



PHAA 39th Annual Conference

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Intervening to improve health outcomes

Registration Brochure

28-30 September 2009

Hotel Realm

Canberra, ACT



INVITATION TO ATTEND

On behalf of the Organising Committee and the ACT Branch of the Public Health Association, we welcome you to Canberra for the 39th Annual PHAA Conference.

The theme for this Conference is *Making a difference: Intervening to improve health outcomes.*



The ultimate goal of public health is to improve health outcomes at the population level. Public health has had great successes that have resulted in improved health and life expectancy in industrialised countries and, to varying degrees, globally. Examples of effective interventions include improved sanitation, tobacco control, fortification of food, immunisation and a range of screening programs. Improvements in health have also resulted from an increased understanding of risk factors for disease, through public health research. On the other hand, there are also significant public health failures. Arguably, the greatest of these relate to: the mal-distribution of basic, effective public health measures; our relative impotence in the face of a range of powerful agents of global change; insufficient attention to social and health inequalities; and some critical errors in the interpretation and application of evidence over the years. To face the future challenges, public health needs to focus on research, policy and practice that will deliver health improvements for all.

The 2009 Public Health Association of Australia Conference focuses on interventions to improve health outcomes. It aims to showcase many of our recent successes and the intervention-oriented research that is currently underway, as well as inviting cautionary tales about past and looming failures. It will explore the best means of developing and conducting policy and practice relevant research and applying such research to the formulation and implementation of effective public health policy and practice. Finally, it aims to consider the balance of intervention-oriented and "blue sky" public health research in relation to the key health challenges of the coming decades.

The invited speakers will be ably supported by presenters of the oral papers and poster displays. Prominently placed within the program will be workshops reflecting both the conference themes and other public health interests. Traditionally, the Sunday prior to the conference is the opportunity for Special Interest Groups to gather. You will find information about the workshops in this brochure.

A visit to Canberra will provide you with a wonderful opportunity to extend your stay in the National Capital and spend some time with us during our Spring festival of Floriade. We look forward to welcoming you to Canberra in September.

Emily Banks and Gabrielle O'Kane (Co convenors)

On behalf of the PHAA ACT Branch, the Scientific Committee and the Social Committee.

SOCIAL PROGRAM

Welcome Reception

Please join the ACT Branch of PHAA, the local host committee and other delegates for the Welcome Reception commencing at 6.00pm on Sunday, 27th September. This will be the first opportunity to catch up with colleagues before the start of the conference.

Venue: Hotel Realm, 18 National Circuit, Barton, ACT.

Conference Dinner

The Conference Dinner will start at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 29th September.

Cost per person: \$90 including entertainment.

Venue: The Members' Dining Room, Old Parliament House, King George Terrace, Parkes, Canberra. Restored to its 1927 elegance, the gracious and elegant Members' Dining Room is entered from the rear of The House on the second storey. Car parks at the rear of the building can be accessed from Queen Victoria Terrace. (For directional maps go to www.oph.gov.au)

INVITED SPEAKERS



Dr David WHITEMAN

David Whiteman is a medical epidemiologist with a special interest in the causes, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of cancer. He received his medical degree from the University of Queensland in 1991. Following a PhD in cancer epidemiology at QIMR (1997) and specialist training in Public Health Medicine, David was invited to the University of Oxford as a Nuffield Medical Research Fellow to work in several areas of cancer research. He returned to Queensland in 2000, where he is currently studying the causes of melanoma and diseases of the oesophagus, ovary and skin.

In addition to his research activities, he is Specialty Editor (Public Health Medicine) for the *Internal Medicine Journal* and is a member of the Working Committee on Privacy for the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia (NHMRC) and the National Research Advisory Group for Cancer Australia. He has previously served as a Member of Council of NHMRC, and served on the NHMRC National Asbestos Research Working Group and the NHMRC Strategic Research Development Committee. In 2006, he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to visit cancer researchers in the United States.



Dr Sharon FRIEL

Dr Friel, a social and nutritional epidemiologist, is a Fellow at the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health (NCEPH), The Australian National University and Principal Research Fellow and Director of the Global Health Equity Group, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University College London. Between 2005 and 2008 she was Principal Research Fellow and Head of the Scientific Secretariat, UCL of the global World Health Organisation Commission on Social Determinants of Health (CSDH), and before that a senior researcher and lecturer in the Department of Health Promotion, National University of Ireland, Galway (1992-2004).

For many years, Dr Friel has been involved in research and policy in matters relating to global health; social determinants of health inequalities; food systems and food security; climate change, food and health; socio-environmental determinants of non-communicable diseases, and urbanisation and health - as an academic, a government advisor, chairperson of national public health organizations, and in high level national and international committees.



Professor Simon CHAPMAN

Simon Chapman, is a sociologist and Professor in Public Health at the University of Sydney and a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences Australia. He is author of 13 books and major government reports, over 370 papers, editorials and commentaries in peer reviewed journals. He is a regular writer on public health matters in leading Australian newspapers. His main research interests are in tobacco control, media discourses on health and illness, and risk communication. He teaches annual courses in Public Health Advocacy and Tobacco Control in the University of Sydney's MPH program.

In 1997 he won the World Health Organisation's World No Tobacco Day Medal; in 1999, the National Heart Foundation of Australia's gold medal; in 2006 the Thoracic Society of Australia's President's Award; and in 2003 he was voted by his international peers to be awarded the American Cancer Society's Luther Terry Award for outstanding individual leadership in tobacco control. In 2005, his research on the tobacco industry was selected by the NHMRC as being one of its "top 10" projects. In 2008, he received the NSW Premier's Award for Outstanding Cancer Research and the Public Health Association of Australia's Sidney Sax Medal. He edited the British Medical Journal's specialist journal, *Tobacco Control* (2008 impact factor =3.277) for 16 years (1992-2008) and is now Commissioning Editor for Low and Middle Income Countries for the journal, a role supported by a grant from the Bloomberg and Gates Foundations. He is a life member of the Australian Consumers' Association and was its chairman 1999-2002. He was a key member of the Coalition for Gun Control which won the 1996 Australian Human Rights & Equal Opportunity Commission's community Human Rights award.

His current research involves examining policy for the "future of tobacco control";

INVITED SPEAKERS

examining how health and medical issues are covered in the news media; the implications for tobacco control of web 2.0 technology; and the characteristics of research which influence public health policy. He hopes to work with Chinese researchers to develop a blueprint for national priorities in strategic policy research for tobacco control.



Professor Terry DWYER, AO

Professor Terry Dwyer is Director of the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, an organisation with over 1100 staff and 120 postgraduate students. It is based at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne and covers the spectrum of laboratory, clinical and population health research. Professor Dwyer was previously Director of the Menzies Research Institute, University of Tasmania, coordinating research projects including those on cancer, heart disease, multiple sclerosis, childhood asthma, and diabetes.

Professor Dwyer has had a major involvement in SIDS research and in addition has maintained an interest in research on the effect of lifestyle on health and, in particular, on the role of physical activity in relation to coronary heart disease. His current work focuses on the joint effects of genes and environment in diseases as diverse as cancer, cardiovascular disease and multiple sclerosis.

Professionally he was a member of the National Health & Medical Research Council's Research Advisory Committee and also the national chair of the Gulf War Veterans Study Scientific Advisory Committee. Professor Dwyer also is also involved on international Committees such as the Chair of the World Health Organisation's Western Pacific Region Advisory Committee on Health Research, I4C (International Childhood Cancer Cohort Consortium), UK Biobank and the World Health Organisation's Global Advisory Committee of Health Research.

In 1994 Professor Dwyer was a fellow of Green College Oxford. In 2000 he received a Global Health Leadership Fellowship from the World Health Organization, and in 2003 was the Australian Society for Medical Research medallist. In 1997 Professor Dwyer became Adjunct Professor at Monash University. He spent six months in 2004 at the National Institutes of Health in the USA advising on the design of the National Children's Study, which involved follow up of a cohort of 100,000 babies.

Professor Rob MOODIE

Rob Moodie is Professor of Global Health at the Nossal Institute for Global Health at the University of Melbourne. Between 1998 and 2007 he was the CEO of VicHealth. He is currently the Chair of the National Preventive Health Task Force. Since 1979 he has worked for Save the Children Fund, Medicins Sans Frontiers, Congress, the Aboriginal Health Service in Alice Springs, the Burnet Institute and for the World Health Organization, and the joint United Nations Program in HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). Rob chairs the Technical Panel to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's HIV prevention program in India.



Dr John POWLES

Department of Public Health and Primary Care, School of Clinical Medicine, University of Cambridge, UK

Dr Bobby Milstein

Syndemics Prevention Network, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Professor Heather Buchan

Chief Executive Officer, National Institute of Clinical Studies, Melbourne, Victoria

Professor Michael Smithson

Department of Psychology, The Australian National University, Canberra, ACT

Dr Sandra Eades

Head Indigenous Maternal and Child Health Research Program, Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute, Melbourne, Victoria

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Sunday, 27th

SIG Workshops

9.00 - 4.30

International Health Special Interest Group

9.30 - 4.30

Political Economy of Health and Primary Health Care Special Interest Group

2.30 - 5.00

Food and Nutrition and Health Promotion Special Interest Group

Monday, 28th - Day One

Intervention-oriented public health research

7.30 - 8.30

Registration

8.30 - 9.00

Welcome and Opening address and Welcome by representatives of the traditional owners

9.00 - 11.00

Plenary 1 - Intervention-oriented public health research Chair – Emily Banks

Intervention-oriented observational studies – **Terry Dwyer**
The Development Origins of Health and Disease paradigm applied to Indigenous Australians, Heart Disease and Diabetes - What current and new interventions will help us to prevent these disease? – **Sandra Eades**
The contribution of strategic research to tobacco control in Australia – **Simon Chapman**

11.00 -11.30

Morning tea

11.30 - 1.00

Concurrent Sessions 1

1.00 - 2.30

Lunch and Poster Sessions

2.30 - 3.30

Concurrent Sessions 2

3.30 - 4.00

Afternoon tea

4.00 - 5.30

Workshops reflecting on intervention-oriented public health research

5.30 - 6.30

Workshop: Meet the Editors ANZJPH
Workshop: Building a global people's health movement: report from PHM
Workshop: Climate Change: Vulnerability, consequences and research

Tuesday, 29th - Day Two

Bridging the Evidence/Practice Gap

7.30 - 8.30

Registration

8.30 - 10.30

Plenary 2 – Bridging the Evidence/Practice Gap Chair – Rob Sanson-Fisher

Bridging evidence to practice in navigating health system dynamics - **Bobby Milstein**
Bridging the evidence - practice gap – **Heather Buchan**
Ignorance and uncertainty in sickness and in health - **Michael Smithson**

10.30 - 11.00

Morning tea

11.00 - 12.30

Concurrent Sessions 3

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

12.30 - 2.00

Lunch and Poster Sessions

2.00 - 3.00

Concurrent Sessions 4

3.00 - 3.30

Afternoon tea

3.30 - 4.30

Douglas Gordon Oration - John Powles

4.30 - 5.30

Workshops reflecting on bridging the evidence/practice gap

7.00 - 11.00

Conference Dinner – Old Parliament House, Canberra

Wednesday, 30th - Day Three

The way forward for improving health outcomes: facing the key challenges in public health

7.30 - 8.30

Registration

8.30 - 10.30

Plenary 3 – The way forward for improving health outcomes: facing the key challenges in public health Chair – Tony McMichael

The place of “blue sky” epidemiology – **David Whiteman**

Future health challenges – **Sharon Friel**

Australia - the next steps to improve population health – **Rob Moodie**

10.30 - 11.00

Morning tea

11.00 - 12.30

Workshops on facing the key challenges in public health

12.30 - 2.00

Lunch and PHAA AGM

2.00 - 3.30

Conference Resolutions – Combined session and closing comments

CONFERENCE STREAMS

Intervention-oriented public health research

1. Research that will make a difference to health outcomes
2. Intervention-oriented randomised controlled trials, observational studies, meta-analyses, modeling and screening research
3. Intervention-oriented health research targeting particular or disadvantaged groups and populations, e.g. indigenous, socioeconomically disadvantaged, rural communities

Bridging the evidence-practice gap

1. Facilitating the connection between research, policy and practice
2. Reviewing and translating evidence into policy and practice: are the current “levels of evidence” appropriate?
3. Barriers to developing and implementing effective interventions
4. The economics of effective intervention
5. Managing uncertainty and risk
6. Modelling research to support decision making

The way forward for improving health outcomes: facing the key challenges in public health

1. Improving the local and global distribution of effective health interventions
2. Intervention-oriented research and effective policy and practice for the ageing population, the obesity epidemic, chronic disease and climate change
3. Cautionary tales: where public health has gotten things wrong
4. Getting the balance right: Blue sky and intervention-oriented public health research

WORKSHOPS -Sunday 27 September

Cost:

\$50 for SIG members
\$60 for Non-SIG members

Venue: Rm G052,
Building 24, Hayden
Allen-Tank, Australian
National University

Time: 9.00 - 4.00

Cost:

\$30 for SIG members
\$45 for Non-SIG members

Venue: Hayden Allen
Room, G053, The
Australian National
University

Time: 9.30 - 4.30

Cost:

\$15 for SIG members
\$25 for Non-SIG members

Venue: AIATSIS, Lawson
Cres, Acton

Time: 1.00 - 4.00

Cost:

\$10 for SIG members
\$20 for Non-SIG members

Venue: Rm GO30,
Copeland Building, ANU

Time: 1.30 - 4.30

International Health Special Interest Group

Research and evidence into policy and practice in international health

Australia has committed to expanding its aid program in the health sector. In order to constantly improve the quality and effectiveness of aid AusAID is engaging with a broad range of partners. The establishment of Knowledge Hubs through AusAID's Strategic Partnerships for Health Initiative in 2008 provides improved health knowledge and expertise to inform policy dialogue at national, regional and international levels by both AusAID and development partners. The workshop will consist of panels and paper presentations from AusAID Knowledge Hubs and other knowledge groups on recent lessons learnt, and examples of the work currently being undertaken.

Political Economy of Health and Primary Health Care Special Interest Groups

The global meltdown: implications for health policy

This combined workshop of the Political Economy of Health and Primary Health Care Special Interest Groups will examine the global meltdown from a political economy perspective and explore its effects on health, both in Australia and at the global level. The implications for health policy will be discussed, with a focus on how we can effectively respond as public health professionals.

Guest speaker: Professor Gavin Mooney

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health Special Interest Group

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Public Health Practitioners: Stories from the field

This half day workshop will showcase the work of early career Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Public Health Practitioners. The workshop will provide an opportunity for these practitioners to present their stories of public health practice in a safe and receptive environment. The workshop will also examine the implications of these accounts for the training of Indigenous public health professionals. The afternoon will be a great opportunity for the PHAA and the PHAA Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Special Interest Group to support, encourage and build the capacity of the next generation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander public health professionals.

Food and Nutrition and Health Promotion Special Interest Groups

Food-related interventions to address obesity

This workshop will discuss food-related public health interventions to improve nutrition and help prevent chronic disease in Australia. Participants will be provided with a snapshot of the current situation with results from the 2007 Australian National Children's Nutrition and Physical Activity Survey. Possible intervention types will be discussed and a model to assist intervention selection workshopped. With the background of the PHAA Food and Nutrition Monitoring and Surveillance policy, this workshop presents and approach from food and nutrition policy to action...

What are Australian children are eating?

- how are we doing in relation to the 'fat five' -heavily marketed foods that are considered 'junk foods by some definitions?
- what about in terms of diet quality or protective dietary patterns?

Selecting food-related interventions to address overweight and obesity

- **What types of public health interventions are worth considering?** A comprehensive range of intervention should be considered. The types include public policy development, legislation and regulation, resource allocation, engineering and technical interventions, incentives (financial and other), service development and delivery, education (including skills development), communication (including social marketing), collaboration/partnership building (community and intersectoral), community and organisational development (including organisational policy).
- **What information is needed to support intervention selection?**
- **Where to from here? -a brief environmental scan to forward action.**



VENUE

The PHAA 39th Annual Conference will be held at:
the Hotel Realm
18 National Circuit
Barton, ACT 2600
(02) 6163 1800



Located at the footsteps of Parliament House in Canberra, Hotel Realm is part of a truly mixed-use precinct next to the Parliamentary Triangle. Hotel Realm offers 158 hotel and suite style accommodation rooms complimented by an in house day spa, state of the art health club and a variety of dining options.

Hotel Realm is a short walk from Parliament House, Lake Burley Griffin and the excitement of night spots such as Manuka and Kingston. The Hotel Realm is a located approximately 7 minutes drive to the City Centre. Canberra Airport is only 10 kms away and Kingston Train Station is just 1km.

Cancellation Policy

All conference registration cancellations must be advised in writing to the PHAA conference secretariat. Cancellations received before the 31 August 2009 will incur a penalty fee of \$50. Cancellations received after the 31 August 2009 and before the 15 September 2009 will incur a penalty of 50% of the fee paid. No refunds will be given after the 15 September 2009, however substitutes are welcome. PHAA must be advised of substitutes by 20 September 2009. **No Shared Registrations**



About PHAA

Our Association forms a dual role as a forum for the promotion of the health of the public and as a professional resource for public health personnel. The PHAA provides opportunities for the exchange of ideas, knowledge and information on public health and actively undertakes advocacy for public health policy, development, research and training. The PHAA is a non-party political organisation.

The PHAA has a national and multi-disciplinary perspective on public health issues. It is able to make a major contribution to the public health debate in Australia through representation on government boards, committees and other decision-making bodies such as the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. PHAA members are also representatives on many State and Territory committees contributing to a broad spectrum of public health issues.

Membership forms are available on request from the PHAA Secretariat: Phone: (02) 6285 2373
Fax: (02) 6282 5438 Email: membership@phaa.net.au
Post: PO Box 319 CURTIN ACT 2605
or it can be downloaded from the PHAA website at www.phaa.net.au



Due to circumstances beyond our control changes may occur to this program: For all updates and alterations please refer to our website. <http://www.phaa.net.au> under conferences