



3rd National Rural Health Conference Proceedings

**The Politics of Rural Health: How Far Have We Come?
Mt Beauty 3-5 February, 1995**

PRELIMINARIES

- ▶ **Foreword, Editor's Note, Acknowledgments**

SECTION 1

- ▶ **Conference Recommendations**

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SECTION 3 - CONFERENCE PAPERS IN THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY WERE PRESENTED

▶ **Welcome and Introduction**

Sabina Knight, Chairperson, Conference Organising Committee

▶ **Opening Session**

Chaired by Prue Power, Deputy Director of the Australian Hospital Association

▶ **The Politics And Economics Of The Rural Health System: Equity And Efficiency**

Gavin Mooney, Professor in Health Economics, Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation, Westmead Hospital, Sydney

▶ **Official Opening Address**

Hon Dr Carmen Lawrence MP, Federal Minister for Human Services and Health

▶ **A Total Rural Health Care System As Judged By The Expectations And Experiences Of Its Consumers**

Merrilyn Walton, Commissioner NSW Health Care Complaints Commission



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► Rural Health Consumer Issues

Rob Currie, Senior Physiotherapist, Rapid Creek, NT

Robbie Sallee, Deputy Chairperson, Apunipima Cape York Health Council

Jack Shepherd, Immediate Past President, Rural Doctors' Assoc. of Australia

SECTION 4 - KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS ON INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS FOR RURAL HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

► The Rural Health Education Centre

Dr Robert Hodge, Director, Rural Health Education Centre ANU Canberra

► Mind In Cyberspace, Feet On The Ground: Utilising New And Existing Communications Technology For Health Service Delivery To Aboriginal People In Remote Areas

Peter Toyne and Robin Japanangka Granites, Tanami Network

► The Western Australian Centre For Remote And Rural Medicine

Dr Brian Williams, Director

► Extending To Rural And Remote Australia A Multidisciplinary Continuing Professional Education Program On Child And Adolescent Health

Hilary Russell, Director, Education and Quality Assurance, Centre for Community Child Health & Ambulatory Paediatrics, Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne

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▶ **Dabbling With Data: Morbidity And Mortality In Rural Australia Part I**

Roger Strasser, Australian Rural Health Research Institute

▶ **Dabbling With Data: Morbidity And Mortality In Rural Australia Part II**

Patricia Buckley, Director, Australian Rural Health Research Institute

SECTION 5 - SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 1995

▶ **Consumers And The National Rural Health Strategy**

Des Murray, Director, Workforce Support and Rural Health, Dept of Human Services and Health

▶ **An Overview Of The Support Needs Of The Various Categories Of Health Workers In Rural And Remote Areas**

Margaret Conley, Executive Director, Public Health Assoc, Canberra

▶ **Governments And The Improvement Of Rural Health Outcomes**

Gillian Biscoe, Secretary, Dept of Community and Health Services, Tasmania

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SECTION 6 - KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS ON SEXUAL AND WOMEN'S HEALTH

- ▶ **Helping Rural And Remote Area Health Professionals Work With STDs and HIV: Where Are We, And Where Are We Heading ?**
Dr Ron McCoy, HIV/AIDS Education Co-ordinator, Fairfield Hospital, Melbourne
Ms Margaret Scott, Project Manager, National HIV Education Program for Australian Doctors, Sydney
- ▶ **Alukura -An Aboriginal Women's Community-Controlled Health And Birthing Centre**
Lynette Stuart, Acting Director (February 1995)
- ▶ **Primary Sexual Health Care For Women, By Women**
Elaine Dietsch, Clinical Nurse Consultant, Womens Health, Leeton NSW
- ▶ **The Tri-State Project: In The Pursuit Of Excellence**
Marilyn Chalkley and Kerry Arabena
- ▶ **A Community Based Well Woman's Programme In A Remote Aboriginal Community**
Susan Crewe, RN Ida Granites, AHW NT Rural Health
Annette Coppola, AIDS Unit CDC Alice Springs Marisa Gilles, DMO Rural Health

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▶ **Where The Past Meets The Future: A Role For Prevention In Aboriginal Mental Health?**

Ernst Hunter, Regional Psychiatrist, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Peninsula Health Authority, Cairns

▶ **Lunchtime Address**

*Hon Dr Denis Napthine MLA
Parliamentary Secretary to the Victorian Minister for Health*

SECTION 7 - KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS ON MULTI-PURPOSE SERVICES AND CENTRES

▶ **The Dalwallinu Multi-Purpose Service One Year On: What have we done? Why did we do it**

Irene Mills, Chairperson, Dalwallinu Health and Hospital Board

▶ **Multi-Purpose Services: The Braidwood Experience**

Anthony J Bailey, Manager, Braidwood Multi-purpose Service

▶ **The Multi-Purpose Centres In The Victorian Bush Nursing Association's Network**

Andrew Tsindos, Chief Executive, VBNA, Melbourne

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► **Nganampa Health Council As A Multi Purpose Service**

John Lawrence, Health Services Co-ordinator

Mandy Pusmucams, Project Officer Nagampa Health Council, Umuwa, South Australia

► **Responding To The MPS Challenge**

Dr John Dunn, Senior Lecturer, Dept of Education, University of South Australia

► **The Multi-Purpose Service Initiative As An Example Of Flexible Service Provision**

Dale Stevenson, Assistant Secretary, Quality Assurance and Access Branch, Dept of Human Services and Health

SECTION 8 - KEY CHANGES IN RURAL HEALTH IN THE STATES AND THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

► **Papers**

Jon Blackwell, Director Rural Health Policy Unit Country Health Services South Australia

Peter Brown, Assistant General Manager Rural Health and Direct Services NSW Department of Health

Denise Degn, Director, Rural Health Policy Unit, Queensland Health

Dr Dayalan Devanesen, Director Community Health Program Northern Territory Department of Health and Community Services

Pip Leedham, Manager, Planning and Development (North) Department of Community and Health Services, Tasmania

Ralph McLean, Manager Hospitals Section, Planning and Development Branch, Acute Health Services Division, Department of Health and Community Services, Victoria

Kim Snowball, Director Rural Health Policy Health Department of Western Australia

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▶ **Rural Health Policies: The Priorities For Attention And Their Implications For Workable Recommendations**

Assoc. Prof. John S Humphreys, Dept of Geography & Planning, University of New England

▶ **Remote Area Health Services In The Northern Territory: Matching Resources To Needs**

Dr Robyn McDermott, Australian Rural Health Research Institute, Menzies School of Health Research, Alice Springs

▶ **How I See It And What Our Recommendations Should Attempt To Achieve**

Margaret Brown, Convenor, Rural and Remote Consumer Health Network

▶ **Perspectives On Conference's Recommendations**

Dr David Rosenthal, President, Rural Doctors Assoc. of Australia

▶ **Community Values, Equity And Justice**

Prof. Gavin Mooney, CHERE, University of Sydney

▶ **Closing Address**

Hon Ken Hayward MLA, Queensland Minister for Health

▶ **Closing Comments**

Sabina Knight, Chairperson, NRHA

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SECTION 10 - PAPERS FROM THE ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS

▶ **1. Recruitment Of Rural Students To The Health Professions**

Jan Jones and Ann Stradley, Senior Policy Officers, Queensland Health, Rural Policy Unit, Brisbane

▶ **2. Extending To The Bush A National Multi-Disciplinary Education Program On Child Health**

Dr Hubert Van Doorn, Director, Australian Paediatric Review Training Program

Hilary Russell, Centre for Community Child Health, Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne

▶ **3a. Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Program (ACAP)**

Maria Palmer-Thompson and John Wakerman, Alice Springs Rural District, NT Dept of Health and Community Services

▶ **3b. Strategies For Facilitating Community Control Within The Public Sector**

John Wakerman, Helen Stuart and Pat Field, Alice Springs Rural District, NT Dept of Health and Community Services

▶ **Aboriginal And Torres Strait Islander Health Curriculum Design Project: Steering Committee Summary**

Les Collins, Project Officer

Neil Beaton, Medical Advisor

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SECTION 11 - CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

▶ **A Tertiary Rehabilitation Pilot Project In Remote Aboriginal Communities**

Louis Ariotti, Rehabilitation Officer, Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service, Alice Springs

▶ **Barriers To Introducing Nutrition Services In Rural Communities**

Michelle Auld, Rural Allied Health Team, Community Health Services, Darling Downs Regional Health Authority, Toowoomba

▶ **Improved Breast Feeding Retention Rates Associated With Postnatal Maternal Oral Zinc Supplementation**

Alison Barker-Vile, Maternal and Child Nurse, Tallangatta, Victoria

▶ **Rural General Practitioner Involvement In Critical Care**

*L Beeney, P Hungerford, S Guider, J Trollor
Rural Training Unit and Emergency Dept. Tamworth Base Hospital*

▶ **National Women's Health Program In Country South Australia**

Jeanette Brown, Country Health Services Division, SA Health Commission

▶ **Health & Health Care In An Isolated Northern Territory Community**

Dr P Brown, Numbulwar, NT



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- ▶ **Access To Health Care In Remote Regions: A Critique Of The Patient's Assistance Travel Scheme**
Elisabeth Burrell, Health Consumers Council, WA
- ▶ **Agro-Culture And Ager-Violence**
Betty Carrasco, Senior Lecturer, School of Nursing, La Trobe University, Albury-Wodonga Campus
- ▶ **A Progress Report On The General Practice Rural Incentives Program Evaluation Strategy**
Dr Steve Clark, Director, Rural Health Training Unit, Townsville
- ▶ **Postpartum Stress Syndrome - Fact Or Fallacy?**
Majorie Cuthbert, Health Care Consultant, Wodonga
- ▶ **School Injuries: A Profile Of Injuries Occurring At A Rural Primary School In North East Victoria**
Neil Duggan, Community Health Worker, Glenrowan, Victoria
- ▶ **'Paddock To Campus' Rural Practice Training Unit - Modbury High School And Undergraduate Programs**
Dr David Gill, Director
Jenny Tonks, Programmes Coordinator, Rural Practice Training Unit, Modbury Hospital, SA

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▶ **Community Based Vocational Rehabilitation Opportunities For People With A Severe Disability In Rural Communities**

Ruth Grayson, Severe Disabilities case Worker/Occupational Therapist, Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service, Lismore, NSW

▶ **Delivering Across-Discipline Education Through Rural Health Training Units**

Dr Ross Hartley, Director, Rural Health Education and Research centre, Tamworth, NSW

▶ **Ruralising The Undergraduate Medical Curriculum: A Grass Roots Approach**

*R Hays, D Price, M Jelbart, D Saltman
North Queensland Clinical School, University of Queensland, Townsville*

▶ **Taking Care Of Me: A Caring For The Carer Program For Rural Health Nurses**

Lynn Hemmings, Executive Director, Riverina Rural Health Training Unit, Wagga Wagga

▶ **General Practice Rural Incentives Program**

Linda Holub, Director, Rural Incentives Section, General Practice Branch, Dept of Human Services and Health, Canberra

▶ **A Woman's Experience When Her Husband Sustains A Farm Injury A Qualitative Research Project**

Mary Hoodless, Andrea Herrin, Desley Joyce, Christine Simpson, Ann Turnbull

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▶ **Health Service Provision From The Tasman Peninsula**

Dr Stephen Ireland, Dr Pamela Ireland, Nubeena, Tasmania

▶ **All In A Day's Work: Comparative Case Studies In The Management Of Nursing Care In A Rural Community**

Prof. Dirk Keyzer, School of Nursing, Deakin University, Warrnambool, Victoria

▶ **Difficulties Experienced By A Rural Hospital**

Valerie Lang, Lismore, Victoria

▶ **Early Discharge**

Sylvia Laxton OAM, National President, CWA of Australia

▶ **Stresses On Rural Communities**

*David Leech, Social Worker and Dr John Walters
Warwick Medical Centre, QLD*

▶ **Community Health Pharmacy**

Patrick Mahony, Community Pharmacist, Manilla, NSW

▶ **Community Pharmacists' Role In Medication Management**

Patrick Mahony, Community Pharmacist, Manilla, NSW

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▶ **Bush Practice At Northern Territory University: An Educational, Financial And Political Tale**

Janie Mason, Health Sciences, NT University, Darwin

▶ **Building Health Into Our Buildings**

Thomas Moritz, Electrical Engineer, Environmental Consultant, Cheshunt, Victoria

▶ **Information Services For Rural Health: The Bibliography Of Rural Health**

Anna Nichols, Dept. of Social and Preventative Medicine, University of QLD, Brisbane

▶ **Information Services For Rural Health: The Rural Research Profile, 1994**

Anna Nichols, Dept. of Social and Preventative Medicine, University of QLD, Brisbane

▶ **Man The Machine: Research Into Rural Men's Health**

Bill O'Hehir, Psychologist, Mount Gambier, SA

▶ **Impact Of Rural Health Changes In South Australia**

Jan Sneyd, Chairman, Upper and Mid North Rural Justice Committee, Booleroo Centre, SA

▶ **The Bachelor Of Indigenous Health Studies Program**

Irene Stein, Dept of Nursing, University of Wollongong

Russell Gluck, Aboriginal Education Centre, University of Wollongong

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▶ **The Best For The Bush**

Allan Thomson, Executive Director, Australian Council of the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, Sydney

▶ **Mental Health Training For Rural Health Workers**

Judy Tilley and Judy Muirhead, Mackay Mental Health Services, Queensland

▶ **Continuing Education In Emergency Medicine For Rural General Practitioners**

Dr Helen Tolhurst, Dr Graeme Choat, Jenny Williams, Hunter Rural Division of General Practice, Cessnock, NSW

▶ **Assisting Farmers With Disabilities To Return To Work**

Cam Wright, Rehabilitation Counsellor, Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service, Gympie, QLD

SECTION 12

PAPERS FROM THE WALL POSTERS

▶ **Community Liaison Pharmacy At A Regional Base Hospital**

▶ **Rural General Practice Term Education Release Program**

▶ **Rural Pharmacists Australia (RPA) Special Interest Group (SIG)**

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- ▶ **Rural Health Project**
- ▶ **The Royal College Of Nursing**
- ▶ **East Gippsland Municipalities Human Services Committee Inc**

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- ▶ **List Of Participants**

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