

CPHCE Bi-monthly Newsletter

December 2020

Highlights

- CPHCE will be **closed from Monday 21st December until 1st January 2021 for the holiday season**, the office will be reopened on 4th Jan 2021. We expected more staff will be returned to the campus in 2021.
- HERDU, CPHCE has moved to a new office space at Level 1, 18 Marsden St, Camperdown, NSW.
- Two of the directors has stepped down from the executive meeting. Professor Teng Liaw stepped down earlier this year and together with Professor John Hall is retiring at the end of the year. We thank them for their contribution to the Centre for many years.
- We want to thank all the staff, partners and collaborators for working with us during this difficult year. We wish everyone a happy and relax holiday.

Projects

- **CPHCE is working as part of a consortium with Swinburne University and the University of Newcastle for the NSW Mental Health Commission on a project on mental health literacy.** This has involved extensive consultation and codesign work with people with a lived experience of mental health concerns and health care providers to identify their needs and priorities for improvement. This has been challenging with much of this having to occur online because of restrictions due to COVID-19. The next phase of the project involves working with primary health networks (PHNs), local health districts (LHDs) and other organisations to help them to become more responsive to the health literacy needs of people with a lived experience of mental health concerns. This highly innovative project builds on the existing mental health strategies and programs run by the PHNs and will roll out over the next 2 years.
- **Together with researchers and software engineers of the Australian e-Health Research Centre at CSIRO, PhD student Vera Buss has developed a prototype of a mobile app for people who are at risk of getting diabetes or cardiovascular disease.** The app aims to support people aged 45 years and older in changing their behaviours to reduce the risk and prevent the onset of cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes mellitus. The next step is to conduct usability testing to improve the app design with the input of users from the target population, after that the feasibility study will be conducted.
- **A recent research priority identified by the partner organisations for the Central and Eastern Sydney Primary and Community Health Cohort/Resource (CES-P&CH) was to examine if increased primary care interventions could minimise potentially preventable hospitalisations (PPH).** We used the PPH definition from the Australian 2017 National Healthcare Agreement which includes admissions to hospital that could have potentially been prevented through the provision of appropriate non-hospital health services. This indicator is composed of admissions for 21 conditions, broadly categorized as chronic, acute, and vaccine-preventable. Using CES-P&CH hospital data from 2005 to 2017 we identified, out of 30,645 CES participants in the cohort, that:

1. 2,470 had at least one preventable chronic hospital admission with the most being for angina – 43% and diabetes complications – 32%
2. 3,096 had a preventable acute hospital admission with most being for dehydration/ gastroenteritis – 37% and kidney infections – 33%
3. 477 had a vaccine preventable hospitalisation with the majority being related to influenza or pneumonia – 86%

We are currently examining the circumstances for these PPHs using the primary care data in CES-P&CH to see if they could have been prevented through earlier primary care interventions.

- **A new measure that has been developed by the Ministry of Health is the 12-month Risk of Hospitalisation (ROH).** The ROH measure is being used to evaluate [NSW Health's Planned Care for Better Health initiative](#). The ROH was calculated using an algorithm which includes:
 1. demographics such as age
 2. planned and unplanned admissions in the past 4 years
 3. chronic conditions such as diabetes, stroke, cancer
 4. and other factors such as socioeconomic status and smoking status

We will calculate the ROH for participants in CES using CES-P&CH data either by replicating the algorithm used by the Ministry of Health and/or building similar predictive models. We will then be able to compare the actual and predicted hospitalisations over a 12-month period. See the [CES-P&CH webpage](#) which includes information about the resource, as well as previous and current research.

- **The Health Equity Stream has been responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.** This includes: investigating changes in alcohol related harm, carrying out an equity focussed health impact assessment on the longer term health equity impacts of the pandemic and associated response, providing rapid equity and evidence checks to inform health service response and planning, and investigating the relationship between COVID policy and practice interventions and financial strain in Canada and Australia.
- **The OPTIMISE study, which aimed to improve refugee health care in general practice, is now completed.** We implemented the study in 3 regions of high refugee settlement across NSW and Victoria. Thirty-one practices undertook, through facilitation process, the OPTIMISE intervention focusing on improving a practice-wide system in identifying refugee status, improving interpreter use, conducting refugee health assessment and referrals to specialised care and other services.

As main results are now out, an online NSW state-wide meeting was held on Dec. 3rd, 2020. In the meeting main results were presented: significant increase in conduct of the refugee health assessment, interpreter use and practices with a list of bulk-billing specialists and services; GPs reported reduced difficulties in referring patients to settlement and social services and oral and dental services, but not to mental health services. Feedback from participants included the need for a better linkage between primary health and tertiary care, time being a main barrier for GPs to use interpreters and a request for a more service delivery-oriented report. A follow-up meeting with OPTIMISE regional partners will take a place in Dec. 16th to discuss further dissemination, policy and service delivery implications of the study results and future research.

Publications

- [How to implement patient experience surveys and use their findings for service improvement: a qualitative expert consultation study in Australian general practice](#)
By Hyun Song, Sarah Dennis, Jean-Frédéric Lévesque, Mark Harris
- [Assessing primary care organization and performance: Literature synthesis and proposition of a consolidated framework](#)
By Jean-Frédéric Lévesque & more
- [Avoiding unnecessary hospitalisation for patients with chronic conditions: a systematic review of implementation determinants for hospital avoidance programmes](#)
By Jean-Frédéric Lévesque & more
- [Envisioning the future of clinical analytics: a modified Delphi process in New South Wales, Australia](#)
By Jean-Frédéric Lévesque & more
- [Does healthcare inequity reflect variations in peoples' abilities to access healthcare? Results from a multi-jurisdictional interventional study in two high-income countries](#)
By Mark Harris, Jean-Frédéric Lévesque & more
- [Biosocial and disease conditions are associated with good quality of life among older adults in rural eastern Nepal: Findings from a cross-sectional study](#)
By Uday Narayan, Sabuj Kanti Mistry, Cathy O'Callaghan & more
- [Impact of medical fitness to drive policies in preventing property damage, injury, and death from motor vehicle collisions in Ontario, Canada](#)
By Tracey Ma & more
- [Community health workers for noncommunicable disease prevention and control in Nepal: a qualitative study](#)
By Uday Narayan Yadav

People



• Dr Kerry Drysdale - HERDU Community Partnerships Fellow

Dr Kerry Drysdale joins HERDU three days a week as our Community Partnerships Fellow. She holds a PhD in Cultural Studies and uses this disciplinary training to bring a critical cultural lens to issues of health and wellbeing among marginalised communities. She also holds a position with the Centre for Social Research in Health within the new Faculty of Arts, Architecture and Design (working name), where she has been engaging in collaborative research with vulnerable people. Among other research interests, Dr Drysdale is also an avid drag king fan and has published her first monograph on the emergence and decline of Sydney's drag king scene. Please welcome Kerry to the Centre.

Communication & Education

- Congrats to Dr. Siggí Zapart has just won the **SWSLHD Elizabeth Millen Award for Promoting Health Equity**
- Congrats to Uday Narayan Yadav has recently awarded the **Professor Susan Holland Casual Academic Performance Award for 2020** by Torrens University, Australia. This award recognises the teaching faculty for their excellent contribution towards learning and teaching.
- The School presented CHETRE, CPHCE with the **SWS Research Team of the Year** in a ceremony at the Liverpool Clinical Skills and Simulation Centre on last week.
- Professor Evelynne de Leeuw has been appointed as a **member of the Editorial Board** [Oxford Research Encyclopedia in Global Public Health](#), [Oxford University Press](#)
- Professor Mark Harris has been re-elected as a member of the **board of CESP HN** for another two years.
- 'Shisha No Thanks' project won the Premier's **Multicultural Communications Award** for Business Campaign of the Year. The project was a collaboration between SESLHD Priority Populations Unit, NSW Multicultural Health Communication Service and is funded by Cancer Institute NSW.



More on the campaign please click [here](#), you can also read the evaluation [here](#).

- Ben Harris-Roxas' submission of [Climate Health WA Inquiry report](#) has been released. The report sets a blueprint for the next 10 years to guide the WA health system's response to the health impacts of climate change and how health services can do more to reduce emissions and waste without compromising the quality of patient care. The Inquiry sought information from the WA community, Australian and international experts to obtain the best science, data and evidence to inform the final 10 recommendations. A [media statement](#) is also available.

Events

- Evelynne de Leeuw was presenting at the '[Interplanetary health equity: implications of dominant value systems in space exploration for human cultural identity and equitable survival 9th Annual Conference](#)' yesterday run by InVIVO Planetary Health. Here's a video of her speaking about '[Interplanetary health equity](#)'.

Media Release & Blogs

- The opinion piece '[Smoking and epidemics of respiratory infections](#)' Freddy Sitas wrote with Ben Harris-Roxas is getting good traction. Norman Swan from the ABC has interviewed Freddy Sitas on 'COVID19, infectious respiratory disease and smoking' in his radio program called '[Health Report](#)'.

Follow CPHCE on Twitter





Follow us!



Copyright © 2019 UNSW Sydney. All Rights Reserved.
Cricos Provider Code 00098G