

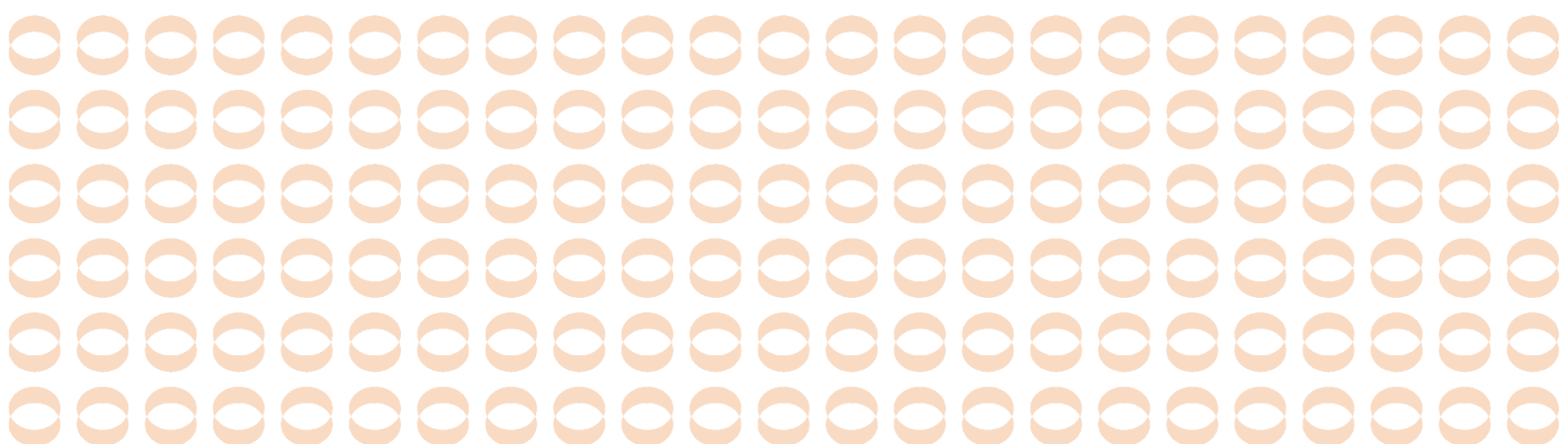


# Centre for Social Research in Health Annual Report 2013

Never Stand Still

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Centre for Social Research in Health







# Centre for Social Research in Health

## Annual report 2013

CSRH, formerly the National Centre in HIV Social Research, receives project funding from a range of sources including the Australian Government Department of Health, state and territory Departments/Ministries of Health, competitive funding bodies, partner organisations and international sources. Additionally, research infrastructure support is received from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and UNSW Australia.



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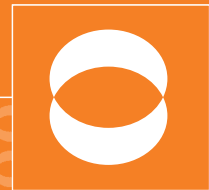


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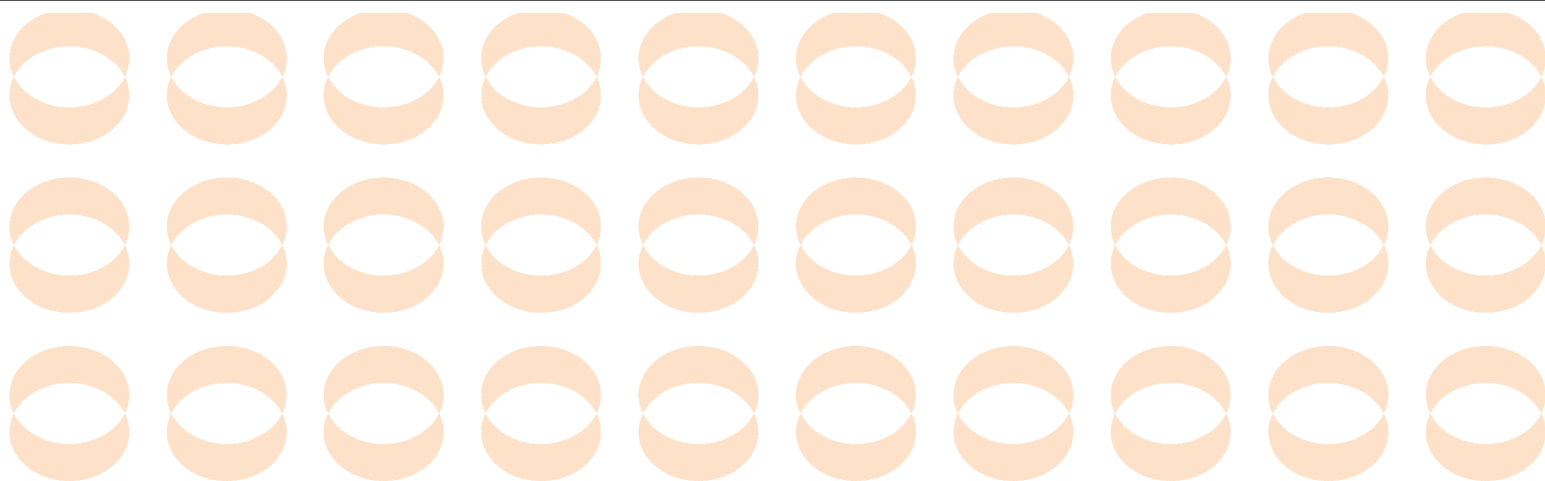


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# About CSRH



The Centre for Social Research in Health (CSRH) is based in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at UNSW. Since its establishment in 1990, CSRH has undertaken an expanding program of social research related to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), sexually transmissible infections (STI) and viral hepatitis (HCV and HBV). The mission of the Centre is to undertake and promote exemplary social and behavioural science research in health that informs and strengthens knowledge, policy and practice.



## Research priorities

Since its establishment in 1990, the scope of the research program of the Centre for Social Research in Health (CSRH) has broadened significantly, and will no doubt continue to evolve in the years to come.

The research undertaken by CSRH aims to influence and respond to national and international health strategies and priorities, in particular the Australian national strategies regarding HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections, including for Aboriginal people, in order to improve the health and wellbeing of affected individuals and communities.

CSRH undertakes research across five major thematic areas, which each encompass a large number of specific studies and knowledge transfer/capacity building activities:

- HIV and Sexual Health Risk and Risk Reduction
- Sexuality, Health and Education
- Viral Hepatitis, Injecting Drug Use and Harm Reduction
- Living with and Treatment of Serious and Chronic Conditions
- Health Promotion Development and Evaluation

In each of these areas, our research is guided by our commitment to:

- integrity and excellence in academic research;
- a multidisciplinary approach to research and education;
- actively ensure our unique and critical perspectives are heard;
- collaborate and engage with affected communities;
- value diversity and promote equity.

At NCHSR we also continue to conduct a comprehensive program of activities to make research findings available to stakeholders, strengthen research partnerships, build research capacity and provide learning opportunities for a new generation of social science researchers.



# Director's foreword

This 2013 Annual Report is the fifth that I have overseen, coinciding with the completion of my first term as director. It is also the last annual report of the National Centre in HIV Social Research, marking the end of an era. This report is the first of the Centre for Social Research in Health, signifying a new beginning.

As we note in our strategic plan 2013-2015: 'since its establishment in 1990, the scope of the research program of the National Centre in Social Research has significantly broadened, and will no doubt continue to evolve in the years to come. To better reflect past achievements and future aspirations, [...] the Centre will operate under a new name: Centre for Social Research in Health.' This name change concludes an important and productive period of reflection by centre staff and consultation with external stakeholders regarding our vision, mission and values, as well as our program of research, research capacity building and knowledge transfer.

The name change signifies exciting new directions for the Centre, with at the core an ambition to engage more comprehensively with the health and social issues faced by the expanding range of key populations we aim to serve through our research domestically and internationally, including gay and bisexual men, people who inject drugs, young people, and indigenous peoples. We will also continue to distinguish ourselves as leaders in multidisciplinary social and behavioural research in HIV, viral hepatitis and STIs. We will do so through our unique engagement with the contemporary knowledge bases in the various cognate disciplines from which we draw, and combining scholarly excellence with policy and practice relevance.

As you will see throughout this report, in 2013 the Centre undertook an exciting, broad and diverse program of research, reflecting the range of issues to which we can contribute our social and behavioural science expertise. Through

new funding, including from the National Health and Medical Research Council, we have been able to further extend our suite of research into critical issues regarding engagement with the continuum of HIV treatment and care. We also undertake innovative research that informs emerging efforts to promote treatment of hepatitis C, in the wake of new drugs becoming available. We of course continue to be committed to research that informs policy and programs to promote safe practices, which remain critical to effective prevention efforts.

Exceeding last year's high, staff again produced and contributed to a record number of papers in peer-reviewed journals, and it gives me great pleasure to congratulate all CSRH staff with their very impressive achievements. I like to specially thank Dr Henrike Körner who retired from the centre. It gives me great pleasure to welcome Dr Stephen Bell who joined CSRH in July 2013, and has quickly become part of the team.

Our impressive achievements would not have been possible without the contributions of our partners, collaborators and funders: I thank you for continuing support of CSRH. I also like to thank the one staff member, who shall remain anonymous here, for casually noting that the Centre is a great place to work; it's the best compliment a director can receive, at least in my book.




Professor John de Wit, Director



## Performance targets and achievements

As of 2013, CSRH has in place its new strategic plan 2012-2015. As previously, this strategic plan was developed by CSRH staff, in consultation with major stakeholders. The strategic directions for the Centre respond to the Australian Government's National Strategies regarding HIV, STIs, hepatitis C and hepatitis B, including with respect to Indigenous peoples, and support the UNSW Strategic Intent: Blueprint to Beyond, and the priorities of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS). CSRH performance targets encompass outcomes related to supporting and promoting research; education, including learning, teaching and students' experience; external engagement; and capabilities and resources. CSRH achievements against agreed key performance targets for 2013 are outlined in the following table.

Key Performance Target	Achievement
Maintaining and strengthening our research programs	In 2013, CSRH has delivered a strong performance with respect to strategic as well as competitive grant funding, with major government funders moving to a tendering process and increasing competition for Category 1 funding.
Expanding our geographical reach both nationally and internationally	Internationally, CSRH has continued to work closely with research, policy and program partners in Europe (FR, NL, UK) and Asia Pacific, in particular China and PNG. In 2013 we established a new, productive partnership in Malaysia and laid the foundation for future collaboration in Indonesia. Domestically, we have continued to undertake research across jurisdictions in ways that support local research capacity building.
Working in a wider range of health issues and with additional population groups	Our research with indigenous people, with young people and with respect to sexuality and education has continued to expand in 2013, and we have commenced initiatives regarding research into the broader health and wellbeing of key populations, including young same-sex-attracted people.
Maintaining scholarly output and profile	In 2013 CSRH staff delivered and contributed to a record number of papers in peer-reviewed journals, up by an impressive 20% from the 2012 record.
Strengthening our contribution to learning and teaching in FASS	CSRH staff continued their supervision of UNSW SoSS student research projects, and newly initiated the delivery of guest lectures in SoSS teaching. Importantly, CSRH is collaborating with SoSS with respect to the development of a new postgraduate coursework degree and a professional doctorate.
Strengthening our capacity building offerings for the workforce	CSRH staff have undertaken a range of novel capacity building activities with major sector partners, including webinars and multiple-day courses
Ensuring a sufficient and appropriately skilled team	CSRH benefits from a highly motivated, expert team of academic and research support staff. In 2013 no staff left the centre. The CSRH research support team was strengthened through amalgamation with the SPRC research support team. Academic staff was extended with an international appointment.
Finalising a marketing communications plan	Development of the CSRH marketing plan was undertaken with the support of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and temporarily put on hold due to high workload and organizational changes.
Maintaining and developing a strong profile to support future activities	CSRH senior leadership and academic staff across all levels of appointment in 2013 undertook various roles in policy and program forums, frequently spoke at domestic and international scholarly meetings, were invited to deliver key note / plenary addresses, and generated media interest.
CSRH operations in 2014 are guided by the following priority key performance targets:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bolster research project funding</li> <li>• Sustain strong publication profile</li> <li>• Intensify impact on policy and practice</li> <li>• Extend collaborations within FASS</li> <li>• Increase international partnerships</li> </ul>	

# Governance and management



Our work is supported by a comprehensive governance structure, representing external stakeholders and Centre staff. CSRH committees provide the Director with management oversight, platforms for strategic discussion, and day-to-day guidance regarding the operation of the Centre.



## Steering Committee

The CSRH Steering Committee oversees the performance and direction of the Centre, ensuring the effective, efficient and sustainable pursuit of its objectives and assisting with the development of its strategy. The Steering Committee also monitors the Centre's operation and finances, and safeguards compliance with UNSW policies and procedures. Members of the Committee are drawn from the UNSW Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

### Chair

Professor James Donald, Dean

### Members

Associate Professor Kristy Muir, Associate Dean (Research)

Ms Melissa Roughley, General Manager

Ms Urania Stamios, Finance Manager\*

Mr Andrew Kell, Finance Manager\*

Professor Anthony Zwi, School of Social Sciences

### Attendees

Professor John de Wit, Director, CSRH

Mr David Cami, Centre Manager, CSRH

### Secretariat

Mr Christopher Pruze, Administrative Assistant



## Advisory Council

The Advisory Council lends its energy, experience and influence to pursuing the mission and vision of CSRH, recognising the importance of sector organisations, government and the community to our success. Members are leaders in the health sector, industry, and government and are committed to supporting the Centre in achieving its vision of being globally recognised as a leading social science research centre renowned for its staff and students, the quality of its research and teaching, as well as its relevance and innovation.

### Chair

Mr Bill Bowtell, Executive Director, Pacific Friends of the Global Fund

### Members

Ms Linda Bracken, Head, Multiplatform and Content Development, ABC Radio

Ms Levinia Crooks, Chief Executive Officer, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine

The Hon Michael Kirby, AC CMG

Mr Garth Young, Managing Director, CSAW Health

### Attendees

Professor John de Wit, Director, CSRH

Professor Carla Treloar, Deputy Director, CSRH

Professor Peter Aggleton, UNSW Strategic Chair in Education and Health, CSRH

Mr David Cami, Centre Manager, CSRH

### Secretariat

Ms Janice Knapman, Administrative Officer, CSRH

\* part-year



# Scientific Advisory Committee

The Scientific Advisory Committee brings together experts from social science and public health research as well as government and non-government organisations. It provides advice and guidance on research strategy that informs the Centre's strategic and work plans.

## Co-chairs

Professor Pranee Liamputtong, Professor of Public Health, School of Public Health and Human Biosciences, La Trobe University

Professor Jake Najman, Professor of Sociology, School of Social Science, The University of Queensland

## Members

Ms Lisa Bastian, Manager, Sexual Health and Blood-borne Virus Program, Communicable Disease Control Directorate, Western Australia Department of Health

Mr Aaron Cogle, Deputy Director, National Association of People Living with HIV Australia (NAPWHA)

Mr Michael Costello, Executive Officer, Anwernekenhe National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander HIV/AIDS Alliance (ANA)

Mr Simon Donohoe, Manager, National Education Team, Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO)

Professor Gary Dowsett, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University\*

Ms Janelle Fawkes, Chief Executive Officer, Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association

Mr Darryl Kosch, Manager, Sexual Health & Viral Hepatitis Team, Victorian Department of Health

Professor Jayne Lucke, Director, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University\*

Ms Annie Madden, Executive Officer, Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League Inc. (AIVL)

Professor Lisa Maher, Head of Viral Hepatitis Epidemiology and Prevention Program, The Kirby Institute, UNSW Australia

Dr Jo Mitchell, Director, Centre for Population Health, NSW Ministry of Health\*

Mr Darryl O'Donnell, Acting Associate Director, AIDS/Infectious Diseases Branch, NSW Ministry of Health\*

Mr Alun Richards, Director, Blood Borne Viruses and STIs, Department of Health, Queensland

Ms Helen Tyrrell, Chief Executive Officer, Hepatitis Australia

Professor John de Wit (ex-officio), Director, CSRH

## Attendees

Professor Carla Treloar, Deputy Director, CSRH

Mr David Cami, Centre Manager, CSRH

## Secretariat

Ms Janice Knapman, Administrative Officer, CSRH

\* part-year



## Centre Management Committee

The Centre Management Committee is the forum for discussion on issues related to the daily operation of the Centre and advises the Director on resources, policies, procedures and business processes. Members are drawn from within CSRH.

### Chair

Professor John de Wit, Director

### Members

Professor Carla Treloar, Deputy Director

Mr David Cami, Centre Manager\*

Dr Martin Holt, Senior Research Fellow

Dr Max Hopwood, Research Fellow

Dr Christy Newman, Senior Research Fellow

Mr Kenneth Yates, Postgraduate Student Representative\*

### Secretariat

Ms Janice Knapman, Administrative Officer



## Research Committee

The role of the Research Committee is to support the research culture of CSRH and to further its research agenda through a continuous planning process that guides the direction of the Centre's research. Members are drawn from within CSRH.

### Chair

Professor John de Wit, Director

### Members

Professor Carla Treloar, Deputy Director

Dr Max Hopwood, Research Fellow

Dr Asha Persson, Research Fellow

Mr David Cami, Centre Manager

### Secretariat

Mrs Nalini Krishnan, Finance Officer\*

Ms Annie Whitelaw, Administration Assistant\*

Ms Janice Knapman, Administration Officer\*



## Education Committee

The Education Committee oversees the CSRH postgraduate programs (Graduate Diploma, Masters by Research, and PhD) in Health, Sexuality and Culture and provides advice to the CSRH Postgraduate Coordinator and the CSRH Director. Members are drawn from within CSRH.

### Chair

Professor John de Wit, Director

\* part-year



## Members

Professor Carla Treloar, Deputy Director

Dr Philippe Adam, Senior Research Fellow

Dr Loren Brener, Senior Research Fellow

Dr Christy Newman, Senior Research Fellow and Postgraduate Co-ordinator\*

Mr Kenneth Yates, Postgraduate Student Representative

Mr David Cami, Centre Manager

## Secretariat

Mrs Ann Whitelaw, Administration Officer\*

Ms Janice Knapman, Administrative Officer\*

# Dissemination Policy Committee



The Dissemination Policy Committee was disestablished in 2013 and its tasks were re-assigned to relevant staff and the Centre Management Committee. Previously the role of this committee was to oversee CSRH communications, including the branding, distribution and appearance of both print and digital publications. Members were drawn from within CSRH.

## Co-chairs

Professor Peter Aggleton, UNSW Strategic Chair in Education and Health\*

Mr Peter Hull, Research Officer

## Members

Professor John de Wit, Director

Mr David Cami, Centre Manager

Ms Judi Rainbow, Publications Officer

## Secretariat

Ms Janice Knapman, Administrative Officer

# Conference Organising Committee



Since 1990 NCHSR has organised biennial conferences on the social aspects of HIV, viral hepatitis and related diseases. The CSRH conference series has become a national platform to showcase research on blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections that attracts investigators, health educators, service providers and policy makers from across Australia as well as from overseas. Members are drawn from within CSRH.

## 13th Social Research Conference on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases (2014)

### Co-chairs

Dr Joanne Bryant, Research Fellow

Dr Loren Brener, Senior Research Fellow

\* part-year

## Members

Professor John de Wit (ex-officio), Director

Dr Max Hopwood, Research Fellow

Dr Limin Mao, Research Fellow

Dr Asha Persson, Research Fellow

Professor Carla Treloar, Deputy Director

Mr David Cami, Centre Manager

Mrs Annie Whitelaw, Administration Assistant



## Research support

CSRH has assembled a highly skilled team of professional and technical staff to facilitate and support the work of the Centre by carrying out managerial, financial, promotional and knowledge management activities. In 2013, the CSRH research support team was strengthened through its amalgamation with the research support team of the UNSW Social Policy Research Centre.

Key tasks of the research support team include developing and implementing efficient and effective internal systems; assisting with tenders and research grant applications; project management; budgeting and overseeing project accounts; producing and disseminating CSRH research publications, maintaining the institutional and research websites; managing offices and facilities; providing executive assistance; organising conferences, workshops and seminars; performing secretariat functions; maintaining technical infrastructures; and ensuring adherence to workplace health and safety policies and procedures.



# Staff



## Director and Professor

John de Wit, MSc, PhD

## Deputy Director and Professor

Carla Treloar, BSc(Hons), PhD

## UNSW Strategic Chair in Education and Health, and Professor

Peter Aggleton, BA, MEd, MA, PhD\*

## Senior Research Fellows

Philippe Adam, MA, PhD

Loren Brener, BSocSci, MA, PhD

Joanne Bryant, BSc, MSc, PhD

Martin Holt, BSc(Hons), MSc, PhD

Henrike Körner, BA(Hons), DipEd, MA, PhD\*

Limin Mao, BMed, MEd, PhD

Christy Newman, BA(Hons), PhD

Brent Davison, Aboriginal Health Management\*

Henry Von Doussa, MCW, DESM\*

Rebecca Gray, BA(Hons), MA\*

Johanna Hamilton, Aboriginal Health Management\*

Robyn Horwitz, BCom, BA(Hons)\*

Brigit Morris, BA(Hons)\*

Merel Ophoff, MSc\*

Clair Jackson, BA(Hons), DipEd, DipLib

## Research Fellows

Stephen Bell, BA, MA, PhD\*

Max Hopwood, BA(Hons), PhD

Asha Persson, BA(Hons), PhD

Priscilla Johnson, BHS (Aboriginal Health & Community Development)\*

Jamee Newland, BSocSci, MPS

Veronica Saunders, EN, DipEd (Aboriginal)

Hannah Wilson, BSocSci

## Research Associates

Toby Lea, BA(Psych), GDipPsych, PhD

Dean Murphy, BA(Hons)

Jake Rance, BA(Hons)

## Honorary appointments

Graham Brown, BBus(Hons), PhD

Norman Fowler, Kt, PC, MA, DUniv\*

Suzanne Fraser, BA(Hons), PhD\*

Catherine MacPhail, BA(Hons), MSc, PhD\*

Joanne Neale, BA(Hons1), MA, PhD

Tim Rhodes, BA(Hons), PhD

## Research Officers

Peter Hull, BPsych(Hons)

Evelyn Lee, BA(Hons), MEc

## Research Assistants

Anthony Bains, BA(Hons) MA\*

Elena Cama, BCCJ(Hons)

Marsha Rosengarten, BA(Hons), MA, PhD

Sean Slavin, BA(Hons), PhD

Noémi Tari-Keresztes, MA, PhD\*

\* part-year

**Centre Manager**

David Cami, BSocWk, DipEd\*

Terry Fairclough, BA, MA\*

**Clerk**

Caroline Hart\*

**Administrative Officers**

Nalini Krishnan\*

Lisa McElhinney\*

Judith Rainbow

**Administrative Assistants**

Tahnee Dotti\*

Ann Whitelaw

**Executive Assistant**

Janice Knapman

**Research Centres Accountant**

Anthony Tao, MCom, MBus\*

**Research Project Officer**

Pip Hoskins, MIR, BA\*

**Research Support Coordinator**

Catherine Keast, BSc(Hons)\*

\* part-year

**New appointments****Dr Stephen Bell**

Stephen Bell is a Research Fellow at CSRH. His research career has been split between academic institutions and research consultancy organisations, focussing largely on health issues (sexual and reproductive health, maternal health, access to public health services, community-based initiatives, and community-level accountability of health services), and research with hard-to-reach populations (e.g. disadvantaged young people, rural populations, minority ethnic groups) in a number of international rural and urban settings (India, Nepal, Nigeria, Uganda, UK, Zambia, Zimbabwe). He is particularly interested in the theoretical, empirical and applied studies in youth sexual health, and in participatory approaches to planning, program development and evaluation.

**Lord Norman Fowler**

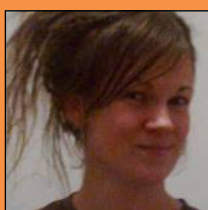
Norman Fowler is a Senior Visiting Fellow at CSRH. He was a member of Margaret Thatcher's cabinet for eleven years and was Health Secretary when the AIDS crisis first became evident in the 1980s. He was responsible for the 'Don't Die of Ignorance' campaign in London which used television and all media to warn the public. He has remained active in this area since then and has just published a book, 'AIDS: Don't Die of Prejudice', which is based on visits to nine cities around the world.

**Dr Catherine MacPhail**

Catherine MacPhail is a Visiting Fellow at CSRH. She is well published with over 50 publications relating to understanding and preventing HIV. Her work has been largely in adolescent populations, but she has also included sex workers, migrants and people living with HIV.

**Dr Sean Slavin**

Sean Slavin is an Adjunct Senior Lecturer at CSRH. He is an anthropologist with research experience across a number of fields including HIV and hepatitis C as they relate to both drug use and sexual practice. He has undertaken fieldwork both in Sydney and Spain. He has extensive experience in the evaluation of HIV educational programs and services and has worked in the analysis and development of policy at community, state and national levels.

**Dr Noémi Tari-Keresztes**

Noémi Keresztes is a Visiting Fellow at CSRH and involved in health risk and health promotion among young people. She has a particular interest in protective health behaviours, notably physical exercise and is a talented early career researcher in the social psychology of health and behavioural medicine. She holds an appointment as Assistant Professor at the University of Szeged, Hungary.

# Our research



Research at CSRH falls into six priority areas, with international work conducted across these. CSRH conducts qualitative studies as well as offline or online quantitative research. The following pages showcase CSRH's research that commenced, continued or completed in 2013. Findings from many of these studies are available in our forthcoming *Annual Report of Trends in Behaviour*. Reports of completed studies are available from the CSRH website or from the first listed author.





## Mapping risk and practice

Studies in this priority area are concerned with identifying, monitoring and understanding sexual and drug-using practices as they relate to the risk for sexually transmissible infections and blood-borne viruses. Studies examine the meanings of safe and unsafe practices in the social contexts of the populations studied.

### Gay community periodic surveys

The Gay Community Periodic Surveys are repeated, cross-sectional surveys of gay men, conducted in the metropolitan areas of six Australian states and territories. They are a key part of Australia's behavioural surveillance system for HIV, monitoring sexual practices, drug use and patterns of testing for HIV and other STIs. The first periodic survey was conducted in Sydney in 1996, and surveys are now conducted regularly in Adelaide, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth, Queensland and Sydney. The surveillance system relies on a longstanding collaboration between CSRH, The Kirby Institute, state health departments, and national and state community organisations. Recruitment is typically coordinated in each state/territory by a local community organisation. Participants are recruited from gay community events, bars, sex venues, gyms and clinics by teams of trained peer recruiters. The results of each survey are published in an individual state or territory report while national trends are presented in our Annual Report of Trends in Behaviour.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Holt, Mao, Hull, Lee, Lea, de Wit

Collaborating organisations: The Kirby Institute, state AIDS councils/community health organisations

Funding: Departments/Ministries of Health in NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA and ACT; Australian Government Department of Health

### Social norms related to HIV/STI risk and risk reduction behaviours among MSM in Australia

The aims of the Contemporary Norms in Networks and Communities (CONNECT) study were to 1) identify the patterns of connections between individuals in communities of MSM and assess the association of these connections with the HIV/STI risk and risk reduction behaviours among MSM, 2) describe the relationship between social norms and the HIV/STI risk and risk reduction behaviours among MSM with differing degrees and types of connections to other MSM both within and outside gay communities, and 3) compare the patterns of connections, social norms and risk reduction behaviours of geographically and epidemiologically distinct populations of MSM in three Australian states in order to identify local barriers to effective HIV prevention. Data collection is complete and findings have been presented to community organisations and government agencies, as well as at scholarly and policy conferences. Review and protocol papers have been published and a paper describing participants' preferences for HIV testing options has been accepted.

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: de Wit

Collaborating organisations: The Kirby Institute; Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society; Western Australian Centre for Health Promotion Research; Melbourne Sexual Health Centre; School of Social Sciences (Australian National University)

Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council Linkage Project, Australian Government Department of Health

### HIV seroconversion sub-study: heterosexuals newly diagnosed with HIV

The Seroconversion Study is an ongoing national online survey that examines the experiences of people newly diagnosed with HIV. The study includes a qualitative component wherein participants can elect to take part in an in-depth

interview. Since 1992 the study has focused exclusively on gay men as the most affected population. In 2010 recruitment was opened to all persons regardless of sexuality and gender. This sub-study was established to more effectively capture the experiences of women and heterosexual men who elect to participate in a qualitative interview, and to ensure that they do not become invisible in the main sample, allowing for more detailed consideration of issues that specifically apply to these individuals. No heterosexual men and women were interviewed in 2013.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Persson

Collaborating organisations: The Kirby Institute

Funding: Departments/Ministries of Health in NSW, VIC, QLD, WA, SA, TAS and ACT; Australian Government Department of Health

## Managing HIV, sex and risk among serodiscordant couples in a changing epidemic

This qualitative study, the first of its kind in Australia, addresses a significant research gap by producing new knowledge of the social, medical, sexual and emotional management of HIV among both gay and heterosexual serodiscordant relationships in metropolitan and regional NSW. The study investigates the needs and challenges presented by serodiscordance in a changing epidemic, with specific focus on generating detailed empirical data on how sociocultural contexts and relationship factors influence risk perceptions and sexual practices among these couples; and how couples understand and use medical technologies as risk-reduction strategies, including condoms, viral load testing, HIV testing, treatment-as-prevention, and pre and post exposure prophylaxis (PEP and PrEP). The study has been developed in partnership with key community HIV organisations. The study commenced in 2013 and will run for 3 years. Scoping interviews were conducted with 20 clinical and non-clinical HIV service providers in 2013. In-depth interviews were also conducted with 36 people in serodiscordant relationships. Data management and analysis are in progress.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Persson

Collaborating organisations: The Kirby Institute; Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society; Pozhet (Heterosexual HIV Service), Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service, ACON, Positive Life NSW, Albion Centre

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health

## HIV-positive children transitioning to adolescence and adulthood

There is a gap in published research on the cohort of perinatally infected HIV-positive children in Australia. While a relatively small population, they are important both in terms of priorities for HIV prevention and the delivery of care, and in terms of the broader aim of promoting the health and wellbeing of people living with HIV. In 2013, CSRH commenced the first empirical study of this cohort in Australia, gathering in-depth qualitative data from 12 children and young people with HIV in NSW and 12 clinicians who provide direct care to this population across Australia. The interviews provide timely insights into key issues associated with the transition to adolescence and adulthood for this largely hidden group in the epidemic, particularly issues associated with becoming sexually active and remaining engaged with HIV treatment. The study examines the needs and challenges faced by children growing up with HIV, and the implications for their health and wellbeing, HIV prevention and clinical care. The study also provides this population with an opportunity to tell their stories and to contribute to the knowledge base which will inform future models of care. Two peer-reviewed journal articles have been published and further publications are in preparation.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Persson, Newman

Collaborating organisations: Paediatric HIV Service (Sydney Children's Hospital)

Funding: Gilead, Australian Government Department of Health



## HIV, HCV and IDU among fishermen in Malaysia

Fishermen are rarely listed among key HIV affected populations. However, south-east Asian fishermen have been found to be particularly vulnerable to HIV acquisition, due to their sexual behaviours. To assess whether this vulnerability also applied to Malaysian fishermen, a study was conducted by the Centre of Excellence for Research in AIDS at University of Malaya and Columbia University. CSRH was invited to join the team and provide scientific guidance in making sense of the behavioural data. Preliminary results indicate that of the 406 Malaysian fishermen recruited during the study, only a small proportion were found to be sexually active but more than a third were found to be intravenous drug users. Due to frequent unsafe injecting practices, both HIV and HCV prevalence were found to be alarmingly high among the fishermen who use intravenous drugs. A social science framework was applied to understand the reasons fishermen use drugs while at sea. Data suggests that injecting drug use on fishing vessels serves a dual function. It helps fishermen lighten their heavy work and it helps alleviate boredom between tasks. In addition to raising awareness and promoting safe injecting practices, interventions in fishing communities will have to find ways of addressing these occupational functions of drug use.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Adam

Collaborating organisations: Centre of Excellence for Research in AIDS, Malaysia; Social Intervention Group, Columbia University, USA

Funding: University of Malaya

## Gay and bisexual men and hepatitis C survey

Between August and December 2013, there was a national online cross-sectional study of hepatitis C among Australian gay and bisexual men. Respondents to the study were recruited via advertisements on Facebook, gay-themed websites, the email lists of community-based HIV and hepatitis organisations and, word of mouth. The survey explored a broad range of social issues including men's sense of connection to the gay community, disclosure of hepatitis C infection, knowledge of and beliefs about hepatitis C, barriers to hepatitis C treatment, unmet information needs, and, for men with hepatitis C, their desire for gay-specific hepatitis C support services. Analysis of data is ongoing. To date, the study results indicate that gay and bisexual men and LGBTI communities throughout Australia are aware of hepatitis C infection and that there is a moderate to good level of knowledge about hepatitis C among gay and bisexual men. Amongst respondents, there was a high rate of testing for hepatitis C, and a large proportion of the men have had hepatitis C treatment. The study results also indicate that access to information about hepatitis C needs to be broad-based, with a variety of HIV, LGBTI and mainstream organisations involved in producing gay-specific hepatitis C-related information.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Hopwood, Lea, Aggleton

Collaborating organisations: ACON, Hepatitis NSW, Hepatitis Victoria, Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Victorian AIDS Council

Funding: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (UNSW Australia), Australian Government Department of Health

## The Goanna Project: sexual health and relationships among young indigenous people

This project builds on a previous study conducted among young Indigenous people in NSW by the then National Centre in HIV Social Research and the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW. The project developed from alarming evidence about the high prevalence of STIs among Indigenous youth, which in some places is known to be up to eight times higher than for the non-Indigenous population. Very little inclusive research has been conducted within Indigenous communities on sexual health and blood-borne viruses. The Goanna Project provides the first national profile of risk behaviours, levels of knowledge and the types of health services used by Indigenous young people for sexual health and blood-borne viruses. From 2011-2013 data was collected annually from

Indigenous young people at Indigenous community events across Australia. Data analysis and dissemination activities are ongoing, with a final report to be released in mid-2014

Status: Ongoing

Personnel: Bryant

Collaborating organisations: Baker IDI; The Kirby Institute; Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society; School of Public Health and Community Medicine (UNSW); National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation

Funding: Australian Research Council Linkage Grant; Departments/Ministries of Health in NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA and TAS; Australian Government Department of Health

## Periodic surveys of levels of condom use among young people and hepatitis C prevention knowledge among young people exposed to injecting

Young people are a key priority population for both hepatitis C prevention and the prevention and management of sexually transmissible infections (STIs). This project is a precursor to a periodic survey and its aim was to pilot an online survey to NSW residents aged 16-26 years including: 1) young people exposed to injecting: to identify their level of knowledge about hepatitis C prevention and transmission, and to examine the factors associated with their different levels of knowledge; and 2) all young people: about condom use and their level of knowledge about STI prevention and transmission. The questions addressed were: What is the level of hepatitis C knowledge among young people resident in NSW who are exposed to injecting drug use?; What is the level of condom use with regular and casual partners among young people in NSW?; and, What is the level of knowledge regarding STI prevention and transmission among young people in NSW?

Status: Started in 2013

CSRH Staff: Treloar, Adam, Bryant, Lea

Collaborating organisations: Nil

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health

## The exposure and transition study: exposure to injecting and hepatitis C among young people at risk

Many young people are exposed to injecting drug use through their social networks - by having close friends or a sexual or romantic partner who injects - and we know very little about their knowledge of hepatitis C and injecting drug use, whether they see themselves as being at risk for injecting and/or acquiring hepatitis C. This project used quantitative and qualitative methods to study socially vulnerable young people who are exposed to injecting drug use, but may not necessarily be injecting. It aimed to examine young people's understandings of the risks of injecting drug use and for acquiring hepatitis C. It provided information about the social contexts in which exposure to injecting happens, and about young people's knowledge and opinions about BBV and drug-related health services. A report was released at the end of 2012 and a series of peer-review manuscripts have been published, or are in press and under review.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Bryant, Treloar

Collaborating organisations: Nil

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health

## NSW Pharmacy Needle and Syringe survey: sub-analysis of young people who inject drugs

This project uses existing data from three years of the New South Wales Pharmacy Needle and Syringe Survey (2007–2009) to study the drug and injecting practices of young people aged 18–25 years who inject drugs. Young injectors are identified as a target population in most state and national Hepatitis C Strategies because of the well-documented high incidence of hepatitis C transmission in this group. Indeed it is usually in the first three years of injecting that a person acquires

hepatitis C, making this period a crucial time for intervention. The study provides a drug using and injecting profile of young respondents, describing their patterns of equipment acquisition and use of treatment and testing services. It compares these with older respondents and, additionally, attempts to identify key age points at which intervention could take place to reduce hepatitis C transmission and increase the use of NSP and testing and treatment services.

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: Bryant

Collaborating organisations: Nil

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health

## NSW Pharmacy Needle and Syringe survey: hepatitis C risk and access to sterile equipment in pharmacies

Until recently there has been very little information about people who obtain needles and syringes from pharmacies, including whether they are a different group from those who obtain needles and syringes from needle and syringe programs. In 2006, a pilot study was conducted using eight pharmacies in south-east Sydney. In 2007 and 2008, the project was expanded to include most of metropolitan Sydney and the Newcastle and Hunter Valley regions. In 2009, the project was conducted in all regions of NSW and in Western Australia. The project findings suggest that a considerable proportion of study participants use pharmacies exclusively to obtain injecting equipment, and that this proportion is higher in suburban and regional parts of NSW. Moreover, the research finds a higher incidence of receptive needle sharing and much lower rates of self-reported BBV testing and drug treatment than typically found among respondents to other surveys (where respondents are recruited from primary NSPs). This suggests the need for increased supply of sterile needles and syringes through pharmacies and better connection to BBV-related services. The study will collect ongoing periodic data at agreed intervals over the coming years.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Bryant, Treloar

Collaborating organisations: Nil

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health

## Understanding and preventing hepatitis C within sexual partnerships

This NHMRC-funded project commenced in 2012. It is a qualitative study that focuses on the sharing of drug injecting equipment within sexual relationships between people who inject drugs. This context of sharing is of central concern to public health as surveillance data from a number of sources shows that the majority of equipment sharing occurs between sexual partners. Sexual relationships are qualitatively different from other relationships and specific features of sexual relationships contribute to equipment sharing in ways not found in other social relationships, such as friendships. Nevertheless, very little research to date has focused on sexual partnerships as a site of hepatitis C prevention or transmission. There is an urgent need to better document and understand the obstacles to discussing and acting on hepatitis C prevention advice within sexual partnerships, and to develop transferable insights into the negotiation strategies that are most effective when such discussions do occur. We plan to adapt these insights into recommendations for more effective policy and practice, aimed at preventing hepatitis C transmission in four areas: a) prevention education for people who inject drugs; b) health promotion strategies employed by front-line health workers; c) packaging and design of equipment; and d) policy regarding distribution of sterile injecting equipment..

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Treloar, Bryant, Rance

Collaborating organisations: NSW Users & AIDS Association, Curtin University, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant, Australian Government Department of Health



# Strengthening prevention responses

Studies in this area are concerned with providing in-depth understanding of risk and prevention practices to inform innovative prevention interventions and strengthen the evidence base for current and future policies and programs. Studies also encompass developing and testing new intervention strategies and the evaluation of proven approaches.



## Online dating among gay men and its contribution to sexual risk-taking

Many gay men find their sex partners online, and studies have found an association between the use of the internet and sexual risk-taking. However, little is known about how the dynamics of e-dating shape sexual risk-taking. To inform the development of novel HIV prevention interventions, the Cybersex study assessed the contribution made by a range of underlying processes to gay men having unprotected anal intercourse with partners they met online (UAIPO). In 2012, 932 gay men were recruited as study participants via advertisements placed on a popular gay internet site and on Facebook. Despite most participants' intention to use condoms, half reported that they had had UAIPO in the previous 6 months. Various factors were found to have contributed to this including, not referring to condom use on one's e-dating profile, fantasising online with chat partners about UAI, and meeting partners directly after chatting with them online, to have UAI. These findings highlight that the dynamics of online partner seeking and interacting do contribute to sexual risk-taking. Based on these findings, we developed the Chat Smart intervention to support gay men wanting to avoid engaging in UAIOP as a result of the unrestrained sexual scripts that develop in online interactions.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Adam, de Wit, Murphy

Collaborating organisations: ACON; Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health; Australian Government Department of Health

## Mitigating the influence of cyber chatting on sexual risk behaviour

Gay and bisexual men aged 18 to 29 years who meet their sex partners online are at higher risk of engaging in non-deliberate sexual risk taking. To address this problem the online intervention Chat Smart was developed to promote a range of self-regulation strategies among younger men who meet partners online. An evaluation was conducted online to assess the relevance and acceptability of the Chat Smart intervention package, the impact of the intervention on participants' attitudes and the perceived behavioural control and intentions towards the recommended self-regulation strategies. Preliminary results indicate that participants exposed to the intervention generally found its content relevant and very acceptable for them. Participants also hold positive attitudes towards all self-regulation strategies that were recommended during the intervention. Depending on the specific self-regulation strategies recommended, participants' perceived behavioural control towards the strategies was found to be moderate to high, as were their intentions to adopt the self-regulation strategies that were recommended during the intervention.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Adam, de Wit, Murphy

Collaborating organisations: Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations

Funding: Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Australian Government Department of Health

## Understanding and addressing individual and social barriers to STI testing among young people in New South Wales

CSRH has an extensive program of research on barriers to testing for STIs among young people. The research demonstrates that while increasing information on STIs and awareness of risk is important, it is not sufficient to achieve behavioural change. A range of perceived individual, social and structural barriers prevent young people from testing for STIs. In 2013, CSRH conducted detailed analyses of the data to provide guidance about the barriers that need to be addressed by sexual health programs conducted by NSW STIPU. The resulting unique evidence-based and theory-driven framework was used to create the 'Play Safe' quiz. The quiz asks each visitor their views on and key concerns about testing for STIs. It then uses this information to address the visitors' social and cognitive barriers to testing. The result of this outstanding collaboration between research and health promotion practice is expected to significantly reduce the barriers for young people to testing for STIs and should motivate a good proportion of young people to test for STIs. Play Safe also offers a possible model for other interventions, including promoting HIV and STI testing among gay men.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Adam, de Wit

Collaborating organisations: NSW STI Programs Unit

Funding: NSW STI Programs Unit; Australian Government Department of Health

## Evaluating the influence of sexual health messaging for young people attending a music festival in NSW

While music festivals in Australia typically attract young people who are at high risk of STIs, only recently has there been any significant sexual health promotion held at music festivals. During the 2012–2013 music festival season, NSW Health implemented the first large scale sexual health promotion initiative. The Festival initiative advocated a range of sexual health behaviors including, communication between partners about condoms and STIs, condom use, and testing for STIs. These behaviours were promoted through nine activities or intervention components. Because conducting multi-component initiatives is more resource intensive than single-component interventions, CSRH and the NSW STI Programs Unit have come together to assess the benefits of using such a multi-component initiative. An online survey (conducted three months after a music festival) recruited 357 young people who had attended the festival. Results of the survey confirm that the sexual health promotion was effective in motivating young people to adopt a range of sexual health behaviours. The study also found clear benefits to exposing young people to several intervention components, rather than just one. However, the results suggest that the number of components offered could be slightly reduced without the initiative losing much of its impact. These results will inform future initiatives at music festivals.

Status: Started in 2013

CSRH staff: Adam

Collaborating organisations: NSW STI Programs Unit

Funding: NSW STI Programs Unit; Australian Government Department of Health

## Psychosocial barriers to routine testing for HIV and STIs among gay men

HIV and STI testing rates are amongst the highest in the world among gay men in Australia. However, notable minorities have never tested and many gay men have not tested recently. To examine testing routines and assess covariates of testing, an online survey was conducted among gay men in New South Wales. Five hundred and eighty non-HIV positive gay men (mean age: 29.33 years) were randomized to answer questions on barriers to testing for HIV or STI. One in five (20.9 %) non-HIV-positive participants had never tested for HIV, 27.2 % had no HIV testing routines, 22.8 % had a moderate HIV testing routines, and 29.1 % had strong HIV testing routines.

Similar patterning was observed for STI testing. In multivariate analyses, participants' knowledge, beliefs, attitudes, subjective norms and perceived behavioral control were moderately related to HIV and/or STI testing routines and some associations were specific to either HIV or STI testing or to particular routines. Findings highlight that multiple social-cognitive factors each play a role in explaining HIV and STI testing among gay men. To effectively promote regular testing in gay men, programs face the challenge of having to address a range of hurdles, rather than a few major obstacles.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Adam, de Wit

Collaborating organisations: HIV/AIDS & Related Programs Unit, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District; STI in Gay Men Action Group; ACON; Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations

Funding: HIV/AIDS & Related Programs Unit, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District; Australian Government Department of Health

## GPs understanding and uptake of STI testing guideline

Routine STI and HIV screening of men who have sex with men (MSM) by their general practitioners (GPs) is an important component of efforts to curb current STI and HIV epidemics. However, little is known about the extent to which GPs in NSW are using STI testing guidelines for MSM in their practice. To reduce this gap in knowledge, the NSW Sexually Transmissible Infections in Gay Men Action Group (STIGMA) asked CSRH to provide scientific support for the development of an online survey among GPs. The survey will ask GPs about their MSM patients, their attitudes toward MSM patients, and their level of comfort in dealing with MSM-specific needs. The GPs will also be invited to report whether they have received and read the 2014 NSW STIGMA STI testing guidelines that were sent to them, if they feel comfortable recommending testing to their MSM patients and whether their recommendations align with the STI testing guidelines. Lastly, the survey will explore GPs views about the key barriers they have to recommending testing for their MSM patients. Data will be used to inform future programs and training for GPs.

Status: Started

CSRH staff: Adam

Collaborating organisations: NSW Sexually Transmissible Infections in Gay Men Action Group

Funding: Australian Government Department of Health

## Optimising clinical systems to increase HIV/STI testing among gay men: the e-test project

Despite HIV/STI testing rates being high among gay men in Australia, the proportion of high-risk gay men having two or more HIV/STI tests per year (specified in clinical guidelines) appears quite low. The NSW Ministry of Health funded the development of a multi-faceted intervention based on information technology, which aims to increase HIV/STI re-testing rates in high-risk gay men. A software program has been developed with four key elements: passive prompts reminding clinicians when the next test is due; SMS-based recalls sent automatically to patients when testing is overdue; a sexual health resource toolbar on the GP's computer desktop to provide access to partner notification websites, up-to-date educational information and referral systems; and, a population-reporting enhancement allowing practice staff to review their progress towards achievement of best practice. The system has been implemented in eight clinics and the impact of the intervention will be examined by assessing changes in HIV/STI re-testing rates before and after the program. In addition, interviews will be conducted with clinic staff to assess barriers to testing, and the acceptability and transferability of the intervention. Initial data have been presented at sector conferences and a first paper submitted for publication.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: de Wit

Collaborating organisations: The Kirby Institute; NSW STI Programs Unit

Funding: UNSW Goldstar Award; NSW Ministry of Health; Australian Government Department of Health

## NSW rapid HIV testing evaluation framework

This research project, led by The Kirby Institute and funded by the NSW Ministry of Health, is designed to evaluate the delivery of rapid HIV testing in Sydney sexual health clinics and other settings. The project builds on the Sydney Rapid HIV Testing Study (2011–2012), which developed a model of delivery of rapid HIV testing for men who have sex with men attending four public sexual health clinics in the Sydney metropolitan area. That study found high levels of acceptability of rapid HIV testing for patients and staff. The current phase of the project (2012–2014) will extend the delivery of rapid HIV testing to a larger number of sites throughout NSW, including community-based organisations and general practices. The project provides standardised training in rapid HIV testing and quality assurance procedures, and facilitates the collection and analysis of a common set of indicators to monitor and evaluate implementation.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Holt

Collaborating organisations: The Kirby Institute; Albion Centre; Parramatta Sexual Health Clinic; Royal North Shore Hospital; Sydney Sexual Health Centre

Funding: UNSW Goldstar Award; NSW Ministry of Health; Australian Government Department of Health

## Frequency of oral rapid testing at home (FORTH): a randomised controlled trial of home-based HIV testing

This project, led by The Kirby Institute, is evaluating whether access to home-based HIV testing kits increases the frequency of HIV testing among gay and bisexual men. Gay and bisexual men who report high numbers of male partners or condomless anal intercourse are eligible to participate and are being recruited from sexual health clinics and community organisations in Melbourne and Sydney. Participants are randomly assigned to the intervention arm (and receive home test kits immediately) or a waitlist control (receiving home test kits after a year). Testing frequency and sexual behaviour are monitored with regular questionnaires and linkage to clinic records. In-depth interviews will also be conducted with a subset of participants. Recruitment commenced in 2013.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Holt

Collaborating organisations: The Kirby Institute; Melbourne Sexual Health Centre; Sydney Sexual Health Centre; ACON; Victorian AIDS Council

Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Government Department of Health

## Identifying undiagnosed HIV infection among Australian gay men: Delivering HIV testing through a national, community-based study (the COUNT study)

Gay and bisexual men with undiagnosed HIV are believed to contribute disproportionately to HIV transmission in Australia. Previous small-scale studies suggest that up to 30% of gay and bisexual men with HIV are unaware of their infection. This project, led by CSRH and funded by a NHMRC Project grant (2013–15), seeks to establish better estimates of the prevalence of undiagnosed HIV, and the correlates of undiagnosed infection. During 2013–14, participants of the Gay Community Periodic Survey will be offered HIV testing. Consenting participants provide an oral fluid specimen which is sent to the National Serology Reference Laboratory for antibody testing. Participants can opt to receive their results by telephone or SMS. Recruitment commenced in Canberra in November 2013 and will be completed in Adelaide in October 2014.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Holt, Lea, Mao, De Wit

Collaborating organisations: Burnet Institute; The Kirby Institute; Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations; National Association of People With HIV Australia; National Serology Reference Laboratory; state and territory AIDS councils and sexual health clinics

Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Government Department of Health

## Improving antiretroviral treatment (ART) initiation for people living with HIV in Australia: a realistic and feasible approach?

More than a decade after widespread access to ART in Australia, people living with diagnosed HIV (PLHIV) are surviving longer and staying healthier than in the past. However, the PLHIV population still has unacceptably high morbidity and mortality, particularly among those who have not achieved successful viral suppression through ART. This study has multiple components, including: a literature search; a review of the existing data on the number and proportion of PLHIV currently receiving ART; and, statistical modelling to gauge the impact of changes in uptake and timing of ART initiation. The study collects both qualitative and quantitative data about the uptake and initiation of ART, from the perspectives of PLHIV not on ART, and ART prescribers. In 2013 CSRH, in collaboration with the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, completed the second online survey of ART prescribers and continued with the recruitment and interviewing of PLHIV not on ART. There have been five feedback sessions about the research presented to HIV clinical and community service providers nationwide and two journal articles published in 2013. The first article, published in *AIDS Care*, reported ART prescribers' attitudes and practices around the timing and clinical indications of ART initiation. The second paper, published in *Sexual Health*, emphasised the importance of combining HIV testing and ART roll-out, in order to make a substantial impact on the Australian HIV epidemic.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Mao, de Wit, Newman, Adam, Holt, Persson

Collaborating organisations: National Association of People Living with HIV Australia; Australasian Society for HIV Medicine; Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations; The Kirby Institute; Prince of Wales Hospital; Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service; Positive Heterosexuals Australia; Flinders University; Alfred Hospital (Melbourne)

Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant; Australian Government Department of Health

## Perceptions of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis among gay and bisexual men: PrEPARE project

The PrEPARE project is investigating the attitudes of gay and bisexual men to new HIV prevention technologies, particularly pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and treatment as prevention. The first phase of the project, conducted in 2011-2012, involved an online survey of over 1500 men and qualitative interviews with a subset of those men. We conducted a follow-up survey of over 1300 men in 2013. Comparisons of the 2011 and 2013 datasets indicate that a minority of men who appear to be at risk of HIV remain very interested in PrEP, but the majority of men remain sceptical about HIV treatment as prevention. Having published the 2011 findings, a number of peer-reviewed publications, including the 2013 data, are under review.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Holt, Lea, Murphy, de Wit

Collaborating organisations: Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations; Social Policy Research Centre (UNSW); Goldsmiths College (London, UK)

Funding: UNSW Goldstar Award; Australian Government Department of Health

## Priorities in prevention: attitudes of the HIV workforce to emerging HIV prevention technologies

There is ongoing research on attitudes among gay men to HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), treatment as prevention (TasP), and rectal microbicides. However, less attention has been paid to the opinions and beliefs among people who work in the development and implementation of health promotion and policy and in the delivery of HIV prevention and care services to gay men. This study explores the opinions and beliefs of these HIV professionals about five specific strategies: 1) condoms; 2) serosorting; 3) 'treatment as prevention'; 4) pre-exposure prophylaxis; and 5) rectal microbicides. Specially, data is collected on participants' opinions about the effectiveness of different strategies, their beliefs about the acceptability of these strategies among gay men, and their comfort in

(and willingness to) recommend each of these strategies to gay men. In addition to views on specific prevention strategies, the study explores general attitudes to HIV prevention, and opinions about prevention targets incorporated in the New South Wales HIV strategy. Results from this study will include analyses of the demographic and professional characteristics of participants that are associated with differing attitudes to HIV prevention, as well as the relationship between beliefs about the effectiveness of specific prevention strategies and perceptions of acceptability of these strategies among both HIV-positive and HIV-negative men.

Status: Started in 2013

CSRH staff: Murphy, de Wit, Holt, Newman, Adam

Collaborating organisations: ACON

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health

## Pre-exposure prophylaxis demonstration in Victoria

Clinical trials have demonstrated that daily use of HIV antiretroviral therapy as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) significantly reduces the risk of HIV acquisition from anal and vaginal intercourse and parenteral exposure. Following these studies, the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organisation issued guidance to help clinicians provide antiretroviral therapy as PrEP to people at high risk of HIV infection. It is now important to understand how PrEP will be used in the community, outside the randomised controlled trials setting. Poor adherence to PrEP medication is associated with lower efficacy of protection against HIV. When combined with increased sexual or injecting risk behaviour, non-adherence to the dosing regimen could undermine the benefits of the PrEP. This study explores the acceptability, safety, impact and feasibility of prescribing daily PrEP to people at risk of HIV infection. The study also investigates the uptake of PrEP among eligible individuals and patterns of PrEP use. The study, conducted over 24 months, compares the HIV testing patterns and results of people who accept and those that decline PrEP. Data are collected via an online survey, in-depth interviews, and via data linkage to a sentinel surveillance system.

Status: Started in 2013

CSRH staff: Murphy, de Wit, Holt

Collaborating organisations: Monash University, Burnet Institute, University of Denver, Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Victorian AIDS Council

Funding: Alfred Health, Department of Health Victoria, Australian Government Department of Health

## Implementation of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis with antiretroviral medications among people at high risk for HIV infection: a demonstration project

This demonstration project (known as PRELUDE) led by The Kirby Institute is designed to evaluate the off-label provision of daily pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to people at high risk of HIV infection. The study will inform policy development about HIV prevention through evaluation of mechanisms of PrEP implementation. Commencing in four large HIV and sexual health services, the study draws on expertise gained in designing the Victorian PrEP Project, and in undertaking repeat cross-sectional surveys of gay men's attitudes to PrEP. CSRH investigators have contributed to the development of the social and behavioural arm of the PRELUDE study. The study assesses the acceptability of PrEP among adults invited to participate in the demonstration project (including uptake and patterns of PrEP use among participants). Findings will determine the feasibility of the process of PrEP delivery in various health care settings in NSW (including eligibility screening; counselling about PrEP, condom use and risk reduction; testing for HIV; and, prescription of antiretrovirals for prevention).

Status: Started in 2013

CSRH staff: Murphy, de Wit, Holt

Collaborating organisations: The Kirby Institute

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health



## Staying safe: How do long term injecting drug users avoid hepatitis C infection?

This ongoing project seeks to discover how some injecting drug users (IDUs) have managed to avoid becoming infected with the hepatitis C virus (HCV) in spite of having injected drugs for many years in localities in which most IDUs have acquired HCV. Comparisons of IDUs who have been exposed to HCV and those who have not over the long term (i.e. those who have “stayed safe”) will generate hypotheses about prevention, to be explored in future research. This project is unique in that the traditional focus on people who have acquired infection as “cases” is reversed so that those who remain unexposed to HCV over the long term are the focus of enquiry. This CSRH work is part of an international project with other sites including New York and London. In Sydney, we have completed data collection with the assistance of the HITS-c community cohort of people who are hepatitis C negative. Two interviews were conducted with each participant, using a life history approach. Our analyses have already led to publication of strategies that participants have used (such as vein care, managing money and withdrawal) and have the potential to minimise the risk of HCV transmission. The work has also led to the development and trialling of new health promotion messages, as part of a separate research project.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Treloar, Rance, Hopwood

Collaborating organisations: The Kirby Institute

Funding: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (UNSW); Australian Government Department of Health

## Evaluation of Hepatitis B Bear resource

Over 200,000 people in Australia are living with chronic hepatitis B, though the rate of diagnosis and treatment remains low. To address gaps in hepatitis B education, a new resource was developed by Liverpool Hospital in Sydney that used new terminology and visuals depicting a bear, to describe and promote understanding of the phases of hepatitis B. The aim of the CSRH research is to evaluate the Hepatitis B Bear video resource, to inform its future development and use in other contexts. The key goals of the study are to: examine the perceptions of the usefulness and acceptability of this package of resources among the general public and hepatitis B patients; make recommendations about further development and dissemination of the package; and, examine the retention of knowledge about hepatitis B two months after exposure to the video resource. In 2013, a general community sample was recruited to view the resource and participate in pre, post and follow-up surveys of hepatitis B knowledge. Some of the survey participants were also invited to undertake a follow-up interview to discuss in detail their perceptions of the resource. A sample of people attending a hospital-based liver clinic was also recruited to examine their perceptions of the resource.

Status: Started in 2013

CSRH staff: Treloar, Cama, Newland

Collaborating organisations: Nil

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health

## Effectiveness of risk communication and implementation intentions as strategies to promote hepatitis B vaccination in homosexual men

Hepatitis B is one of the most common infectious diseases and, in industrial countries in particular, affects gay and other men who have sex with men (MSM). A safe and effective vaccine has been available since the early 1980s and vaccination is offered free of charge to MSM and others at high risk in many countries, including The Netherlands. However, while intentions to obtain vaccination are typically high among MSM in The Netherlands, the actual uptake of vaccination has remained relatively low, underscoring the importance of effective health promotion programs that stimulate hepatitis B vaccination behaviour among MSM. The present

study tested the efficacy of novel communication and self-regulation strategies to promote motivation to obtain vaccination and stimulate the translation of good intentions into action. Over the course of the project, multiple presentations have been given at scholarly conferences, and three papers have been published in peer-reviewed journals. Two further papers are being finalised.

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: de Wit

Collaborating organisations: Utrecht University (The Netherlands), Radboud University (The Netherlands), Association of Community Health Services (The Netherlands)

Funding: Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development

### Is automaticity indeed everywhere? A second generation study of the moderation of impulsive influences on evaluation and behaviour

While a number of processes help to explain why individuals fail to consistently act upon their motivations, an important threat to successful goal pursuit arises from action tendencies in the service of conflicting goals that may be less important but have a stronger immediate appeal. The primary concern of this study is with the conditions under which such impulsive processes do or do not affect reflective goal-striving in the domain of health behaviour, particularly with respect to risky sexual decisions. A series of experiments were conducted that challenge the widely shared, but largely unsubstantiated, theoretical notion that most human experience and behaviour reflect automatic processes. The project's main hypothesis holds that, rather than being ubiquitous and pervasive, automatic influences on evaluation and behaviour occur in the absence of strong competing, deliberative goals. The study's main and novel hypothesis is that individuals' reasoned goals also influence their decisions and actions, in less deliberative cognitive states. Three of the four lines of research have thus far been reported in papers published in peer-reviewed journals, with a further paper in preparation. The project also resulted in a successful PhD completion.

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: de Wit

Collaborating organisations: Utrecht University (The Netherlands);

Funding: Linschoten Institute of Psychology (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)

### Temptations to eat moderated by personal and environmental self-regulation tools (TEMPEST)

The prevalence of overweight amongst European children and adolescents has risen at an alarming rate in the past several decades, with major repercussions for the short and long term health of the individuals concerned. Existing prevention programs to combat the epidemic use either a public health approach, such as taxing of foods, or an individual educational approach to encourage young people to adopt a healthy lifestyle. However, to date, neither approach has met with much success. The aim of the TEMPEST project was to investigate how these approaches may work to complement each other, resulting in more effective preventive interventions. The project, conducted simultaneously in nine European countries, investigated the critical role that young people's own self-regulatory competence plays in dealing effectively with the contemporary obesogenic environment. Data collection for this project is complete and the study's findings presented at a range of stakeholder events and scholarly conferences. In addition, multiple papers have been published in peer-reviewed journals, with the remaining papers are under review.

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: de Wit

Collaborating organisations: Utrecht University (The Netherlands)

Funding: Seventh Framework Program, European Commission



# Negotiating the medical field

Studies in this priority area explore experiences of health, illness, biomedicine and clinical practice from the perspectives of affected populations as well as healthcare professionals. They include surveys, evaluations and in-depth studies of the complex meanings and practices of health and medicine.



## The role of treatment costs in the failure of HIV therapy

Building on a successful pilot study, CSRH is involved in conducting a large-scale, Australia-wide cohort study to determine the key financial hardship and other barriers to antiretroviral treatment (ART) adherence. In 2013, several hospitals, sexual health clinics and general practice sites in NSW and ACT began recruiting participants for the study. The participants are adult PLHIV currently taking ART who have achieved viral suppression for at least 3 months prior to their participation in the study. After the collection of baseline data, each research participant will be followed up twice to complete a survey. The first follow up is at 12 months, the second at 24 months. Participants will also be offered annual screening of their neurocognitive function. The study includes extraction of relevant patient clinical (every six months) and pharmacy (every 12 months) data. CSRH is responsible for monitoring the study's data quality and conducting the participant survey, using Computer-Assisted Self-Interview techniques. The CSRH researchers participate in the monthly meetings of the study team to liaise with clinicians, other researchers and relevant community leaders. At the 2013 Australasian HIV/AIDS conference, the study team had a poster presentation of initial findings that demonstrate the feasibility of implementing this large-scale, nationwide study subsequent to its successful pilot-testing phase.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: de Wit, Mao

Collaborating organisations: St Vincent's Centre for Applied Medical Research, National Association of People Living with HIV Australia

Funding: Gilead?, NSW Ministry of Health; Australian Government Department of Health

## Facilitating increased HIV testing and making the most of the HIV testing encounter: the role of and models for appropriate and effective pre-test discussion and post-test counselling

In many European countries, HIV testing efforts are failing to identify HIV infections early enough, and substantial proportions of people with HIV are unaware of their infection. National, European and Global guidelines offer recommendations about the different ways of obtaining informed consent, undertaking pre-test discussion and post-test counselling, delivering test results and making referrals to specialist services after testing. Whilst guidance is diverse, there are sometimes disparate recommendations and information gaps, and it is uncertain to what extent these are informed by evidence or expert opinion. In response, CSRH has been commissioned to review testing and counselling guidelines across European country contexts. This project will contribute to the evidence base that guides the development and implementation of HIV testing models which are acceptable to providers and clients, feasible in diverse practice settings, and effective in promoting risk reduction. Ongoing research consists of: a review of guidance documents to examine HIV testing and counselling recommendations; a systematic review of academic literature to extend and update existing guidelines; a stakeholder survey to collect information regarding current HIV testing processes across Europe; and, expert consultation to gain consensus about new recommendations and best practice protocols for HIV testing.

Status: Started in 2013

CSRH staff: Bell, de Wit

Collaborating organisations: HIV in Europe Initiative

Funding: HIV in Europe Initiative

## Evaluation of consumer participation projects in NSW

Although consumer participation is widely discussed as important and desirable, there is scant literature which examines the implementation of consumer participation in health services, lesser still in drug treatment services. This project will evaluate consumer participation projects conducted in three drug treatment services in NSW. The aim of the participation projects is to involve consumers at the organisational level of service planning and delivery. The evaluation focuses on the organisational issues which affect the progress of the consumer participation projects. Commencing in 2012, the evaluation draws on the two-phase Treatment Service Users' Project (TSUI and TSUII). TSUI was conducted by AIVL (the national organisation representing people who use and inject illicit drugs) in partnership with CSRH and it described the extent of consumer participation occurring in drug treatment services in three states, and developed a conceptual model of consumer participation to guide further work. TSUII involved the establishment and evaluation of demonstration projects. For the current project, the NSW Users and AIDS Association (NUAA) secured funding to further the development of consumer participation projects in drug treatment facilities in NSW. The project was completed in 2013, following the publication of a report and a peer-reviewed publication.

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: Rance, Wilson, Treloar

Collaborating organisations: Nil

Funding: NSW Users & AIDS Association; Australian Government Department of Health

## Surveillance and prevention of viral hepatitis among prisoners: a qualitative sub-study characterising behaviours associated with hepatitis C transmission and protection, and the impact of prevention measures on incident infection among prisoners

The literature concerning risk environments for blood-borne virus transmission within prison is small, and no research has been conducted in Australian settings. Some work in other countries has highlighted the limitations of epidemiological data in understanding the social relationships that facilitate risk of transmission of blood-borne viruses in relation to prison tattoos. Further, and in relation to violence in prison, other authors have called for a greater emphasis on situational factors, rather than reproducing understandings based on individual level factors. Commencing in 2012, this research explores the complex and inter-related nature of practices and environments surrounding the hepatitis C risk (and prevention strategies) in prisons. It employs qualitative data collection techniques that allow participants to discuss and explore the practices and settings in which they engage and that are epidemiologically associated with hepatitis C risk. In 2013, a sample of 23 prison inmates was recruited from the ongoing HITS-p cohort that comprises men and women in NSW prisons with a history of injecting drug use. Participants responses to the HITS-p surveillance surveys were used to recruit inmates with varying hepatitis C status (unexposed; recent infection; chronic infection) and varying exposures to hepatitis C (injecting drug use only; injecting drug use and tattoo/violence; tattoo/violence only).

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Treloar

Collaborating organisations: Justice Health NSW

Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council Partnership Grant; Australian Government Department of Health

## The role of implicit identity and implicit beliefs in recovery from mental illness

Recovery from mental illness is clearly completely determined, with the personality of the individual, the individual's situation, and the nature of the mental illness all playing a role. One aspect of the individual that has received increasing attention is the degree to which the person identifies as someone with a mental illness.

Although research on identity and mental illness has made important progress in understanding recovery, this work has yet to examine aspects of identity outside of conscious awareness. Because most of the research in this area focuses on the narratives that people with a mental illness tell about themselves and their experiences, it only addresses aspects of identity that are accessible to introspection. The goal of the current proposal is to expand this line of research on mental illness and identity to consider aspects of identity that are unavailable to conscious reflection, but that nevertheless might have an influence on recovery. A sample of 200 participants will be surveyed three times in 12 months to assess the longitudinal implications of implicit self-identification on mental health recovery.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Brener

Collaborating organisations: University of Queensland; Aftercare

Funding: Australian Research Council Linkage Grant; Australian Government Department of Health

## Characteristics of vulnerable young people in inner city areas who use alcohol and other drugs: Policing and pathways to diversion and care

Researchers, governments and youth workers know that there is a small group of young people in the community who are involved in multiple risky activities. They are simultaneously involved with police, the juvenile justice system, and youth and other community services and, usually, drugs and alcohol are implicated in some way. While Australia has comprehensive and often complicated diversion programs in place for young people who offend, there is still opportunity to improve pathways into treatment and care rather than direct them into the courts and prison. Police play an important first-stage role in deciding whether a young offender gets directed into the criminal system or diverted into treatment. This study looks at police and their diversion practices in relation to young substance users. It uses a mixed method design and draws on existing survey data in NSW and Victoria, together with in-depth interview data collected during the course of the project. Interviews will be conducted with police, young substance users aged 16-24 years, and staff of youth-focussed alcohol and drug services. The project will describe the opportunities to improve young people's engagement in diversion and will produce training resources to support police in their diversion practices.

Status: Started in 2013

CSRH staff: Bryant, Rance

Collaborating organisations: Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre

Funding: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund; Australian Government Department of Health



## Critical analysis of health service provision

The studies in this priority area examine the policies and delivery of health services as well as the evolving needs of the healthcare workforce, and evaluate innovative models of healthcare provision. Studies make use of qualitative, quantitative and economic methods and data.

### Western Australia Sexual Health Survey

This project, led by the Institute, evaluated sexual health services for men who have sex with men in Perth, Western Australia. In 2012, men were recruited from one community-based sexual health service and two public sexual health clinics to complete a confidential questionnaire about their experiences of sexual health services. The results showed high levels of satisfaction with both the community-based service and public sexual health clinics and identified the strengths and weaknesses of the services. A final project report was published in 2013.

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: Holt

Collaborating organisations: The Kirby Institute, Western Australian AIDS Council

Funding: Australian Government Department of Health

### Investigating the capacity of the general practitioner workforce to meet ongoing HIV primary care needs in Australia

HIV has become a chronic manageable infection in the developed world, and early and lifelong treatment has the potential to significantly reduce transmission rates in the community. To investigate the rewards and challenges of providing HIV care in general practice settings around Australia, CSRH undertook a national, qualitative study that focused on understanding workforce issues and building new knowledge on the role of the general practitioner (GP) in maintaining and enhancing the health of people living with HIV. The study involved two rounds of interviews. The first with 24 'key informants' in senior positions within government, non-government and professional organisations, the second with 47 'clinicians', including GPs actively prescribing antiretroviral medications, GPs providing HIV care but not prescribing antiretrovirals, GPs who had stopped maintaining prescriber status, and general practice nurses involved in HIV care. In 2013, a Research Summary was published online and promoted widely across HIV and general practice. Nine articles are published or in press with peer reviewed journals, and one final manuscript is under review.

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: Newman, de Wit, Persson, Hopwood

Collaborating organisations: National Association of People Living with HIV Australia; Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations; Australasian Society for HIV Medicine; Royal Australian College of General Practitioners

Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant; Australian Government Department of Health

### Evaluation of a model for assessment and treatment of hepatitis C virus among injecting drug users in the opiate pharmacotherapy setting (ETHOS)

Worldwide there is a growing interest in the provision of care and treatment for hepatitis C virus infection in opiate pharmacotherapy treatment programs. The ETHOS project is a prospective, observational trial in nine opiate pharmacotherapy clinics in NSW involving the establishment of hepatitis C care and treatment programs in each clinic. This ongoing NHMRC-funded study used qualitative methods to explore opioid substitution treatment clients' and health professionals' reports of the barriers and incentives to the delivery and uptake of hepatitis C virus treatment in opiate pharmacotherapy clinics, including those in which peer support

is offered. The project recruited staff and clients from four clinics to participate in semi-structured interviews. In 2013, the focus of the project was the publication of a range of peer-reviewed papers. Our key interests were to explore: health professionals and clients views of the co-location of services and peer support programs; issues of trust in services; and, the possibility of transformation (of client identity and of clinic culture) as a result of the addition of hepatitis C care and treatment in the opiate pharmacotherapy clinic.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Treloar, Rance

Collaborating organisations: The Kirby Institute; NSW Users & AIDS Association; NSW Ministry of Health

Funding: National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant; Australian Government Department of Health

## Evaluation of NSP service models in Western Sydney

This project is a partnership project between CSRH and the Local Health Districts in Western Sydney and the Nepean Blue Mountains. The aim is to examine the mix of services provided under the Needle and Syringe Program (NSP) umbrella. Currently, a range of types of services are provided (dedicated fixed site; secondary services; vending machine; and, outreach) as well as provision through community-based pharmacies. The picture of service provision becomes more complicated with the addition of primary care services in NSPs and it has been difficult for Health District Service Managers to know which type of service should be provided in a particular location. In 2013, data collection and analysis for the evaluation was completed to support the submission of a project report. The project activities include: a costing study to examine the cost per unit (needle and syringe) of providing each type of service; a survey of NSP clients to examine their needs and their perceptions about and use of NSP services; qualitative interviews with NSP workers and clients to understand the ways in which NSP services meet policy goals and to explore clients' needs in greater detail; and, a trial of new health promotion messages.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Treloar, Mao, Hull, Newland

Collaborating organisations: Nil

Funding: Western Sydney Local Health District; Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District; Australian Government Department of Health

## A qualitative and quantitative evaluation of the NSW program to increase capacity in the delivery of hepatitis C care and treatment for Aboriginal people

This ongoing project is an evaluation of the investment made by NSW Health to improve hepatitis C care and treatment for Aboriginal people. The program of work developed by NSW Health includes new positions (Access Coordinators), community education, and workforce development for staff from Aboriginal and mainstream health services. The role of CSRH was to conduct a multi-method evaluation including, surveys of Aboriginal people with hepatitis C and follow-up qualitative interviews with a sub-sample recruited from the survey participants. In addition, we interviewed a range of health workers involved with the NSW Health program (and some who have not). We explored the experience of people living with hepatitis C, including their decisions around hepatitis C care and their experience of the programs funded by NSW Health. Using data from health worker participants, we examined which organisational and systems issues were important to address for hepatitis C care, and what was required for future provision of services for Aboriginal people with hepatitis C, their communities and for the Aboriginal community controlled health sector. Data collection was completed in 2013, and a project report submitted.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Treloar, Brener, Jackson, Saunders, Johnson, Gray, Wilson

Collaborating organisations: Nil

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health; Australian Government Department of Health

## An evaluation of NUAA's NSP services

Needle and syringe programs (NSPs) are widely recognised as a significant public health measure to reduce the harms associated with injecting drug use, especially in reducing the risks of transmission of blood-borne viruses. The NSW Users & AIDS Association (NUAA) is a not-for-profit organisation instated by a group of consumers to provide education, support and advocacy for people who use drugs illicitly in NSW. NUAA began providing NSP services from Albion Street, Surry Hills, in 2003 and this service forms part of a suite of NSP services delivered throughout the Inner Sydney suburbs. What differentiates the NUAA NSP is that it is a community-controlled, peer-led and delivered service. CSRH was commissioned to evaluate some of the NSP services provided by NUAA. The purpose of the evaluation was to explore the characteristics of consumers' accessing the NSP services, the method and effectiveness of the outreach of the NSP and outreach services, consumer and stakeholder perceptions of the services, and to offer suggestions and recommendations for improvement to the services. The evaluation surveyed clients attending the fixed site NSP and the Automatic Dispensing Machine located outside NUAA. Qualitative interviews with NUAA staff also framed and informed the evaluation.

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: Brener, Bryant, Cama

Collaborating organisations: Nil

Funding: NSW Users & AIDS Association, Australian Government Department of Health

## Mental health and hepatitis C: knowledge, attitudes and working alliance

The importance of addressing physical health issues among people with mental illness is attracting attention, with increased recognition of the large disparity in life expectancy between the general population and those with a mental illness. Amongst other physical health vulnerabilities, people with a mental illness have increased risk for hepatitis C, largely aligned with an increased use of illicit drugs and greater risk behaviours in this population. Mental health workers are in a good position to be able to refer and support their clients to engage with hepatitis C care. However, there is a low level of knowledge about hepatitis C and its treatment amongst mental health workers. Furthermore, hepatitis C is a stigmatised condition (due to its associations with injecting drug use) and mental health workers attitudes towards people with hepatitis C virus are variable. Commencing in 2012, this project involved a survey of mental health workers knowledge of and attitudes toward working with their clients with hepatitis C. The study findings has been published in peer review journals and form the basis of a grant application that will develop and trial a resource to support mental health workers in working with their clients with hepatitis C.

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: Brener, Treloar, Cama

Collaborating organisations: Aftercare, NSW Users & AIDS Association, Hepatitis NSW

Funding: Community Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Research Network, Australian Government Department of Health



# Cultural, social and political dynamics

Studies in this priority area focus on the diverse contexts in which health and risk are enacted. They explore the ways in which cultural difference, gender and sexuality, stigma and discrimination, and political and economic dynamics shape sexual practices, illicit drug use and experiences of living with sexually transmissible and blood-borne viruses.



## NAPWHA Stigma Audit survey

Working in collaboration with the National Association of People with HIV Australia (NAPWHA), CSRH completed an online study assessing the experiences of stigma among people living with HIV (PLHIV). The study highlights different experiences of stigma for different social groups in the Australian context. Findings suggest that heterosexual PLHIV appear to experience more stigma than homosexual PLHIV and are less likely to access HIV treatment. Furthermore, the research indicates that consequences of experiencing stigma are mediated by psychological resilience. This raises the possibility that stigma not only affects health and wellbeing outcomes, but can also deplete critical coping resources, which further compounds the deleterious impact of stigma on PLHIV. While many studies have identified the negative consequences of HIV-related stigma, the CSRH research extends these findings by providing evidence that such stigma is multifaceted and may be experienced differently by different PLHIV. Further analysis of the data suggests that disclosing HIV within social relations and healthcare settings is primarily associated with positive outcomes for PLHIV, although where negative responses to disclosure do occur, this is linked to adverse outcomes for PLHIV.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Brener, de Wit

Collaborating organisations: National Association of People Living with HIV Australia

Funding: National Association of People with HIV Australia; Australian Government Department of Health

## Sifting hope from hype: media representations of the changing science of HIV prevention

Over the past few years, the science of HIV prevention has undergone considerable change, particularly in relation to the potential applications of antiretroviral therapy (ART). While the individual health benefits of treatment have been recognised for some time, the potential for ART to also prevent the transmission of HIV infection has generated a new and hotly debated set of scientific claims. This pilot study aims to examine how the changing science of HIV prevention has been represented online, with a particular focus on understanding how treatment-as-prevention came to be discursively constituted as a 'game-changer' following the publication of the HPTN052 study findings. In 2013, data was collected in the form of Google searches conducted on two separate dates, using the Australian, UK and US Google search sites, collating and summarising the top 50 results for keyword searches for 'HIV prevention', 'Treatment as prevention' and 'HPTN052'. Analyses will be developed in 2014, and additional data may be collected to supplement the 2013 data, in order to observe any major differences in the content and tone of representations.

Status: Started

CSRH staff: Newman, Persson, de Wit, Bains

Collaborating organisations: nil

Funding: UNSW Australia; Australian Government Department of Health

## Community-based organising against HIV and for rights among same-sex attracted men in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Same-sex attracted men in Tanzania carry a highly disproportionate burden of HIV. At the same time, mainstream HIV prevention programming that targets men who regularly or occasionally have sex with other men continues to be in short supply. Significantly, however, nascent grassroots organising against HIV is emerging among same-sex attracted men themselves. Through such actions, men at increased risk of HIV posit themselves as agents and performers—as opposed to the recipients or ‘targets’—of HIV prevention. This post-doctoral study, led by Dr Kåre Moen, aims to document, learn from, and contribute to the ongoing evolution of community-based HIV-related work by same-sex attracted men in Dar es Salaam. With men as co-investigators, it aims to learn more about the ways in which HIV prevention activism is created, engaged with and perceived.

Status: Started in 2013

CSRH staff: Aggleton

Collaborating organisations: Institute of Health and Society, University of Oslo; Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences

Funding: GLOBVAC Programme, Research Council of Norway, UNSW Australia

## Mobile men with money and HIV in Papua New Guinea

This qualitative study is examining the role of mining development on sexual health risk amongst traditional landowners, their sexual partners and others affected by resource extraction development in Papua New Guinea (PNG), particularly as it relates to the Liquefied Natural Gas project. With Dr Angela Kelly-Hanku as principal investigator, the project aims to understand: risk perceptions for HIV and other STIs among landowners and others; the changing nature and meanings of gendered relations and sexual partnering (paid sex, forced sex, concurrent partnering); the contribution of alcohol and violence to sexual risk-taking; the role that money and gender play in influencing sexual risk; and sexual and reproductive health seeking behaviours. Findings will support the design of programs to mitigate the effects of mining development on HIV- and STI-related risk and vulnerability among landowners, their sexual partners and others affected by mining development in PNG.

Status: Started in 2013

CSRH staff: Aggleton

Collaborating organisations: Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research, School of Public Health and Community Medicine (UNSW Australia)

Funding: Competitive Research Award Scheme, PNG Institute of Medical Research, UNSW Australia

## Malaysian young people's view on dating and relationship: applying a pluralistic ignorance framework to understand intentions and behaviours

In Malaysia, relationships and sexual behaviour, especially when they occur before marriage, are topics that continue to be seldom discussed openly. As a consequence, Malaysian young people and others know very little about what their peers are actually doing and how comfortable they may be with various types of relationships and sexual behaviours. There is a gap in the research on this subject and this gap in knowledge is the origin of a collaborative research project between CSRH and the University of Malaya. From December 2013, a quantitative survey recruited 538 unmarried students at the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. While only a small proportion of participants were sexually active, most had been on a date in the past 12 months. Participants were asked to rate their personal level of comfort towards going on a date, having a boyfriend or a girlfriend and engaging in sexual intercourse with them. Participants also rated their peers' levels of comfort. Results indicate that participants generally hold low to moderate levels of comfort towards the behaviours that were presented to them and largely overestimate

their peers' level of comfort with the same behaviours. Further analyses will be conducted to assess how erroneous impressions of others' attitudes and behaviours can influence sexual debut and sexual risk-taking among young people in Malaysia.

Status: Started in 2013

CSRH staff: Adam

Collaborating organisations: University of Malaya

Funding: University of Malaya

## Sexuality, health and human rights of marginalised men in Papua New Guinea

This study aims to improve the health outcomes of marginalised men in Papua New Guinea (PNG) by understanding the intersection between sexuality, health and human rights. Specifically, its objectives are to examine the impacts of policies, legislation and programs on health outcomes, experiences/expressions of sexuality and gender over the life course, and to examine the impacts of violations of human rights on health outcomes and experiences/expressions of sexuality and gender. Under the leadership of Angela Kelly-Hanku, a Participatory Action Research methodology is being deployed which involves life histories and the development of a dedicated website documenting the material culture of gender and sexual minority men. Findings will be of relevance to community groups in PNG such as Kapul Champions, the National Department of Health and the National AIDS Council Secretariat. The outcomes of this study will lead to a more sophisticated understanding of the relationship between policy, legislation and programs on health outcomes for gender and sexual minority men. Research will also document how the violation of human rights impacts the health experiences of such men.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Aggleton

Collaborating organisations: Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research, School of Public Health and Community Medicine (UNSW Australia)

Funding: Competitive Research Award Scheme, PNG Institute of Medical Research, UNSW Australia

## Needs of people with liver cancer and their carers: Vietnamese and Chinese communities

Recent Australian research has indicated that the burden of illness, from infection with the hepatitis B virus and hepatitis C virus among immigrant populations from China and South-East Asia, is significant. The high prevalence of long-term chronic viral hepatitis infections among Chinese and Vietnamese immigrant populations in Australia means that significant liver disease, such as cirrhosis and primary liver cancer (hepatocellular carcinoma), is already common and will remain a major health burden well into the future. However, there are no existing resources to support people from Chinese and Vietnamese backgrounds after diagnosis with liver cancer. Commencing in 2013, the goals of this project are to conduct a literature review and collect information, using interviews and focus groups, to examine the needs and experiences of people from Chinese and Vietnamese backgrounds. The review of the literature found people's knowledge of illness to be low and identified a range of barriers for people accessing cancer and other health-related information including: poor English proficiency; a dearth of culturally and linguistically specific resources and programmes; concerns about Western medicine and difficulties negotiating Western health systems and medical practitioners; a preference for treating disease with folk remedies and traditional Chinese medicine; and, a fundamental philosophical difference in illness representations.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Hopwood, Treloar

Collaborating organisations: Cancer Council NSW

Funding: Cancer Council NSW, Australian Government Department of Health

## Making a community safe and supportive for its children: understanding the conditions necessary to create a child safe and child friendly community

This project, the first of its type in Australia, will use an innovative approach to understand the practices and norms that contribute to positive child outcomes in communities where such outcomes are unexpected or statistically anomalous. It will identify the factors that culminate in a community being a supportive place for children, by identifying communities where child protection outcomes are unexpectedly positive and then exploring the characteristics that make this so. The study builds on research that identifies the factors that make communities vulnerable, by identifying the factors that are protective in vulnerable communities. The project will identify the specific, local factors that strengthen vulnerable communities and, the critical elements that act as protective factors in families and communities that are otherwise 'at risk'. In 2013, the Delphi method was used to engage a group of professionals in the child protection field. The group was asked to identify and reach consensus about the protective factors that are present in anomalously strong communities. Future research activities include interviews with parents in 'at-risk' families identified as having positive characteristics and practices, and interviews with practitioners who work with these families.

**Status:** Started in 2013

**CSRH staff:** Treloar

**Collaborating organisations:** Social Policy Research Centre (UNSW Australia)

**Funding:** Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

## Gender and Diversity education project

Against the background of concern to promote greater social inclusion in schools, this project led to the development of an English language resource, entitled Diversity in School, consisting of four innovative modules addressing cultural diversity and ethnocentrism, gender diversity, sexuality and sexual orientation and ethnic inequality. The resource supports training in gender, sexuality, and ethnic (race) relations for teaching professionals, and was successfully piloted in six cities in Brazil in 2006. Since 2008, its contents have been further developed and revised to make the program more widely available in a distance learning format. The English language version of Diversity in School, developed by CSRH, aims to enhance access by making the resource available to teachers and teacher educators in English-speaking countries. Available to download free at [http://www.clam.org.br/uploads/arquivo/Diversity\\_in\\_School.pdf](http://www.clam.org.br/uploads/arquivo/Diversity_in_School.pdf)

**Status:** Completed

**CSRH staff:** Aggleton

**Collaborating organisations:** University of Exeter, UK

**Funding:** Government of Brazil's Special Secretariat for Policies on Women; Special Secretariat for the Promotion of Policies on Racial Equality (SEPPIR/ PR); Brazilian Ministry of Education; British Council; Latin American Centre on Sexuality and Human Rights; UNSW Strategic Funding

## Top girls: middle class privilege and agentic practice

This study extended recently completed work on agentic practice among privileged young women in England. It examined how young women attending four private schools in Southern England act powerfully across various aspects of their lives, including in their education and in relationships with peers and family. The study makes more visible the lives of 'top girls', or young women who appear to have the greatest opportunities open to them to achieve and become who they would like to be. Findings add to debate concerning how different values and outlooks within the middle classes influence young women's attitudes and experiences, and their relationships to other social groups. Using participant observation, focus group discussions and repeat in-depth interviews, the project collected data from over 30 young women aged 16 to 18 years from four private schools in one area of south-east England. Several papers from the project have been

published in peer-reviewed journals, alongside an edited book entitled *Privilege, Agency and Affect* (Palgrave, 2014). <http://www.palgraveconnect.com/pc/doi/10.1057/9781137292636>

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: Aggleton

Collaborating organisations: Institute of Education (University of London, UK)

Funding: UK Economic and Social Research Council, UNSW Strategic Funding

## Review of NSW Sexual Health in Schools

Against the background of rising reported rates of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among young people, and in the context of efforts to ensure a major reduction in the number of new HIV infections, sexual health has been prioritised as an issue of special relevance to the New South Wales (NSW) Government. The NSW Sexual Health in Schools Project, which has run for a period of 6 years, aims to contribute to the attainment of state-wide strategies relating to STIs, HIV, Hepatitis C and Violence against Women. Within this context, a review of the NSW Sexual Health in Schools Project took place. The review, conducted over a four month period identified (i) how and in what ways activities are being used to promote young people's sexual health across the state; and (ii) recommendations concerning how future work could be developed in line with recognised best practice in school-based sexual health promotion.

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: Aggleton, Wilson

Collaborating organisations: University of Exeter, UK

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health

## Research transfer and capacity building

These activities are concerned with making research findings available to stakeholders and strengthening research partnerships. Activities also include building research capacity and providing learning opportunities.



## Annual Report of Trends in Behaviour

Behavioural monitoring is a key component in the effective surveillance of risk for blood-borne virus. The Annual Report of Trends in Behaviour (ARTB) collates and discusses behavioural data on HIV, viral hepatitis and related diseases to effectively inform policy and community responses. The ARTB is a key resource to inform the Australian response to blood borne viruses and sexually transmitted infections, and aims to support the work of researchers, community organisations and policy makers. The ARTB is usually launched at the Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference. The 25th Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference took place in Darwin 21–23 October 2013 and the ARTB was launched on the first day.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: CSRH researchers

Collaborating organisations: CSRH research partners

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health

## NSW knowledge transfer and capacity building project

This activity was designed to generate and disseminate knowledge from HIV/STI research out to affected communities, community-based organisations, health service providers and policy makers in NSW. The work included ongoing and on-demand data analyses, and, in collaboration with The Kirby Institute, the organisation of an annual community forum to discuss recent surveillance findings. This activity also provided support for service providers regarding the evaluation of

their activities. As of 2014, these activities are encompassed in a comprehensive NSW HIV, viral hepatitis and STIs research program awarded to a consortium consisting of CSRH and The Kirby Institute.

Status: Completed

CSRH staff: CSRH researchers

Collaborating organisations: The Kirby Institute; CSRH community and public sector partners in NSW

Funding: NSW Ministry of Health, Australian Government Department of Health

## Australia Forum on Sexuality, Education and Health

The Australia Forum on Sexuality, Education and Health (AFSEH) was established in 2013 to bring together researchers, practitioners, community leaders and policy makers across the fields of sexuality, education and health. The Forum's primary goal is to discuss and debate contemporary issues and concerns, build and consolidate networks, and develop joint projects and initiatives. With a membership of over 200 individuals from academic, policy and practitioner backgrounds, the Forum has convened meetings in New South Wales, the Northern Territory, Queensland and Victoria and is in the process of extending its work to include South Australia and Western Australia. An AFSEH Blog has recently been launched and the Forum will hold its first conference in early 2014. The Forum is led by Professor Peter Aggleton, who facilitated a similar process in London.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Aggleton, Bell

Collaborating organisations: Deakin University, Griffith University, La Trobe University, Monash University, Queensland University of Technology, University of Queensland, University of Sydney, University of Western Sydney, Family Planning NSW, Family Planning Queensland, Family Planning Welfare Association NT, Family Planning Victoria

Funding: UNSW Australia

## Social Research Conference on HIV, Hepatitis and Related Diseases

CSRH's Social Research Conference on HIV, Hepatitis and Related Diseases (HHARD) is integral to Australia's efforts in understanding the social and behavioural dynamics of epidemics of sexually transmissible infections and blood borne viruses. This biennial conference attracts researchers, health professionals, policy makers and community members from a variety of fields, and it facilitates engagement with research and practice, from a multi-disciplinary perspective. The 13th HHARD conference will be held 20–21 February 2014. For the first time, the conference will take place in the Scientia Building, UNSW's premier meeting venue. The exciting and engaging conference program is guided by the theme 'promises & limitations: biomedical treatment and prevention in the real world'.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Conference Organising Committee

Collaborating organisations: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (UNSW)

Funding: Conference sponsors: ACT Health Directorate, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Gilead, NSW Users & AIDS Association, UNSW Bookshop, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (UNSW); Australian Government Department of Health

## The impact of item framing on surveys of attitudes to harm reduction services and knowledge about hepatitis C

Past research has demonstrated how public opinion regarding sensitive issues can be influenced by the way survey questions are asked. Over the past six years, CSRH researchers have taught undergraduate students in the School of Social Sciences (UNSW Australia). In the course, students conduct a mixed-method study of the impact of survey-item framing on university attendees' attitudes to harm-reduction services and knowledge of viral hepatitis. To date, two papers have been published in peer-reviewed journals, reporting the quantitative data collected by the students. The data demonstrates the affect positive and negative item-framing



has on young people's responses to questions about their support for or opposition to needle and syringe programs, the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre, pharmacy-based syringe distribution, government-funded illicit drug user organisations, and trials of prescribed heroin for people dependent on opiates. Each year new data is collected by students and the analysis provides further evidence to support the effects of item-priming. A third paper is in production and it will add to the knowledge about young people's awareness of hepatitis C and help to identify some of the issues around hepatitis C, such as treatment, that require further dissemination of information.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Hopwood, Brener, Treloar, Mao

Collaborating organisations: Nil

Funding: School of Social Sciences (UNSW), Australian Government Department of Health

## Strengthening HIV social research collaboration in China

CSRH continues to strengthen its HIV social research exchange and collaboration with prestigious Chinese universities and academics. In 2013, two Chinese postgraduate students participated in a 2-month academic mentoring program at CSRH, under direct supervision of Dr Limin Mao, and with further guidance from Prof John de Wit. Both students received extensive one-on-one research training in advanced academic writing and publishing in international peer-reviewed journals. One manuscript, with joint authorship of investigators at Tsinghua University and UNSW Australia, was submitted to *Sexual Health* and is currently under peer review.

Status: Started in 2013

CSRH staff: Mao, Wit

Collaborating organisations: Tsinghua University (Beijing); Fudan University (Shanghai)

Funding: UNSW Australia

## CSRH Research Portal

Recognising the importance of effective communication for knowledge transfer, capacity building, and awareness raising, an online Research Portal was developed to provide a multi-faceted digital platform to conduct and showcase our collaborative research with sector, community, government and non-government organisations and partners. It also employs sophisticated digital production and distribution technology to circulate e-newsletters, and e-alerts of recent publications and events such as seminars, workshops and conferences, thereby allowing us to access a large international and domestic audience. Recipients may tailor their subscription to their specific needs and interests.

Status: Ongoing

CSRH staff: Adam, Rainbow

Collaborating organisations: CSRH research partners

Funding: UNSW, CSRH research projects; Australian Government Department of Health

# Postgraduate teaching and research



CSRH offers a postgraduate program that provides students with the skills needed to undertake high quality research, contribute to academic and policy debates, and inform best practice. We offer expert supervision, from a diversity of social and behavioural science perspectives, for postgraduate research into the social and behavioural aspects of HIV, sexual health, sexual practices, viral hepatitis and drug use and related areas of education, health and wellbeing. Our students are passionate, engaged and motivated to understand and influence change in the fields of health, sex, drugs and risk.

# Postgraduate research program



The postgraduate research degrees offered are Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) and Master of Arts by Research (MA). Our program has links with other programs in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, in particular the School of Social Sciences, and in the Faculty of Medicine, notably the School of Public Health and Community Medicine and The Kirby Institute.

In 2013 one student was awarded a PhD:

**Rebecca Gray**

## **The dynamics of shame: navigating professional complexities when counselling in alcohol and other drug settings**

Shame, and its connection to problematic alcohol and other drug use, has been widely theorised in counselling literature. Less attention has been paid, however, to the way in which the therapeutic relationship is affected by the context of alcohol and other drug (AOD) settings. This qualitative study gathered the professional accounts of seventeen counsellors and other frontline workers in order to gain new understandings of what enables and challenges their approach to this work. The principles of grounded theory and reflexive practitioner/research informed the analysis, which investigated the initial research question of: how does shame prevent or enable the relational factors of counselling practice in alcohol and other drug settings? Three major insights were developed through this research. The first is that shame is intimately entangled with the labelling of problematic AOD-use behaviour. Terms used by participants, such as 'addiction' and 'dependence', are value-laden and rarely clearly defined. These professionals described clients as being positioned in contradictory and complex ways in relation to their treatment for problematic drug use, and this was described as having the potential to significantly disrupt the counselling process. The second insight is that shame, guilt and stigma are often conflated in AOD counselling. Participants were insightful about the collision between the multifactorial determinants of problematic AOD use and social edicts that define certain drugs as illicit and certain behaviours as pathological. This collision appeared to lead to a series of inherent contradictions in treatment goals. The third insight is that the dynamics of shame create significant workforce issues for AOD counselling professionals. Participants described workplace conflict, undue pressure on individual counsellors, and the pressure to conform to directive approaches. This thesis outlines and discusses these dilemmas and, in doing so, contributes to what is known about counselling practice in AOD settings, especially professional perceptions and experiences of the dynamics between shame and drug use in those settings. New practice implications are articulated for counsellors working with clients around shame issues, and for the more appropriate development and navigation of practice and policy guidelines for counselling in alcohol and other drug settings.

**Supervisors:** Dr Christy Newman (CSRH) and Dr Kylie Valentine (Social Policy Research Centre)

**Research area:** Living with and Treatment of Serious and Chronic Conditions; Viral Hepatitis, Injecting Drug Use and Harm Reduction

Four other CSRH students successfully completed their research degrees in 2013, and will graduate in 2014: Denton Callander (PhD), Maude Frances (PhD), Dean Murphy (PhD) and Hannah Wilson (MA by Research). Detailed thesis information will be provided in the 2014 Annual Report.



# Postgraduate research projects

## HIV-positive gay men's perceptions of Treatment as Prevention

Anthony Bains (MA by Research)

The aim of the research study is to engage with HIV-positive gay men to ascertain their perceptions and feelings towards 'treatment as prevention'. Developments in biomedicine are influencing the prevention agenda in terms of policy and communication and there is a need to find out how people living with HIV feel about this evolving technology and how it is incorporated into their everyday lives. The study is aiming to contribute to a better understanding of the treatment, care, education and support needs of people living with HIV during this period of change.

Supervisors: Dr Asha Persson (CSRH) and Associate Professor Martin Holt (CSRH)

Research area: HIV and Sexual Health Risk and Risk Reduction; Living with and Treatment of Serious and Chronic Conditions

## Women who buy sex in Australia: from social representations to lived experiences

Hilary Caldwell (PhD)

The available evidence suggests that it is becoming more common for women to buy sex and to disclose this, which challenges current epistemological and disciplinary notions regarding people who buy and sell sex. Hilary's research will aim to explore the phenomenon of women buying sex from contemporary social discourse to the experiences of women who buy sex including how they construct their transactions in terms of their perceptions of female gender, status and power. Using a feminist approach with qualitative methods, this research hopes to characterise female use of commercial sexual services and to begin evidence based discussion and new theoretical arguments about gender roles and buying sex.

Supervisors: Professor John de Wit (CSRH), Dr Philippe Adam (CSRH) and Dr Kath Albury (Journalism and Media Research Centre/School of Arts and Media UNSW)

Research area: Sexuality, Health and Education; HIV & Sexual Health Risk & Risk Reduction

## Just a Preference: exploring concepts of race among gay men looking for sex or dates online

Denton Callander (PhD)

For many gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, the Internet is a central aspect of their sexual and romantic lives. Although recent media attention has propelled what is sometimes called 'online sexual racism' into mainstream debates, very little is known about this concept, its potential impact or men's perceptions of it. This thesis addresses that gap by exploring concepts of race and racism on sex and dating webservices for same-sex attracted men. A mixed methods approach was adopted, which consisted of a content analysis of sex and dating profiles posted online, a national online survey of gay and bisexual men in Australia, and in-depth interviews with gay men who use sex and dating webservices.

Supervisors: Dr Christy Newman (CSRH) and Dr Martin Holt (CSRH)

Research area: Sexuality, Health and Education; HIV and Sexual Health Risk and Risk Reduction

## Consuming information about hepatitis C: reflexivity, sociality and practice

Maude Frances (PhD)

Health consumers increasingly turn to the internet to understand diagnoses and symptoms of disease, to investigate treatment options, and to communicate with others about experiences of illness. This transdisciplinary Australian study explores internet practices of people with hepatitis C, a stigmatised blood borne virus. Data were collected during 2003–2005 from an online survey and face-to-face interviews. A Bourdieuan theoretical framework positions information practices in relation to dispositions of people with hepatitis C, and the sociotechnical and cultural contexts of health-related internet use, which included responsibilities of citizenship in a neoliberal healthcare system.

Supervisors: Professor Carla Treloar (CSRH) and Dr Joanne Bryant (CSRH)

Research area: Viral Hepatitis, Injecting Drug Use and Harm Reduction; Living with and Treatment of Serious and Chronic Conditions

## Masculinities, generation and health: men's sexual health in Bangladesh

Kamrul Hasan (PhD)

Grounded in Connell's theory of multiple masculinities and Butler's theory of gender performativity, this project seeks to explore how historically specific masculinities are constructed across generations in Bangladesh. In addition, it examines implications of the enactments of masculinities for men's sexual health. The research is being carried out in Bangladesh with three groups of men representing three generations to capture historically specific masculinities and examine the implications of these for men's sexual health. This research applies a qualitative approach. It will conduct semi-structured interviews with different groups of men to collect data about men's sexuality, enactment of masculinities, health seeking behaviours and sexual health.

Supervisors: Professor Peter Aggleton (CSRH) and Dr Asha Persson (CSRH)

Research area: Sexuality, Health and Education; HIV and Sexual Health Risk and Risk Reduction

## 'A child of one's own': enacting kinship among gay men pursuing parenthood through surrogacy

Dean Murphy (PhD)

This thesis explores how kinship is enacted in the context of gay men pursuing parenthood through surrogacy. These men represent an important first generation to access assisted reproductive technologies for this purpose and also make up an increasing proportion of gay men becoming parents outside a heterosexual relationship. Data were collected from three sources: surrogacy stories in the print media; websites of surrogacy agencies; and in-depth interviews with 30 gay men living in Australia and the United States, who had achieved or were pursuing parenthood through surrogacy. The analytic approach is influenced by insights from the field of science and technology studies (STS).

Supervisors: Dr Asha Persson (CSRH) and Dr Christy Newman (CSRH)

Research area: Sexuality, Health and Education

## The role of social networks of people who inject drugs in hepatitis C harm reduction

**Jamee Newland (PhD)**

Employing a social network analysis design, combining qualitative interviews and participatory social network mapping, this study explores how social network factors influence the sharing and reuse of injecting equipment within particular networks of people who inject drugs. The networks were recruited from three geographically and socially diverse settings in Australia. The first in inner city Sydney, an area with a demographically diverse population; the second in outer suburban Sydney, in an area with high numbers of Vietnamese migrant Australians; and the third in a regional city in New South Wales, in an area with high numbers of economically marginalised young people. The analysis focused on exploring the different perspectives shared by network members regarding hepatitis C-related knowledge, communication and network dynamics.

**Supervisors:** Professor Carla Treloar (CSRH) and Dr Christy Newman (CSRH)

**Research area:** Viral Hepatitis, Injecting Drug Use and Harm Reduction

## Exploring the potential role of tattooists delivering harm reduction to at risk clients

**Hannah Wilson (MA)**

The study explores the willingness of tattooists to deliver harm reduction as well as the factors that could influence their willingness to deliver harm reduction. These factors include professional identity, client rapport, hepatitis C knowledge, attitudes towards hepatitis C and people who inject drugs (PWID) and perceptions of how controllable injecting drug use is perceived to be. Attempts were made to recruit from the population of New South Wales tattooists using reply paid postal surveys. Due to a lower than expected response additional recruitment strategies were adopted, including expanding into Victoria and Queensland. Additionally, a qualitative in-depth interview component was incorporated into the study to further explore the quantitative findings.

**Supervisors:** Dr Loren Brener (CSRH) and Dr Joanne Bryant (CSRH)

**Research area:** Viral Hepatitis, Injecting Drug Use and Harm Reduction

## Needle syringe program clients, staff, and services in Western Sydney

**Kenneth Yates (PhD)**

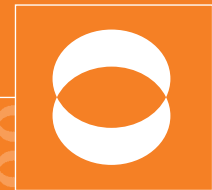
This thesis investigates needle syringe program (NSP) clients, staff, and services in Western Sydney. The work explores how marginalised NSP clients access services; how NSP staff and NSP client interactions can enact demarginalisation; and the ways in which relationships between NSP staff and other health workers can affect both NSP staff and NSP clients. Using concepts drawn from assemblage theory and science and technology studies (STS), the analysis draws on semi-structured, in-depth interviews with NSP clients and NSP staff, conducted across various sites in Western Sydney in 2012 and 2013.

**Supervisors:** Dr Limin Mao (CSRH), Professor Carla Treloar (CSRH) and A/Professor Suzanne Fraser (Curtin University)

**Research area:** Viral Hepatitis, Injecting Drug Use & Harm Reduction



# Engagement and impact



CSRH is committed to contributing to effective and appropriate policy and practice, by working in partnership with community, government and research partners. Our work supports the development of policies and programs through workshops, seminars and presentations; research feedback; policy and program advice and access to resources. We also contribute to knowledge transfer as members of government, community and academic committees and boards. In addition to scholarly presentations and publications, our work is disseminated through the CSRH website, research portal, e-Newsletters, and publication and event e-alerts.



# Research dissemination

Our Research Dissemination Strategy aims to ensure communication of our research and other activities to the broadest possible audience. As part of this strategy, a digital media approach was developed, utilising the web, social media, and digital production and distribution technology.

We employ two complementary but distinctly different instruments for digital dissemination:

## CSRH Website

Central to the CSRH Research Dissemination Strategy is our institutional website. This serves as a point-of-entry for sector partners, national and international colleagues, potential postgraduate students and the wider audience to learn about our research activities and priorities, access our reports and the Clearinghouse, and see what workshops, seminars and conferences we have planned. <http://csrh.arts.unsw.edu.au/>

## CSRH Research Portal

Also key to the Research Dissemination Strategy is the CSRH Research Portal. This multifaceted web-based platform is engineered to facilitate online recruitment of survey participants, showcase collaborative research projects, and serve as a repository for electronically distributed findings and resources. <http://csrh.org/>

## Recruitment of participants

As an online research platform, the Research Portal facilitates recruitment of participants, utilising the strength of social media that play such an important role in reaching target audiences. Many of our research projects are now conducted online and these projects are accessible in one location.

## Research showcase

The CSRH Research Portal provides a unique platform for showcasing current and completed collaborative research to sector, community, government and non-government organisations and partners. This allows us to access a large international and domestic audience, ensuring our research is widely profiled.

## Knowledge dissemination

The Research Portal also serves a function as both a launch pad and repository for the digital dissemination of our research. At project completion, research reports and summaries may be posted to inform research partners and participants. The Portal also hosts our digital communications, which take several forms. The quarterly e-newsletters, containing updates on recent projects by CSRH researchers and general news about the Centre's activities, as well as regular e-notifications of upcoming seminars, events and recently published research, are disseminated using advanced technology that allowing recipients to tailor their subscription based on their specific needs and interests.

## CSRH Consortium

The CHSR Consortium was established in 2010 to continue the successful program of workshops previously conducted by The NSW Consortium for Social and Policy Research on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases, whose funding ceased at the end of 2009.



Consortium members include the Centre for Social Research in Health and the Social Policy Research Centre, both at UNSW; ACON; Positive Life NSW; Hepatitis NSW; Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service; NSW Users & AIDS Association; ASHM NSW Workforce Development Program; and the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council. The Consortium Board also includes representatives from the NSW Ministry of Health Centre for Health Promotion, and HIV/AIDS Related Programs Unit Managers.

Consortium workshops aim to:

- respond to the research needs of the HIV, hepatitis C and related diseases sector
- examine new and innovative research methods, and
- provide non-researchers with the opportunity to become familiar with fundamental elements of research design and practice.

In 2013 one workshop was conducted, entitled 'Achieving the goals and targets of the NSW HIV Strategy for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities'. This workshop was sponsored by the South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health Districts HIV/AIDS and Related Programs Unit and the Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service.

The purpose of the workshop was to assist participants in identifying how their organisation is currently contributing to the targets of the *NSW HIV strategy 2012–2015: A new era*, and what their organisation would need to do differently to achieve the targets as they relate to CALD communities.

More specifically, the aims of the workshop were to:

- familiarise participants with the priorities for CALD communities in the *NSW HIV Strategy 2012-2015: A new era*
- provide an analysis of HIV notifications among people from CALD backgrounds including the demographic and geographic distribution of notifications
- discuss the barriers, enablers and opportunities to achieving the targets of the NSW HIV strategy as they relate to CALD communities
- support HIV program-funded organisations and services to identify state-wide and local priorities for action, and
- provide a platform for networking and identifying partners in- and outside the HIV sector.

Keynote speakers were Jo Holden, Acting Manager HIV/STIs Branch, NSW Ministry of Health and Ms Meeyin Lam, Epidemiologist BBVs and STIs, Health Protection NSW, NSW Ministry of Health. Other speakers included Dr Virginia Furner, Albion Centre, Dr Catriona Ooi, Western Sydney Local Health District, Dr Jeffrey Post, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District, Ms Barbara Luisi, Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service, Mr James Gray, ACON and Mr Lance Feeney, Positive Life. The workshop was facilitated by Lisa Ryan, independent consultant.



## CSRH Seminar series

CSRH again hosted a series of nine research seminars during 2013 at which CSRH staff and postgraduate students, together with other stakeholders, shared their work with academics from within and outside the Centre. The seminars were also attended by a range of professionals who work with people affected by HIV, viral hepatitis and illicit drugs. Below is the schedule of seminars that were presented throughout 2013.

- |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 14 March     | <p><b>Who's going to look after HIV? General practitioners, generational change and the imagined future of HIV care</b></p> <p>Dr Christy Newman, Senior Research Fellow, CSRH</p>                                                     |
| 10 April     | <p><b>Perceived risk of HIV infection among HIV-negative gay men in Sydney</b></p> <p>Dr Limin Mao, Senior Research Fellow, CSRH</p>                                                                                                   |
| 8 May        | <p><b>Hepatitis C among gay and bisexual men</b></p> <p>Dr Max Hopwood, Research Fellow, CSRH<br/>Dr Toby Lea, Research Associate, CSRH</p>                                                                                            |
| 12 June      | <p><b>Hepatitis C treatment in opiate substitution settings</b></p> <p>Jake Rance, Research Associate, CSRH</p>                                                                                                                        |
| 10 July      | <p><b>Transgender and male victim blaming</b></p> <p>Elena Cama, Research Assistant, CSRH</p>                                                                                                                                          |
| 14 August    | <p><b>Assessing the potential role of tattooists in delivering harm reduction to at risk clients</b></p> <p>Hannah Wilson, Masters candidate, CSRH</p>                                                                                 |
| 18 September | <p><b>Exploring healthcare providers' perceptions of the factors that influence successful treatment outcomes for people with hepatitis C</b></p> <p>Vickie Sublette, PhD candidate, Faculty of Medicine, The University of Sydney</p> |
| 9 October    | <p><b>HIV-related stigma, discrimination and human rights: revisited</b></p> <p>Dr Peter Aggleton, Professor, CSRH</p>                                                                                                                 |
| 13 November  | <p><b>What do we think shapes sexual risk-taking in gay men? Insights from experience, research and rapidly shifting theoretical paradigms</b></p> <p>Dr John de Wit, Professor and Director, CSRH</p>                                 |

## CSRH Clearinghouse



The CSRH Clearinghouse is a searchable web-based database that was initially funded by the former NSW Consortium for Social and Policy Research on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases. The clearinghouse aims to provide easy access to Australian resources and documents that support research, policy and practice relating to HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C and illicit drug use. Content includes more than 6000 records of research articles and reports, conference presentations, policy documents, theses, media releases and community media articles.

In a joint project with the UNSW Library, the Clearinghouse was migrated to a sustainable repository system that is accessible through the CSRH website. As part of the further development of the Clearinghouse, an online system is being developed to enable CSRH staff and research partners to add new content to the clearinghouse and to enhance existing content.

## Critical HIV/AIDS Research Initiative



Staff at leading international universities joined forces to create CHARI, the Critical HIV/AIDS Research Initiative. Drawing upon a common set of understandings, work within each of the centres is contributing to better understandings of the epidemic, and to improvements in HIV/AIDS prevention, impact mitigation and care.

This international collaboration currently brings together the combined resources of:

- UNSW Australia: Centre for Social Research in Health, and Social Policy Research Centre
- University of Pretoria, South Africa: Centre for the Study of AIDS
- University of São Paulo, Brazil: Nucleus for the Study of AIDS
- University of Toronto, Canada: HIV Social, Behavioural and Epidemiological Studies Unit

Consultatively and collaboratively, the CHARI initiative seeks to promote:

- Innovative thinking about the epidemic, its course and development
- New research paradigms and perspectives
- Recognition of the importance of relationships, culture and the social structure as drivers of risk and vulnerability
- New thinking about gender and sexuality as they relate to HIV and AIDS
- Innovation and integration within the field of sexual health
- Social theory of relevance to HIV prevention and HIV/AIDS care



# Editorial contributions

CSRH staff in 2013 contributed to scholarly publications as editors, guest editors and members of editorial boards for a range of peer-reviewed journals. In addition, staff acted as ad hoc peer reviewers for a large number of prestigious journals, conferences and funding bodies.

## Editorships

*AIDS and Behavior* (John de Wit, Associate Editor)  
*AIDS Education and Prevention* (Peter Aggleton, Associate Editor)  
*Culture, Health & Sexuality* (Peter Aggleton, Editor-in-Chief)  
*Global Public Health* (Peter Aggleton, Senior Editor)  
*Health Education Journal* (Peter Aggleton, Editor-in-Chief)  
*Health Education Research* (Peter Aggleton, Associate Editor; John de Wit, Guest Editor)  
*PLoS One* (Christy Newman, Academic Editor)  
*Psychology & Health* (John de Wit, Associate Editor)  
*Sex Education* (Peter Aggleton, Editor-in-Chief)  
*Sexual Health* (John de Wit, Guest Editor)  
*Social Aspects of HIV* (Book Series) (Peter Aggleton, John de Wit, co-editors)

## Editorial board memberships

*Addiction* (Carla Treloar)  
*African Journal of AIDS Research* (Peter Aggleton)  
*AIDS* (John de Wit)  
*AIDS and Behavior* (Martin Holt)  
*AIDS Care* (John de Wit)  
*Critical Public Health* (Peter Aggleton)  
*Foundations and Futures of Education* (Book series) (Peter Aggleton)  
*Health Education* (Peter Aggleton)  
*HIV/AIDS and cross-cultural perspectives* (Book series) (John de Wit)  
*International Journal of Drug Policy* (Carla Treloar)  
*International Journal of Sexual Health* (Peter Aggleton)  
*Journal of the International AIDS Society* (Martin Holt, Christy Newman)  
*Open Journal of Preventive Medicine* (Limin Mao)  
*Sexualidad, Salud y Sociedad – Revista Latinoamericana* (Peter Aggleton)  
*Sexuality, Culture and Health* (Book series) (Peter Aggleton)  
*Youth Studies Australia* (Joanne Bryant)

## Peer reviewing for journals

*Addiction*  
*African Identities*  
*AIDS*  
*AIDS and Behavior*  
*AIDS Care*  
*Appetite*  
*Asian Journal of Andrology*  
*Asia-Pacific Journal of Public Health*  
*Australian Journal of Rural Health*  
*Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*



*BMC Public Health*  
*BMC Infectious Diseases*  
*British Medical Journal*  
*BMJ Open*  
*Clinical and Infectious Diseases*  
*Contemporary Drug Problems*  
*Critical Public Health*  
*Culture, Health & Sexuality*  
*Drug and Alcohol Dependence*  
*Drug and Alcohol Review*  
*Drugs: Education Prevention and Policy*  
*Eurosurveillance*  
*Health Education*  
*Health Education Research*  
*Health Psychology*  
*HIV Medicine*  
*International Journal of Drug Policy*  
*International Journal of Sexual Health*  
*International Journal of STD and AIDS*  
*Journal of Addiction*  
*Journal of Adolescent Health*  
*Journal of Aging and Health*  
*Journal of AIDS and HIV Research*  
*Journal of Applied Social Psychology*  
*Journal of Drug Issues*  
*Journal of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care*  
*Journal of Homosexuality*  
*Journal of the International AIDS Society*  
*Journal of Substance Use*  
*Journal of Youth Studies*  
*Journal of Viral Hepatitis*  
*New Media & Society*  
*Patient Education and Counseling*  
*PLOS ONE*  
*Psychology and Health*  
*Qualitative Health Research*  
*Reproductive BioMedicine Online*  
*Sage Open*  
*Sexual Health*  
*Sexualities*  
*Sexuality Research and Social Policy*  
*Sexually Transmitted Infections*  
*Social Science & Medicine*  
*Tijdschrift voor Seksuologie*

## Reviewing other than for journals

2nd International HIV Social Science and Humanities Conference, Paris  
 7th IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, Kuala Lumpur  
 11th International AIDS Impact Conference (Barcelona, September/October 2013)  
 25th Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference 2013, Darwin  
 AIDS Fonds (Netherlands), Scientific Research Grants  
 Australian Research Council, Future Fellowships  
 Economic and Social Research Council, UK  
 National Health and Medical Research Council, Project Grants  
 National Institute for Health Research (United Kingdom), Programme Grants for Applied Research



# Committee membership

CSRH has established relationships with other research institutions, universities, government bodies, non-government organisations, and the community. In 2013, CSRH staff served on the following committees:

## International

- AIDS Fonds, The Netherlands
  - Scientific Advisory Council (John de Wit)
- AIDS Impact Conferences
  - International Scientific Committee (John de Wit)
- Association for the Social Sciences and Humanities in HIV
  - Scientific Advisory Committee (Peter Aggleton)
- European Health Psychology Society Conference
  - Co-chair, Social Cognition Models Track (John de Wit)
- HIV in Europe
  - Steering Committee (John de Wit)
- International AIDS Conference
  - Scientific Program Committee and Co-chair, Track D: Social and Political Research, Law, Policy and Human Rights (John de Wit)
- International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society
  - General Assembly member (Peter Aggleton)
- African Same-Sex Sexuality and Gender Diversity Conference
  - Scientific Committee Member (Peter Aggleton)

## National

- Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference
  - National Program Committee (Martin Holt)
  - Theme B Committee: Managing HIV (Limin Mao)
  - Theme C Committee: Preventing HIV (Martin Holt)
- Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference
  - Organising Committee (Carla Treloar)
  - Co-chair, Community and Social Research Theme (Carla Treloar)
- Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations
  - Biomedical Prevention Policy Reference Group (John de Wit, Martin Holt)
- Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society
  - BBV and STI Strategic Directions Committee (Carla Treloar)
- 2014 Australasian Sexual Health Conference
  - Scientific Committee (Peter Aggleton)
- Communicable Diseases Network Australia
  - National Blood-borne Virus and Sexually Transmissible Infections Surveillance sub-committee (John de Wit)
- The Kirby Institute for infection and immunity in society
  - Annual Surveillance Report Advisory Committee (Limin Mao)
- Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections (Carla Treloar)
  - Co-chair, Research and Evaluation Working Group (Carla Treloar)
  - Member, Legal and Discrimination Working Group (Carla Treloar)

## State

- ACON
  - Board of Directors (John de Wit)
  - HIV/Sexual Health Advisory Committee (Martin Holt)
  - Research Ethics Review Committee (Martin Holt)

SexC Committee (Max Hopwood)  
 Alcohol and Other Drugs Strategy Working Group (Toby Lea)  
 Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW  
 Harm Minimisation Expert Advisory Panel (Joanne Bryant, Carla Treloar)  
 Hepatitis C Peer Education Pilot Program Advisory Committee (Jake Rance)  
 ASHM NSW Workforce Development Program  
 Advisory Committee (Carla Treloar)  
 Community Restorative Centre NSW  
 Jailbreak, Consultative Health Project (Carla Treloar)  
 Harm Reduction NSW (Joanne Bryant, Carla Treloar)  
 Hepatitis NSW Medical and Research Advisory Panel (Carla Treloar)  
 Heterosexual HIV Service  
 Heterosexual HIV/AIDS Advisory Group (Asha Persson)  
 Serodiscordance Resource Working Group (Asha Persson)  
 Hepatitis C Incidence and Transmission in Prisons Project Management  
 Group (Carla Treloar)  
 Pozhet Consortium: The NSW HIV Strategy and Priority Action Areas for  
 Heterosexuals Populations (Asha Persson)  
 New South Wales Ministry of Health  
 Framework and Implementation Plan for Consumer Participation and Improving  
 Access to Hepatitis C Treatment Among Aboriginal People Advisory Committee  
 (Carla Treloar)  
 Health Promotion Metrics Advisory Committee (Carla Treloar)  
 Ministerial Advisory Committee on Hepatitis (Carla Treloar)  
 Prevention Sub-committee (Carla Treloar)  
 Ministerial Advisory Committee on HIV and STI Infections (John de Wit)  
 Education Resources sub-committee (John de Wit)  
 Health Promotion sub-committee (Philippe Adam)  
 NSW Metropolitan Gay Men's HIV Prevention Interagency (Martin Holt)  
 CALD working group (Limin Mao)  
 Representation in Drug and Alcohol Services Advisory Group for SESLHD (Jake  
 Rance, Carla Treloar)  
 South Eastern Sydney Local Health District  
 Working with young people at risk of Hep C Training Advisory Group (Joanne  
 Bryant)  
 D&A Consumer Participation Project Advisory Committee (Jake Rance)  
 Hepatitis C Health Promotion & Prevention Advisory (Jake Rance)  
 NSW Pharmacy and Harm Reduction Interagency (Joanne Bryant, Max Hopwood)  
 NSW STI in Gay Men Action GROUP (STIGMA; Philippe Adam)  
 NSW Users & AIDS Association (NUAA)  
 Advisory Committee for Community Programs and Services Team (Joanne Bryant)  
 'Stories from the Other Side' Prison Book Advisory Group (Joanne Bryant)  
 Deregulation of Needle and Syringe Provision Advisory Group (Carla Treloar)  
 Research Ethics Advisory Group (Carla Treloar)  
 Users' News Editorial Advisory Committee (Joanne Bryant, Jake Rance)  
 Website Advisory Group (Max Hopwood)  
 NSW World AIDS Day Commemoration Planning Day (Carla Treloar)

## UNSW Australia

UNSW Human Research Ethics Advisory Panel, Social/Health Research (Limin Mao)  
 UNSW Human Research Ethics Committee (Carla Treloar)  
 UNSW Sexual Health Working Group (Peter Aggleton)  
 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
 Dean's Advisory Committee (John de Wit)  
 Higher Degree Committee (Christy Newman)  
 Mentoring Scheme (Martin Holt)  
 Research Committee (Carla Treloar)  
 Standing Committee (John de Wit)  
 SPRC Research Committee: External Grants Assessor (Christy Newman)



## Research communication

To ensure that our research effectively informs policy and practice, CSRH staff extensively communicate and discuss research results with partner organisations and community members, and provide tailored advice regarding policy and program implications.

### Presentations

Aggleton, P. (2013, March). *Education and HIV/AIDS: past achievements, future priorities*. Invited presentation at the Institute of Education, University of London, UK.

Aggleton, P. (2013, April). *Young people, education and HIV. What have we learned, what needs to be done?* Invited presentation at the Inaugural Meeting of the QUT Crime and Justice Research Centre, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane.

Aggleton, P. (2013, August). *Understanding the middle ground between agency and structure in HIV prevention*. Keynote public lectures for the Centre for Creative Initiatives in Health and Population, Vietnam.

Aggleton, P. (2013, October). *Understanding the middle ground between agency and structure in HIV prevention*. Invited presentation at the School of Psychology and Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Monash University, Melbourne.

Aggleton, P. (2013, November). *Sex, sexuality and sex education. What have we learned, what needs to be done?* Public lecture in So What? Series, UNSW Australia.

de Wit, J. (2013, March). *Effective ART for treatment, prevention and prophylaxis: the critical role of adherence*. Invited paper presented as part of the ASHM Clinical Lecture Series, Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne.

de Wit, J. (2013, May). *HIV-related stigma in the gay community: Assessing, comparing and understanding experienced and expressed HIV stigma among gay men of different HIV status in Australia*. Invited paper presented at the Centre for AIDS Prevention Studies, University of California, San Francisco.

de Wit, J., & Adam, P. (2013, February). *HIV testing in gay men: An overview of recent trends and barriers*. Invited presentation at the Australian Government Ministry of Health, Office of Health Protection, BBV and STI Section, Canberra.

de Wit, J., & Adam, P. (2013, June). *The social and behavioural dimensions of treatment as prevention*. Invited paper presented at Revolution or Evolution: Treatment as Prevention Forum, Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Men's Health Centre, Melbourne.

de Wit, J., Mao, L., Holt, M., & Adam, P. (2013, August). *A resurging HIV epidemic in NSW? Key behavioural indicators from Sydney Gay Community Periodic Surveys and the 'How much do you care' study*. Invited paper presented at HIV Policy Forum, NSW Ministry of Health, Sydney.

Fraser, S., & Treloar, C. (2012, October). *Redesigning responsibility: hepatitis C prevention in sexual partnerships*. Presentation at a seminar at the Centre for Social Research on Alcohol and Drugs, University of Stockholm, Sweden.

Holt, M., & Lee, E. (2013, April). *Adelaide Gay Community Periodic Survey 2012: key findings*. Invited presentation at Research Dissemination Workshop, Adelaide Relationships Australia, Adelaide.

Holt, M., Hull, P., & De Wit, J. (2013, May). *Sydney Gay Community Periodic Survey, February 2013*. Invited presentation at NSW Committee on AIDS Strategy, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney.

Holt, M., Hull, P., & De Wit, J. (2013, October). *Sydney Gay Community Periodic Survey, February 2013*. Invited presentation, Albion Centre, Sydney.

Holt, M., Hull, P., Guy, R., Bourne, C., De Wit, J., & Mao, L. (2013, April). *Increases in the comprehensiveness of STI testing among gay men in Melbourne, Sydney and Queensland, 2003-2012*. Invited presentation at meeting of STIs in Gay Men Action Group meeting, Sydney.

Holt, M. (2013, June). *Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Survey 2013*. Invited presentation at the Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Men's Health Centre, Melbourne.

Holt, M. (2013, June). *Perth Gay Community Periodic Survey 2012: overview of key findings*. Invited presentation at the STI and BBV Quarterly Forum, Department of Health, Western Australia.

Holt, M. (2013, June). *Perth Gay Community Periodic Survey 2012: overview of key findings*. Invited presentation to community, government and clinical stakeholders, Department of Health, Western Australia.

Holt, M. (2013, May). *Canberra Gay Community Periodic Survey: overview of findings and future developments*. Invited presentation at the SHAHRD Stakeholder Consultation on 'The Future of HIV Prevention in the ACT' Clinical Care meeting, Canberra Hospital, Canberra.

Holt, M. (2013, May). *Enacting and imagining gay men: the looping effects of behavioural HIV surveillance in Australia*. Invited presentation at a research seminar, National Drug Research Institute, Melbourne.

Lea, T. (2013, April). Panellist for NSW Youth Week Sexual Health Forum, NSW Parliament House, Sydney.

Lea, T. (2013, June). Panellist for LGBT Drug Trends Community Forum, ACON, Sydney.

Lea, T. (2013, July). *Gay Community Periodic Surveys: Drug trends 2008-2012*. Presentation at Staff In-Service, Sydney Sexual Health Centre, Sydney Hospital.

Lea, T. (2013, August). *Prevalence, social determinants and treatment of mental health and substance use problems in LGBTI young people*. Presentation at Snakes and Ladders Comorbidity Education session, ACON, Sydney.

Lea, T. (2013, September). *Characteristics of injecting drug use in gay and bisexual men*. Presentation at Staff In-Service, NSW Users & AIDS Association, Sydney.

Lea, T. (2013, December). Alcohol use among gay men in the Sydney Gay Community Periodic Survey August 2013. Presentation at Research Feedback session, ACON, Sydney.

Mao, L. (2013, December). Key indicators from the Sydney Gay Community Periodic Survey: August 2013 data. Invited presentation to ACON, Sydney.

Mao, L. (2013, June). *Burden of HIV treatment on individuals, patients' motivation to go on treatment*. Invited presentation at HIV Community Prescriber Discussion Forum, ASHM, Sydney.

Mao, L. (2013, June). *HIV and Ageing*. Invited presentation at the Inaugural LGBTI Aged Care Forum, Sydney.

Mao, L. (2013, June). *Key barriers and incentives to ART uptake from perspectives of both clinicians and patients*. Invited presentation, AFAO, Sydney.

Mao, L. (2013, June). *Perceived risk hierarchy among HIV-negative men in Sydney*. Invited presentation, AFAO, Sydney.

Mao, L. (2013, November). *Factors associated with non-use of ART among HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in Australia: findings from the Gay Community Periodic Surveys*. Invited presentation at the 1st Scientific Research Advisory Committee, Centre for Social Research in Health, UNSW Australia, Sydney.

Mao, L. (2013, October). Conducting and interpreting research on illegal commercial female sex workers in China. Invited presentation at Asian Research Network, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, UNSW Australia.

Mao, L., & Newman, C. (2013, April). *ART treatment uptake project*. Invited presentation at Treatment Officers Forum, NAPWHA.

Mao, L., & Newman, C. (2013, July). *Barriers and incentives to cART uptake: prescriber and patient perspectives*. Invited presentation at Sydney Sexual Health Centre, Sydney.

Newman, C. (2013, May). *Rewards of providing care in general practice*. Invited presentation at HIV and Shared Care in Western Sydney Symposium, ASHM, Sydney.

Rance, J. (2013, February). *WHO Guidance (2012) key recommendation: 'It is suggested to offer peer interventions to people who inject drugs to reduce the incidence of viral hepatitis'*. Invited discussant at NUAA Wonders Symposia, NSW Users and AIDS Association, Sydney.

Rance, J. (2013, June). *Integrating treatment: the opiate substitution therapy clinic in the evolution of hepatitis C treatment*. Presentation at CSRH Seminar Series, UNSW Centre for Social Research in Health, Sydney.

Rance, J. (2013, March). *Social research and the Sydney MSIC*. Invited presentation to the Health Promotion group, Medically Supervised Injecting Centre, Sydney.

Treloar, C. (2013, March). *Understanding knowledge in hepatitis C prevention, transmission, self-care and treatment*. Presentation at NUAA In-Service Workshop, Sydney.

## Publications

Adam, P., de Wit, J., & Bourne, C. (2013, March). How to prioritise barriers to STI testing that could be addressed by sexual health programs? *HIV Australia*, 11(1).

Bryant, J., & MacLean, S. (2013, November 9). What do young people gain from drug use? The Conversation [online forum]. <http://theconversation.com/what-do-young-people-gain-from-drug-use-18878>

Lea, T., & Holt, M. (2013, October). HIV risk practices among Indigenous and Anglo-Australian gay and bi men. *HIV Australia*, 11(3).

Newman, C., & Persson, A. (2013, March). When HIV-positive young people grow up. *HIV Australia*, 11(1).

Ward, J., Bryant, J., Worth, H., Kaldor, J., Delaney-Thiele, D., Pitts, M., ... Coburn, T. (2013, October). What's happening for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people in relation to health service access, risk behaviours and knowledge of sexually transmissible infections and blood-borne viruses: findings from the Goanna Study. *HIV Australia*, 11(3).

## Consultations

Hopwood, M., & Treloar, C. (2013, May-December). *Interviews and FGDs for Information Needs of People with Liver Cancer*. NSW Cancer Council, Sydney.

Newman, C. (2013, August). *Email exchange with UK researchers about moving HIV care into general practice*. University of Sussex, London.

Newman, C. (2013, August). *Request to use powerpoint slides on advising new PhD supervisors*. UNSW Research Strategy Office, Sydney.

Newman, C. (2013, June). *Phone consultation on HIV testing in general practice and shared care arrangements between GPs and specialists*. HIV and STI Branch, NSW Ministry of Health, Sydney.

Newman, C. (2013, October). *Request to use powerpoint slides on generational change in the HIV general practice workforce*. Western Sydney Sexual Health Centre, Sydney.

Rance, J., & Treloar, C. (2013, November). *Further consultation on evaluation strategies for Your Mob, My Mob, Our Mob Hep C Peer Education Pilot Program*. Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW, Sydney.



# Collaborating organisations

In 2013, CSRH continued to work closely with national and international research, community, non-government and government partners that support people affected by blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections.



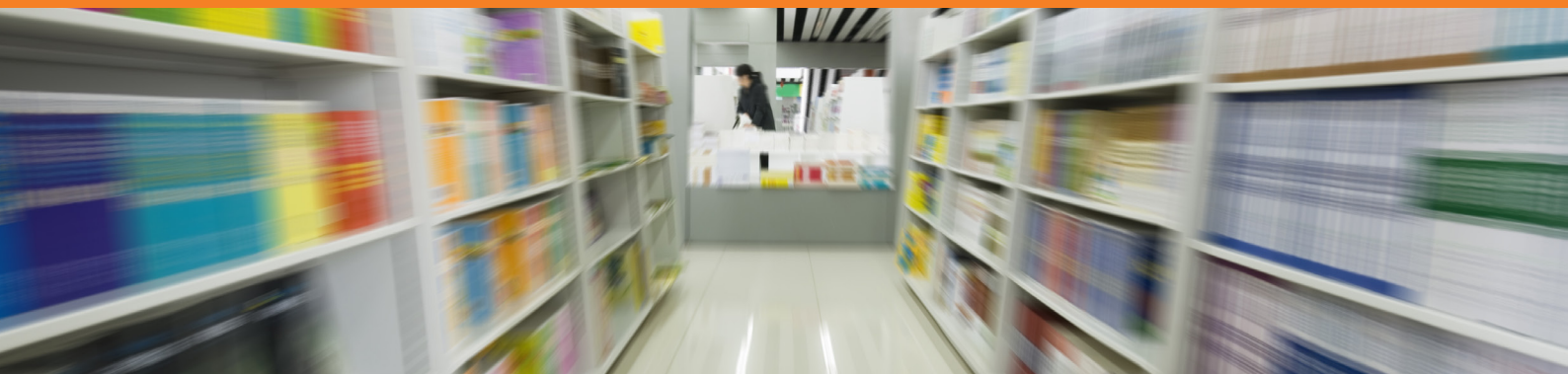
Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW, Sydney  
 ACON Health, Sydney  
 ACT Health  
 AIDS Action Council of the ACT, Canberra  
 AIDS Council of South Australia, Adelaide  
 Albion Centre, Sydney  
 Alfred Health, Melbourne  
 Anwernekenhe National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander HIV/AIDS Alliance  
 ASHM Workforce Development Program, Sydney  
 Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Sydney  
 Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Sydney  
 Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users' League (AIVL), Canberra  
 Australian Research Centre for Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University, Melbourne  
 Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute  
 Cancer Council New South Wales, Sydney  
 Centre for AIDS Prevention Studies, University of California, San Francisco  
 Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Burnet Institute, Melbourne  
 Centre for Population Health, NSW Ministry of Health, Sydney  
 Centre for the Study of AIDS, University of Pretoria, South Africa  
 Comprehensive AIDS Research Centre, Tsinghua University, Beijing, PR China  
 Confucius Institute, UNSW Australia  
 Department of Clinical and Health Psychology, Utrecht University, The Netherlands  
 Department of Communication Sciences, University of Antwerp, Belgium  
 Department of Design, Goldsmiths, University of London, United Kingdom  
 Department of Gender and Cultural Studies, University of Sydney  
 Department of Medicine, University of Malaya  
 Department of Psychology, University of Koblenz-Landau, Germany  
 Department of Public Health, University of Copenhagen  
 Department of Social Policy and Intervention, University of Oxford  
 Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Malaya  
 Department of Social Psychology, Utrecht University, The Netherlands  
 Department of Sociology, Goldsmiths, University of London, United Kingdom  
 European Centre for Environment and Human Health, University of Exeter  
 Faculty of Arts, Macquarie University, Sydney  
 Faculty of Education, Monash University  
 Family Planning NSW  
 Family Planning Victoria

**Disclaimer:**  
 While we have carefully assembled the following list of collaborating organisations, we apologise for any inadvertent omissions or inclusions.

Flinders University, Adelaide  
 Hepatitis Australia, Canberra  
 Hepatitis C Victoria, Melbourne  
 Hepatitis NSW, Sydney  
 HIV and Related Programs Unit, Sydney and South Western Sydney Local Health Districts  
 HIV and Related Programs Unit, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District  
 HIV, Sexual Health and Hepatitis Programs Unit, Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health Districts  
 HIV Social, Behavioural and Epidemiological Studies Unit, University of Toronto, Canada  
 HIV, Immunology and Infectious Diseases Unit, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney  
 HIV/STI Intervention & Prevention Studies Program, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, United States  
 Holdsworth House Medical Practice, Sydney  
 Institute of Education, University of London  
 Institute of Media, Knowledge and Communication, University of Augsburg, Germany  
 Journalism and Media Research Centre, UNSW Australia  
 The Kirby Institute, UNSW Australia  
 Kirketon Road Centre, Sydney  
 Living Positive Victoria, Melbourne  
 London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London  
 Medical Psychology Research Unit, University of Sydney  
 Medically Supervised Injection Centre (MSIC), Sydney  
 Melbourne Sexual Health Centre  
 Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service, Sydney  
 National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation, Canberra  
 National Addiction Centre, Kings College London  
 National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Australia  
 National Development Research Institute, New York  
 National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, Sydney  
 National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth  
 NSW Department of Education and Communities  
 NSW Ministry of Health  
 NSW Sexually Transmissible Infections Programs Unit, Sydney  
 NSW Users & AIDS Association, Sydney  
 Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, United Kingdom  
 Pacific Friends of the Global Fund, Sydney  
 Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Canberra  
 Pozhet (Heterosexual HIV/AIDS Service), Sydney  
 Positive Life NSW, Sydney  
 Positive Life SA, Adelaide  
 Queensland Association for Healthy Communities, Brisbane  
 Queensland Department of Health  
 Queensland Positive People, Brisbane

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Melbourne  
 Rutgers WPF, Utrecht, The Netherlands  
 Scarlet Alliance, Sydney  
 School of the Arts and Media, UNSW Australia  
 School of Communications and Arts, Edith Cowan University, Perth  
 School of Community Medicine and Public Health, UNSW Australia  
 School of Education, UNSW Australia  
 School of Education, University of Western Sydney  
 School of Global Health, University of Sussex  
 School of Medicine, University of California San Francisco  
 School of Psychology, University of Sydney  
 School of Public Health, Fudan University, Shanghai, PR China  
 School of Social and Cultural Studies, University of Western Australia  
 School of Social Sciences, UNSW Australia  
 School of Social Sciences and Psychology, University of Western Sydney  
 Social Policy Research Centre, UNSW Australia  
 South Australian Department of Health  
 St Vincent's Centre for Applied Medical Research  
 Sydney Children's Hospital, Paediatric HIV Service, Sydney  
 Sydney Sexual Health Centre, Sydney Hospital  
 Ted Noffs Foundation, Sydney  
 The Netherlands Institute for Social Research, The Netherlands Ministry of Health,  
 Wellbeing and Sport, The Hague, The Netherlands  
 Trimbos Institute, The Netherlands Institute of Mental Health and Addiction, Utrecht,  
 The Netherlands  
 Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre, Melbourne  
 Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Men's Health Centre, Melbourne  
 Victorian Department of Health  
 Western Australian AIDS Council, Perth  
 Western Australia Department of Health  
 Western Australian Centre for Health Promotion Research, Curtin University of  
 Technology, Perth

# Academic publications and presentations



NCHSR aims to undertake exemplary, multidisciplinary research that advances understanding of the social and behavioural aspects of the HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections epidemics. Researchers at NCHSR make significant contributions to scholarly knowledge and policy debates by extensively publishing research results in peer reviewed journals and books and by presenting at a wide range of scholarly conferences.





# Articles in refereed journals

- Alavi, M., Grebely, J., Micallef, M., Dunlop, A. J., Balcomb, A. C., Day, C. A., ... Dore, G. J. (2013). Assessment and treatment of hepatitis C virus infection among people who inject drugs in the opioid substitution setting: ETHOS Study. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, 57(suppl 2), S62–S69. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/cid/cit305>
- Barrow, C., & Aggleton, P. (2013). Good face, bad mind? HIV atigma and tolerance rhetoric in Barbados. *Social and Economic Studies*, 62, 29–52.
- Bell, S., & Aggleton, P. (2013). Social influences on young people's sexual health in Uganda. *Health Education*, 113, 102–114. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/09654281311298795>
- Brener, L., Callander, D., Slavin, S., & de Wit, J. (2013). Experiences of HIV stigma: the role of visible symptoms, HIV centrality and community attachment for people living with HIV. *AIDS Care*, 25, 1166–1173. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09540121.2012.752784>
- Brener, L., Ellard, J., Murphy, D., & Callander, D. (2013). Perceptions and deflections: associations between attitudes towards people with hepatitis C and testing for hepatitis C among Australian gay and bisexual men. *Sexual Health*. Advance online publication. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/SH12179>
- Brener, L., Gray, R., Cama, E. J., & Treloar, C. (2013). 'Makes you wanna do treatment': Benefits of a hepatitis C specialist clinic to clients in Christchurch, New Zealand. *Health & Social Care in the Community*, 21, 216–223. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/hsc.12009>
- Brener, L., Rose, G., Treloar, C., Cama, E. J., & Whiticker, M. (2013). Mental health support workers' attitudes towards hepatitis C and injecting drug use: barriers to recovery?. *Mental Health and Substance Use*, 1–13. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17523281.2013.806951>
- Brener, L., Rose, G., von Hippel, C., & Wilson, H. (2013). Implicit attitudes, emotions, and helping intentions of mental health workers toward their clients. *The Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*, 201, 460–463. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1097/NMD.0b013e318294744a>
- Brener, L., von Hippel, C., Horwitz, R., & Hamwood, J. (2013). The impact of pluralistic ignorance on the provision of health care for people who inject drugs. *Journal of Health Psychology*. Advance online publication. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/1359105313510336>
- Brener, L., Wilson, H., Slavin, S., & de Wit, J. (2013). The impact of living with HIV: differences in experiences of stigma for heterosexual and homosexual people living with HIV in Australia. *Sexual Health*, 10, 316. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/SH12170>
- Bryant, J. (2013). Using respondent-driven sampling with 'hard to reach' marginalised young people: problems with slow recruitment and small network size. *International Journal of Social Research Methodology*. Advance online publication. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13645579.2013.811921>
- Bryant, J. (2014). A study of young people who inject drugs: an opportunity to decrease high risk injecting by improving knowledge about hepatitis C prevention. *Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies*, 9, 104–113. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17450128.2013.855348>
- de Vet, E., de Wit, J. B. F., Luszczynska, A., Stok, F. M., Gaspar, T., Pratt, M., ... de Ridder, D. T. D. (2013). Access to excess: how do adolescents deal with unhealthy foods in their environment? *The European Journal of Public Health*, 23, 752–756. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/cks185>
- Deacon, R. M., Mooney-Somers, J., Treloar, C., & Maher, L. (2013). At the intersection of marginalised identities: lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people's experiences of injecting drug use and hepatitis C seroconversion. *Health & Social Care in the Community*, 21, 402–410. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/hsc.12026>

- Den Daas, C., Häfner, M., & de Wit, J. (2013). Out of sight, out of mind: cognitive states alter the focus of attention. *Experimental Psychology*, 60, 313–323. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1027/1618-3169/a000201>
- den Daas, C., Häfner, M., & de Wit, J. (2014). The impact of long-term health goals on sexual risk decisions in impulsive and reflective cognitive states. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 43, 659–667. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10508-013-0183-0>
- Fraser, S. (2013). The missing mass of morality: a new fitpack design for hepatitis C prevention in sexual partnerships. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 24, 212–219. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2013.03.009>
- Fraser, S., Treloar, C., Bryant, J., & Rhodes, T. (2014). Hepatitis C prevention education needs to be grounded in social relationships. *Drugs: Education, Prevention, and Policy*, 21, 88–92. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3109/09687637.2013.776517>
- Gleeson, D. J. (2013). Public Relations Education in Australia, 1950–1975. *Journal of Communication Management*. Advance online publication.
- Hald, G. M., Kuyper, L., Adam, P. C. G., & de Wit, J. B. F. (2013). Does viewing explain doing? Assessing the association between sexually explicit materials use and sexual behaviors in a large sample of dutch adolescents and young adults. *The Journal of Sexual Medicine*, 10, 2986–2995. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/jsm.12157>
- Holt, M. (2013). Enacting and imagining gay men: the looping effects of behavioural HIV surveillance in Australia. *Critical Public Health*, 23, 404–417. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09581596.2013.796038>
- Holt, M. (2013). HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis and treatment as prevention: a review of awareness and acceptability among men who have sex with men in the Asia-Pacific region and the Americas. *Sexual Health*. Advance online publication. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/SH13060>
- Holt, M., Hull, P., Lea, T., Guy, R., Bourne, C., Prestage, G., . . . Mao, L. (2014). Comprehensive testing for, and diagnosis of, sexually transmissible infections among Australian gay and bisexual men: findings from repeated, cross-sectional behavioural surveillance, 2003–2012. *Sexually Transmitted Infections*, 90, 208–215. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/sextrans-2013-051294>
- Holt, M., Lee, E., Prestage, G. P., Zablotska, I., de Wit, J., & Mao, L. (2013). The converging and diverging characteristics of HIV-positive and HIV-negative gay men in the Australian Gay Community Periodic Surveys, 2000–2009. *AIDS Care*, 25, 28–37. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09540121.2012.686598>
- Holt, M., Murphy, D., Callander, D., Ellard, J., Rosengarten, M., Kippax, S., ... de Wit, J. (2013). HIV-negative and HIV-positive gay men's attitudes to medicines, HIV treatments and antiretroviral-based prevention. *AIDS and Behavior*, 17, 2156–2161. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10461-012-0313-z>
- Hopwood, M. (2013). Perspectives of a self-selected sample of former patients on the long-term health outcomes of interferon-based hepatitis C treatments: an exploratory study. *Psychology, Health & Medicine*, 18, 742–750. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13548506.2013.774429>
- Hopwood, M., & Treloar, C. (2013). Under the watchful eye of a 'benevolent dictator': general practitioner and patient experiences of hepatitis C treatment initiation. *Australian Family Physician*, 42, 900–903.
- Hopwood, M., Newman, C., Persson, A., Watts, I., de Wit, J., Reynolds, R., ... Kidd, M. (2014). Expert perspectives on the contribution of HIV general practice nursing to the 'extraordinary story' of HIV medicine in Australia. *Primary Health Care Research & Development*, 15, 180–189. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1463423613000108>
- Jin, F., Grulich, A. E., Zablotska, I., O'Dwyer, M., Poynten, M., Prestage, G. P., ... Mao, L. (2013). Sexual partner's age as a risk factor for HIV seroconversion in a cohort of HIV-negative homosexual men in Sydney. *AIDS and Behavior*, 17, 2426–2429. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10461-012-0350-7>



- Keer, M., van den Putte, B., de Wit, J., & Neijens, P. (2013). The Effects of Integrating Instrumental and Affective Arguments in Rhetorical and Testimonial Health Messages. *Journal of Health Communication*, 18, 1148–1161. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10810730.2013.768730>
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- Kippax, S., Stephenson, N., Parker, R. G., & Aggleton, P. (2013). Between individual agency and structure in hiv prevention: understanding the middle ground of social practice. *American Journal of Public Health*, 103, 1367–1375. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2013.301301>
- Kuyper, L., de Wit, J., Smolenski, D., Adam, P., Woertman, L., & van Berlo, W. (2013). Gender differences in patterns of experienced sexual coercion and associated vulnerability factors among young people in The Netherlands. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 28, 3149–3170. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0886260513488689>
- Lea, T., Costello, M., Mao, L., Prestage, G., Zablotska, I., Ward, J., . . . Holt, M. (2013). Elevated reporting of unprotected anal intercourse and injecting drug use but no difference in HIV prevalence among Indigenous Australian men who have sex with men compared with their Anglo-Australian peers. *Sexual Health*, 10, 146. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/SH12097>
- Lea, T., Lee, E., Mao, L., de Wit, J., & Holt, M. (2013). HIV and hepatitis C virus co-infection among men who have sex with men in Sydney, and associations with sexual and drug use practices. *Sexual Health*, 10, 448–451. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/SH13042>
- Lea, T., Mao, L., Bath, N., Prestage, G., Zablotska, I., Wit, J., ... Holt, M. (2013). Injecting drug use among gay and bisexual men in Sydney: prevalence and associations with sexual risk practices and HIV and hepatitis C infection. *AIDS and Behavior*, 17, 1344–1351. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10461-013-0409-0>
- Lea, T., Reynolds, R., & de Wit, J. (2013). Alcohol and club drug use among same-sex attracted young people: associations with frequenting the lesbian and gay scene and other bars and nightclubs. *Substance Use & Misuse*, 48, 129–136. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3109/10826084.2012.733904>
- Lea, T., Reynolds, R., & de Wit, J. (2013). Alcohol and other drug use, club drug dependence and treatment seeking among lesbian, gay and bisexual young people in Sydney. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 32, 303–311. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/dar.12004>
- Luszczynska, A., de Wit, J. B. F., Vet, E., Januszewicz, A., Liszewska, N., Johnson, F., ... Stok, F. M. (2013). At-home environment, out-of-home environment, snacks and sweetened beverages intake in preadolescence, early and mid-adolescence: the interplay between environment and self-regulation. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 42, 1873–1883. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10964-013-9908-6>
- Mao, L., Adam, P., Kippax, S., Holt, M., Prestage, G., Calmette, Y., ... Wit, J. (2013). HIV-negative gay men's perceived hiv risk hierarchy: imaginary or real? *AIDS and Behavior*, 17, 1362–1369. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10461-012-0406-8>
- Mao, L., de Wit, J., Adam, P., Post, J. J., Crooks, L., Kidd, M. R., ... Wright, E. (2013). Australian prescribers' perspectives on ART initiation in the era of 'treatment as prevention'. *AIDS Care*, 25, 1375–1379. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09540121.2013.766304>
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- Moen, K., Aggleton, P., Leshabari, M. T., & Middelthun, A. -L. (2013). Situating condoms in sexual lives: experiences of same-sex attracted men in Tanzania. *International Journal of Sexual Health*, 25, 185–197. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19317611.2013.804474>

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## Books / book chapters

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## Research reports

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## Conference presentations



### Invited papers

Aggleton, P (2013, July). *Pharmaceutical selves: drugs, research subjects and patients*. Invited closing plenary address at Pharmaceuticals and Global Health Conference, Sussex, UK.

de Wit, J., & Adam, P. (2013, October). *Reflecting on risks and responses: The critical role of individual and community perspectives in making HIV prevention work*. Invited plenary presentation at XI International AIDS Impact Conference, Barcelona.

de Wit J., (2013, July). *Socially constructed exclusion: understanding and mitigating the pervasive influences of HIV-related stigma*. In Breaking through stigma: the missing component in biomedical prevention efforts. Professional Development Workshop conducted at the 7th International AIDS Society Conference, Kuala Lumpur.

de Wit, J. (2013, July). *Strong effects require effective plans: Factors affecting the formation of implementation intentions*. In Implementation intentions, planning and behaviour change: Proposals for the way forward. Roundtable at the 27th Annual Conference of the European Health Psychology Society, Bordeaux.

Treloar, C. (2013, September). *Barriers to hepatitis C assessment and care: Navigating the patient-, provider- and systems-levels*. Invited presentation at 3rd International Symposium on Hepatitis Care in Substance Users, Munich.

Treloar, C. (2013, November). *"You've got control of the pump": the importance of trust in the drug treatment clinic*. Invited plenary address at Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol & other Drugs (APSAD) Conference 2013, Brisbane.

Treloar C. (2013, November). *Closing reflections on research*. Invited closing plenary address at National Hepatitis Health Promotion Conference 2013, Sydney.

Treloar C. (2013, November). *Innovative methodologies for modeling NSP service delivery*. Invited paper presented at 2013 NSW NSP Workers Forum workshop, Sydney.

### Preferred papers and posters

Bryant J. (2013, November). *Imagined futures of marginalised young drug users and the value of hope*. Paper presented at The Australian Sociological Association 2013 Conference, Melbourne.

de Wit, J. (2013, June). *What will work in the future? Rethinking strategies for HIV prevention for MSM populations*. Paper presented at Professional Development Workshop (TUWS01), 7th IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, Kuala Lumpur.

de Wit, J. B. F., Stok, F. M., de Vet, E., Johnson, F., Gaspar, T., & Luszczynska, A. (2013, July). *Young people's perceptions of overweight prevention policies and programs: a preference for autonomy supportive approaches*. Paper presented at the 27th Annual Conference of the European Health Psychology Society, Bordeaux.

Dodds, C., Bourne, A., Dowsett, G., Flowers, P., Friedman, S., Kippax, S., & Persson, A. (2013). *ARVs for prevention: A research agenda for the social sciences*. Plenary presentation at IAPAC conference, London.



- Holt, M. (2013, July). *The structured disunity and epistemic community of behavioural HIV surveillance*. Paper presented at 2nd International HIV Social Sciences and Humanities Conference, Paris.
- Holt, M. (2013, July). *Enacting and imagining gay men: the looping effects of behavioural HIV surveillance in Australia*. Paper presented at 2nd International HIV Social Sciences and Humanities Conference, Paris.
- Holt, M., Lea, T., Murphy, D., Ellard, J., Rosengarten, M., Kippax, S., . . . de Wit, J. (2013, October). *Willingness to use HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis among Australia gay and bisexual men: findings from The PrEPARE Project 2011–2013*. Paper presented at 25th Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference, Darwin.
- Holt, M., Lea, T., Zablotska, I., Prestage, G., De Wit, J., & Mao, L. (2013, October). *Consistent and inconsistent use of non-condom-based risk reduction strategies among men in the Gay Community Periodic Surveys*. Paper presented at 25th Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference, Darwin.
- Holt, M., Mao, L., Prestage, G., Zablotska, I., & De Wit, J. (2013, October). *Behavioural trends among Australian gay men pose challenges for HIV prevention: findings from the Gay Community Periodic Surveys, 2003–12*. Paper presented at 25th Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference, Darwin.
- Hull, P. B., Mao, L., Prestage, G. P., Zablotska, I. B., de Wit, J. B. F., & Holt, M. (2013, October). *A dramatic increase in the use of mobile apps to meet partners among gay men in Melbourne and Sydney is not associated with increased risk-taking: Findings from the Gay Community Periodic Surveys, 2010–13*. Paper presented at 25th Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference, Darwin.
- Lea, T. (2013, May). *Are gay and lesbian bars and clubs riskier drug use environments than straight bars and clubs?* Paper presented at Club Health 2013, San Francisco, US.
- Mao, L., Adam, P., Holt, M., Prestage, G., & de Wit, J. (2013, July). *Bi-directional association between HIV risk perception and practice*. Paper presented at 2nd International HIV Social Sciences and Humanities Conference, Paris.
- Murphy, D. A. (2013, July). *The multiplicity of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)*. Paper presented at 2nd International Social Science and Humanities Conference on HIV, Paris.
- Murphy, D. A. (2013, July). *HIV testing: using probes to redesign services*. Paper presented at 2nd International Social Science and Humanities Conference on HIV, Paris.
- Newman, C. E., Kidd, M. R., & de Wit, J. B. F. (2014). *'Who's going to look after HIV?' Accounts of generational change in the general practice workforce providing HIV care*. Paper presented at 2013 Australasian Sexual Health Conference, Darwin.
- Newman, C., Mao, L., Persson, A., Holt, M., & de Wit, J. (2013). *"Health seems to come second": Views on treatment as prevention among people with HIV not currently taking treatment*. Paper presented at 25th Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference, Darwin.
- Newman, C., Persson, A., Miller, A., & Cama, E. (2013). *Bridging two worlds: Clinician perspectives on the challenges of transitioning young people with HIV into adult care*. Paper presented at 25th Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference, Darwin.
- Persson, A. S. (2013). *Selling TasP to serodiscordant couples: the perspectives of HIV service providers*. Paper presented at 2nd International HIV Social Science and Humanities Conference, Paris.
- Treloar C. (2013, November). *Innovation in hepatitis C health promotion for people who inject drugs; don't mention hepatitis C*. Paper presented at National Hepatitis Health Promotion Conference 2013, Sydney.
- Wilson, H. (2013, November). *Exploring the potential role of tattooists in delivering harm reduction information to at-risk clients*. Paper presented at National Hepatitis Health Promotion Conference 2013, Sydney.



# Income and expenditure



CSRH research receives project funding from a range of sources, including the Australian Government Department of Health, state and territory departments/ ministries of health, national and international competitive grant funders, state, national and international sector partners, and UNSW Australia. Funding sources of specific projects are detailed in the project descriptions in the section, Our Research.

**Statement of financial performance for the year ended 31 December 2013**

	2013 \$000s	2012 \$000s	2011 \$000s	2010 \$000s	2009 \$000s
Income					
External Funds*	2338	2 450	3 269	2 656	3 188
UNSW Contribution	1144	1402	627	863	776
Total Income	<u>3482</u>	<u>3902</u>	<u>3896</u>	<u>3519</u>	<u>3965</u>
Expenses					
Payroll	3048	2910	2699	2355	2586
Equipment	11	1	2	6	41
Materials	284	453	578	356	657
Travel	93	228	277	94	127
Total expenses	<u>3436</u>	<u>3592</u>	<u>3556</u>	<u>2811</u>	<u>3412</u>
Operating result	46	310	340	708	553
Surplus (deficit) bfwd from prior year	884	574	234	-550	-406
Correction of prior year Accumulated Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>-144</u>
Adjusted brought forward	<u>884</u>	<u>574</u>	<u>-234</u>	<u>-474</u>	<u>-550</u>
Accumulated funds surplus (deficit)	929	884	574	234	3
Debtors	9	245	128	100	10

Note: UNSW contribution is made up of strategic UNSW research support contributions and FASS operational research support.