're staying in the game
- State org's are beavering away on the est. of Local Hospital Networks. Hope Cmwth is engaged with them on this and that they will be local.
- 11th Conference will focus on economics of health sector: Dismal but important science! <http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>
- Country Arts WA to work closely with NRHA on arts and health for Perth conference. <http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>

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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 - <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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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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ACRRM COUNTRY WATCH NEWSLETTER

Subscribe to weekly editions of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine's e-newsletter by completing the online request form at <http://www.acrrm.org.au/country-watch-newsletter>

Contents of 24 June edition:

- * Career opportunity: ACRRM Principal Examiner (2 part time roles)
- * Future workforce: ACRRM supports record numbers
- * Dermatology for GPs. Comprehensive 25-module course
- * Updated clinical guidelines now include dental emergencies
- * Limited places for Breast Cancer online workshop
- * Supervisor subsidies increase
- * Enrolments open for new courses
- * 4600 reasons for more action on rural health
- * Dates for your diary

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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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PARTYLINE

The next edition of Partyline (No 39) is due out in late June. It is the second edition to be sponsored by the Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute and will carry two feature articles on rural and remote health research. It will also report on the recent Health Impact Assessment of the Northern Territory Emergency Response. Other stories will focus on oral and dental health, the 2010 Budget, regional development, the Indigenous health challenge and steps towards a sustainable rural health workforce - and you can read about a "blokes' anthem" for health! Watch out for it in your mailbox or on 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 Back copies are available on the Partyline page of the website at <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>

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FLINDERS ABORIGINAL HEALTH RESEARCH E-NEWS

The latest Flinders Aboriginal Health Research e-news is now available for down loading at http://www.aboriginalhealth.flinders.edu.au/Newsletters/2010/News05_2010.html

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THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE FORTNIGHTLY E-BULLETIN

This fortnightly bulletin is prepared by the Lowitja Institute to provide you with information on issues of interest to Aboriginal health research. A PDF version is available at <http://www.lowitja.org.au/newsletters>.

CONTENTS

- * Appointment of new Associate Director Research and Innovation at the Lowitja Institute
- * New Resources Page on the Lowitja Institute Website
- * International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies: Call for Papers
- * Conferences
- * Jobs
- * Media
- * Publications
- * Resources and websites
- * Scholarships, Awards, Funding, Grants and Tenders
- * Seminars, Courses and Symposia
- * and Reminders

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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

June 2010 issue now available. Contents include:
Australian health reforms: Opportunity or threat?
Policy Review - Hospital beds and the quality of a national health system
Is a global rural and remote health research agenda desirable or is context supreme?
Systematic review of effective retention incentives for health workers in rural and remote areas: Towards evidence-based policy
Review of rural and regional alcohol research in Australia
Healthy minds for country youth: Help-seeking for depression among rural adolescents
Women living in a remote Australian mining community: Exploring their psychological well-being
From the Journal Associates
Rural and remote health sector takes heart and heads to Perth

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

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AIHW REPORTS

Australia's Health 2010

Today the 'bible' of Australian health statistics has been released by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. The 2010 edition of Australia's Health is, like its predecessors, an invaluable compendium of statistics and analysis on the health of our nation.

Minister's release at <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr10-nr-nr133.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2010&mth=6>

AIHW statement at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/mediacentre/2010/mr20100623.cfm>

Full publication at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/11374>

In Brief publication at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/11689>

Australian hospital statistics 2008-09

Media statement at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/mediacentre/2010/mr20100617.cfm>

Publication at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/11173>

At a Glance <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/11647>

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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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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NEWS

Supporting male leaders in Aboriginal communities tackle violence

Indigenous men who are working to tackle family violence in their communities are receiving almost \$550,000 from the Australian Government to support their efforts.

http://jennymacklin.fahcsia.gov.au/mediareleases/2010/Pages/support_male_18062010.aspx

Reducing petrol sniffing in Indigenous communities

The Australian Government's response to two Senate Inquiries, released last night, shows the introduction of Opal fuel led to a significant decrease in petrol sniffing in regional and remote Indigenous communities.

http://jennymacklin.fahcsia.gov.au/mediareleases/2010/Pages/petrol_sniff_23jun10.aspx

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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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HUMAN RIGHTS, HEALTH AND INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Mick Gooda explores the relationship between human rights, language, health, action and Indigenous Australians.

<http://qld.psnews.com.au/BooksFeaturesQLDpsn1263.html>

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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/>)

Remote nurses offered practioner courses

For the first time, remote area nurses in the Territory have access to a nurse practitioner course.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/nt/content/201006/s2936147.htm>

Farm Safety: is the message getting through to young people?
Each year, about 30 children die on Australian farms, that's about one death every ten days. There are around 600 hospital admissions for farm-related injuries every year.
<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/regions/content/201006/2935524.htm>

Travel scheme kept secret
A scheme which assists country patients with their travel costs to major hospitals, needs a funding injection.
<http://www.abc.net.au/local/audio/2010/06/18/2930828.htm>

Indigenous groups get \$550k to stop domestic violence
The Federal Government will spend \$550,000 to help Indigenous men's groups stop violence in their communities.
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/06/18/2930808.htm>

Recruiting bush doctors
Dr. Jen Delima says 'she was a run of the mill' Sydney practitioner before she decided to go bush and practice in a remote indigenous community. This week, she'll be featured in a television documentary by the Rural Health Education Foundation encouraging doctors to work in the sticks.
<http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2010/06/01/2915163.htm>

Aboriginal health records get cyber treatment
The Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance in the Northern Territory has welcomed a \$1.5 million funding boost to expand e-health services to remote Indigenous patients.
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/06/11/2924683.htm>

Rural health challenges
Poor health outcomes are linked to where we live and the more remote the community, the more likely there will be higher rates of mortality, greater risks of engaging in unhealthy behaviour like smoking, excessive drinking or obesity and a greater chance of untreated psychological disorders.
<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/telegraph/content/2010/s2924718.htm>

Rural Doctors say Qld Health mismanaging regional health
Rural Doctors meeting in Mackay want a radical overhaul of the way Queensland Health runs services in the bush.
<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/qld/content/2010/06/s2924870.htm>

Queensland women have a heart to heart talk
A video conference is being held in towns across Queensland today, to try and raise rural women's awareness of heart disease.
<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/201006/s2924711.htm>

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RDAA NEWS

Doctors urge federal action on "pitiful" travel supports for rural patients
16 June 2010

http://www.rdaa.com.au/uploaded_documents/Patient%20travel%20schemes%20--%20June%202010.pdf

4600 reasons for the Rudd Government to take more action on rural health
23 June 2010

http://www.rdaa.com.au/uploaded_documents/Australia's%20Health%202010%20--%20RDAA%20response%20--%20June%202010.pdf

Rural Doctors welcome new PM
24 June 2010

http://www.rdaa.com.au/uploaded_documents/Rural%20doctors%20welcome%20new%20PM%2024-6-10.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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CURRENT ISSUE OF eMJA

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

Current issue: 21 June 2010

From the Editor's Desk: Action on alcohol misuse

Editorials

Omitting family history from the hospital admission

Family history: the neglected risk factor in disease prevention

Ross Ingram Memorial Essay Competition - Some healing path

Research

A retrospective audit of family history records in short-stay medical admissions

Efficacy and safety of oral continuous low-dose versus short-term high-dose vitamin D: a prospective randomised trial conducted in a clinical setting

Assessing pregnant women's compliance with different alcohol guidelines: an 11-year prospective study

Acute Coronary Syndromes

The invasive approach to acute coronary syndrome: true promise or false premise?

The "Acute coronary syndromes: consensus recommendations for translating knowledge into action" position statement is based on a false premise

Acute coronary syndromes: consensus recommendations for translating knowledge into action

Transferring patients for primary angioplasty in eastern Melbourne (the SHIPEM registry): are we meeting the guidelines?

Clinical Update - Windows of opportunity: a holistic approach to men's health

Viewpoint - Gains in neurotrauma research activity and output associated with a Victorian state government funding program

Notable Case - Severe hypoglycaemia associated with ingesting counterfeit medication

Diagnostic Dilemma - Acute abducens nerve palsy and weight loss due to skull base osteomyelitis

Letters

Managing outbreaks of viral respiratory infection in aged care facilities - challenges and difficulties during the first pandemic wave

A pandemic response to a disease of predominantly seasonal intensity

Bridging the communication gap between public and private radiology services

Alarm about computed tomography scans is unjustified

Levamisole as an adulterant in a cocaine overdose fatality

Prevalence of venous thromboembolism in medical inpatients

Planned home and hospital births in South Australia, 1991-2006: differences in outcomes

Are patients willing participants in the new wave of community-based medical education in regional and rural Australia?

Book Review

Mental health across cultures. A practical guide for health professionals

The pill and other forms of hormonal contraception. The facts

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GOOD MEDICINE FOR INDIGENOUS HEALTH GAP

A whole-of-Government policy framework and plan of action has been announced by the Minister for Health in an effort to close the health gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Queensland.

http://qld.psnews.com.au/Page_QLDpsn1261.html

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ABS STATISTICS

1386.0 What's New in Regional Statistics, Jun 2010

This issue contains a feature article, A Faster Way to Find Data for Your Region, which looks at the recently released National Regional Profile, a comprehensive product with a wealth of information about regions within our cities, country towns and rural areas.

* Under Economy you will find key data from the two latest releases on sources of Estimates of Personal Income and Wage and Salary Earners, both containing small area level data

* Population and People includes highlights from the latest Regional Population Growth release as well as information relating to the 2011 Census.

* The Industry section presents key findings from the Agricultural Commodities and Australian Wine and Grape Industry releases.

* Finally the Environment and Energy section includes the latest Water Use on Australian farms release, and a look at the Socio-Economic Context for the Murray-Darling Basin

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1386.0?OpenDocument>

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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).

Presented by PHCRIS

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

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Midwives & Doctors Working Together...Learning From Each Other

A national collaborative maternity services conference will be held in Alice Springs, Northern Territory, from Thursday 1 July until Sunday 4 July. The Australian College of Midwives (ACM) is working in partnership with ACRRM and the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (RANZCOG). The aim is to encourage midwives, specialist obstetricians and general practitioners to work together to ensure women receive the most appropriate and effective maternity care. It is expected to attract over 400 health professionals. A copy of the program and details on the conference can be viewed on their website at <http://www.breathingnewlife.remark.com.au/>

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Rural Health West: Aboriginal Health Conference 2010

Perth, 3-4 July

The theme of this year's conference is about the journey, in particular, the healing journey that will improve the health of Aboriginal communities. It will include a strong clinical focus, showcase successful programs and projects and provide an opportunity to share ideas with other medical professionals.

For more information, contact Leesa Foote, email <<mailto:events@ruralhealthwest.com.au>

Website at <http://www.ruralhealthwest.com.au/go/education/weekend-conferences/aboriginal%20health%20conference%202010>

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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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National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day 4 August 2010

http://www.snaicc.asn.au/news/view_article.cfm?loadref=8&id=269

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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.ability.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 T: 08 89435100, F: 08 89435101, W: <http://www.daniladilba.org.au>

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The Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors Congress 2010 'Sharing Our Stories: Building Strength through the Circle of Knowledge Translation', in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada, 26-29 August, 2010, hosted by the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada: <http://www.pridoc.org/>.

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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

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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 <ceo@vnhp.org.au>

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!

Nurses and midwives make up the majority of the health workforce. We are a valuable and vital resource in the healthcare system and we must do what we can to support and care for those who support and care for so many in our society.

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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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: catsin@bigpond.net.au.

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From: Sally Stevenson <Sally.Stevenson@wdhs.net>
Subject: Be part of the National Centre for Farmer Health Inaugural Conference
'Opening the Gates on Farmer Health'

When: 11-13 October 2010
Where: Hamilton, Victoria

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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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

The Call for Abstracts is now open for the 11th National Rural Health Conference. Go to <http://11nrhc.ruralhealth.org.au/>

This is the entry point for presentations to the Conference - be it a refereed paper, a paper in the general stream, a poster, a multimedia or arts and health session. Make sure your views are heard by the leaders of the rural and remote health sector.

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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

21 June 2010

Rural and remote interests keep pressure on health reform

Representatives of leading rural and remote health interests met today with Warren Snowdon, Minister for Rural and Regional Health, to keep an appropriate focus on how health reform will impact on people in the Bush. In a useful exchange of information, the Minister confirmed the importance of having the structure, functions and governance of Local

Hospital Networks (LHNs) and Medicare Locals settled in a way that will work best for rural communities and their health professionals.

The meeting was provided with an update on the work in train led by the Commonwealth and the States/Territories, including the operations of the Commonwealth's new health reform Implementation Office.

Those present emphasised the importance of genuine engagement with rural and regional communities and area health professionals in designing 'on the ground' applications to match the health reform brief.

The Commonwealth was encouraged to champion the emergence of a national health system in which there is an emphasis on health promotion and primary care, rather than on hospitals. In a country blessed with good overall living standards the litmus test for reform will be an increase in equity - including a better deal for people in non-metropolitan areas.

Although the 'preponderant responsibility' for Local Hospital Networks lies with the States, the National Rural Health Alliance expressed the view that a flexible and national approach to LHNs and Medicare Locals will be crucial to success. People at the meeting were pleased to hear that alignment of the boundaries of these two new organisations will be sought and that, where local people and their health professionals support it, there will be a single entity with governance arrangements to ensure the primary focus is on primary care.

The groups which attended today's meeting, including the 29 organisations represented by the NRHA, confirmed their willingness to remain involved in the huge volume of work to be done in the next six months. As well as the details relating to LHNs and Medicare Locals, more needs to be done on performance indicators, monitoring, support for good governance, and details of how the Commonwealth's increased responsibilities for primary and aged care is to be implemented.
