National Rural Health Alliance eforum - 9 November 2012

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NRHA eNEWS OCTOBER 2012

Excellent: some 'joined-up government'!
Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers for health and arts/culture have directed their officers to produce a draft National Arts and Health Framework. Have a look and submit your comments to peter@ruralhealth.org.au. (There will be some focus on the document at the 12th Conference in Adelaide, as a case study in good inter-departmental and inter-agency collaboration. Early Bird registration for the 12th Conference is available until 6 January.)

Review of health workforce programs
The Independent Review of health workforce programs is underway, led by Jenny Mason, and a series of formal consultations is scheduled for early November. Written submissions are not being sought by the Review, but the Alliance will continue to be engaged and we would like to hear your views about which health workforce programs could be refined to serve rural and remote communities better and which of them are working well and should be extended. Comments to nrha@ruralhealth.org.au.

Getting our teeth into oral health policy developments
While there is still contention over the closure of the Chronic Disease Dental Scheme, no one would quarrel with the need to have the right approach to the new policies in oral health. Where rural people are concerned two of the critical developments are the new Foundation
Year for dental graduates and the Dental Re-location and Infrastructure Support Scheme. If you have views on these, you know where to find us: nrha@ruralhealth.org.au.

WHO thinks the social determinants of health are critical in rural areas?
We do - and we're sure you do too! There is a Senate Inquiry into how Australia will respond to the WHO Commission's report on the Social Determinants of Health. This is another opportunity for the public to make the point that investment in rural and remote areas in school education, regional development and jobs, housing and families, communication and public transport is critical to health and wellbeing.

Block funding for smaller hospitals
The Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) is very soon to consider details of how 550 smaller hospitals and MPSs - the great bulk of which are in rural areas - are to be block funded from 1 July next year. The Alliance had a valuable workshop with the Consultants to IHPA, focusing on the scope of facilities and services to be included in a new block funding system, factors impacting on costs, and how to deal with indexation and growth. See submission to the IHPA consultants.

The 'Big Rural One' from Health Workforce Australia
As a member of the Expert Reference Group, the Alliance provided input to Health Workforce Australia on the draft National Rural and Remote Health Workforce Innovation and Reform (RRHWIR) Strategy. It will be a complementary document to the Workforce Innovation and Reform Strategic Framework for Action 2011-2015, the Health Workforce 2025 Report and the National Strategic Framework for Rural and Remote Health. An Implementation Plan will be developed to address key rural and remote workforce issues identified in each of the five domains in the RRHWIR Strategy.

Health and Medical Research
The Alliance is finalising its response to the Summary Consultation Paper for the Strategic Review of Health and Medical Research in Australia (the McKeon Review). We strongly support the proposal to establish a focused virtual rural and remote Integrated Health Research Centre and will continue to monitor developments to ensure that rural/remote health research in rural areas and by rural entities has its fair place in the sun. Please consider offering your support for the research endeavours canvassed on the Next Steps page of the 3rd Rural and Remote Health Scientific Symposium website.

Palliative care and PCA
The Alliance added its weight to the activities of its friends at Palliative Care Australia (PCA). PCA (which celebrated its twenty-first birthday during October) led the national response in support of the recommendations in the Report into Palliative Care in Australia by the Senate Community Affairs Reference Committee. Supporting quality of life for people near the end of their life is an important part of health service provision in rural and remote communities, as elsewhere. When implemented, the Committee's recommendations will be an important step towards improved end of life care for families in rural and remote areas. October also saw the AIHW release its Palliative care services in Australia report. The Alliance collaborated with PCA in the release of a Fact Sheet on rural aspects of dying well and palliative care, and issued a media release welcoming the focus on better end of life care.

Conference program
Preliminary program now available - go to http://nrha.org.au/12nrhc/program/
Thanks to those of you who helped with the assessment of abstracts. It's certain there will be concurrent sessions on the best new models of care, service learning and scopes of practice, mental health, beating smoking, ageing and aged care reform, eye and ear health, culturally appropriate service development, Medicare Locals and more. Keep your eye on the 12th Conference website as further details are announced.

RHCE2
The fourth annual survey of RHCE2 stakeholders closed on 19 October 2012 and results are here. Information on RHCE2 was provided as part of the Alliance's initial feedback to the review of health workforce programs. See information on funded RHCE2 projects.

RAMUS
The 2013 application round for the Rural Australia Medical Undergraduate Scholarship (RAMUS) Scheme will open on 7 November 2012. Applications will close on 14 January 2013. The application form and detailed application guidelines will be available on the RAMUS website.

The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) now recognise mentoring of RAMUS scholars as eligible activities for professional development programs. In future, the annual RAMUS Mentor Report form will include a section where mentors can record whether they wish to claim ACRRM PDP or RACGP QI&CPD points.

NSW Regional Dentistry Scholarship
The NSW Regional Dentistry Scholarship, sponsored by NSW Nationals Senator John Williams, is awarded annually to support a student from regional NSW to train as a dentist. Applications for 2013 will open on 4 December 2012 and close on 18 February 2013. The application form and guidelines will be available on the Scholarship website in early December.

Friends of Alliance Unsung Hero award
Many people work tirelessly for their community and make enormous contributions on local issues - but often we don't know who they are. Nominations are called for the 2013 Unsung Hero Award and the winner will be announced at the 12th National Rural Health Conference.

Photo and poetry competitions
Friends of the Alliance is holding photographic and poetry competitions to highlight life in rural and remote Australia. Entry is open to all members of the rural and remote community (except professional photographers and poets) - see Friends page for details. Delegates will have opportunity to vote and winners will be announced at the 12th National Rural Health Conference in April 2013.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)
Visit the Your Say site and Share Your Story.
NRHA staff supported the DisabiliTEA during October: rural and remote Australia needs the NDIS.

FIFO SURVEY
The Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining (CSRM) and the Minerals Safety and Health Centre (MISHC) at the University of Queensland are conducting a survey of FIFO (and other non-residential) resource industry workers.

The purpose of this study is to better understand how different accommodation options may impact on the health, wellbeing and job satisfaction of non-resident workers. So if you are a fly-in fly-out (FIFO), drive in drive out (DIDO) or bus in bus out (BIBO) worker, we'd like to hear from you.

Please click on the following link now and let us know your views.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/uqFIFOsurvey

PLEASE FORWARD THIS LINK TO COLLEAGUES, FRIENDS OR FAMILY WHO ARE WORKING FIFO. THANKS.

REGIONAL DATA ADDED TO myregion.gov.au

A range of social and economic data to assist businesses and communities across Australia is now available in one central location at myregion.gov.au. Information can now be accessed by Australia's 55 Regional Development Australia boundaries, relating to
* employment
* education
* local economy
* population growth
* income
* housing
* internet connectivity.

The data will assist individuals, businesses and communities to understand regional circumstances and to support planning and development initiatives. To find your region's data visit the myregion website.

12th NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE
Strong Commitment. Bright Future

12th National Rural Health Conference eNews #2

Strongly committed to a Bright Future - 12th National Rural Health Conference Update

Preliminary program now available - go to http://nrha.org.au/12nrhc/program/

Assessment and ranking of the 500+ abstracts received for the 12th Conference are now complete and the Program Committee has designed a program that reflects the terrific mix received.
The Conference will have something for everyone. Most of the people who submitted an abstract will receive notification about the status of their abstract this week. If you don't receive an email this week it means your abstract is still 'under consideration' and you will hear from us in the next few weeks.

More about the process followed by the Conference Program Committee is in the Latest News section of the Conference website.

If you want save on your registration fee don't forget to register before 6 January 2013 to take advantage of the Early bird rate.

12th National Rural Health Conference
Strong Commitment. Bright Future.
Adelaide Convention Centre, South Australia
7-10 April 2013
Bookmark the website: http://nrha.org.au/12nrhc/
Further information: 02 6285 4660 or conference@ruralhealth.org.au

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE, DIPLOMA AND MASTERS IN HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

James Cook University offers a suite of courses in medical and health professional education. All courses are designed for busy health practitioners and are delivered online. The Graduate Certificate in Health Professional Education (HPE) maybe completed in six months and is designed for GP supervisors and medical educators who want to develop skills for teaching and learning in the clinical context. The Graduate Diploma in HPE develops teaching and learning as well as additional knowledge in assessment, evaluation and curriculum design for those involved as higher level medical educators and may be completed in 12 months. While the Masters in HPE is designed for the next generation of leaders in HPE and covers the additional areas of leadership, evidence based education and research and may be completed in 18 months. The programs are available by flexible and convenient online delivery. Further information may be accessed at http://www.jcu.edu.au/smd/medicine/inforabout/progcourses/index.htm#_Post_Graduate_Research

RURAL HEALTH ON TWITTER!

National Rural Health Alliance - https://twitter.com/NRHAlliance
Celebrating National Rural Health Day: Those almost 60 million Americans who live in rural America do not have a... http://bit.ly/WMuKWy
For an extensive round up of world and web #eHealth news, including key conference coverage, visit http://ehealthspace.org/news/all
Colloquium: Current science & practical app. of rural health indices - NZ Inst. of Rural Health, Austn Bureau Stats & Roy Morgan Research

#ruralhealthconf Bright future for next gen. - Team sports for Yolngu girls, sexual health, Core of Life prog & transdisciplinary playgroups

Children's services- breakthroughs in paed. speech pathology, eating disorders, healthy Aboriginal kids, child well health checks, & ADHD

More than just the cost of the fuel #ruralhealthconf: Having to travel for ess. health services. Disruptive @ unsafe. How can it be avoided?

Bush Babies: #ruralhealthconf presos fm Bogong Reg Training N’work, A'Springs Hosp, Rural Health West, RFDS and advocate for rural midwifery

Proceduralists, generalists & specialists @ #ruralhealthconf Presos fm JCU, the NRHSN, RWAV & RACP - Prelim program now available.

Sue Middleton, COAG Reform Council, 2010 RIRDC Rural Woman of the Year. Progress in rural health outcomes under Nat. Healthcare Agreement


Aust's Chief Medical Officer, Chris Baggoley, keynote speaker at #ruralhealthconf - Prelimin program now available - http://bit.ly/ZadTdx

@ruralflyingdoc 12th Nat. #ruralhealthconf - Preliminary program now available - http://bit.ly/ZadTdx

Some other Twitter sites:

ABC Health Online - http://twitter.com/#!/ABCHealthOnline
ABC Open - http://twitter.com/#!/abcopen
ACRRM - http://twitter.com/#!/ACRRM
AgHealthSafety - http://twitter.com/#!/AgHealthSafety
AIHW - http://twitter.com/#!/aihw
Australasian College of Health Service Management - http://twitter.com/#!/ACHSM
Australian Rural Doctor Magazine - http://twitter.com/#!/OzRuralDoc
Consumers Health Forum Australia - http://twitter.com/#!/CHFofAustralia
Country GPs (NZ) - http://twitter.com/#!/CountryGPs
Croakey Blog - http://twitter.com/#!/croakeyblog
eHealthAus - http://twitter.com/#!/eHealthAus
eHealthspace - https://twitter.com/eHealthspace
FutureHealth Leader - https://twitter.com/FHLchat
HealthInfoNet - http://twitter.com/#!/HealthInfoNet
Indigenous Health Worker - https://twitter.com/#!/aihw
National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation - https://twitter.com/NACCHOAustralia
National Centre for Farmer Health - http://twitter.com/#!/FarmerHealth
NHMRC - http://twitter.com/#!/nhmrc
NSW Health - http://twitter.com/#!/NSWHealth
Palliative Care Australia - https://twitter.com/Pall_Care_Aus
Queensland Health - http://twitter.com/#!/qldhealthnews
Royal Flying Doctor - http://twitter.com/#!/RoyalFlyingDoc
Rural Doctors Association of Australia - http://twitter.com/#!/RuralDoctorsAus
Rural Doctors Association of Queensland - http://twitter.com/#!/RuralDocsQ
Rural Health Education Foundation - http://twitter.com/#!/RHEFAustralia
Rural Health Workforce Australia - http://twitter.com/#!/RuralHealthOz
Rural Mental Health - http://twitter.com/#!/RuralMH
**RESEARCH AND DATA**

Genetic research in Indigenous health: significant progress, substantial challenges  
Medical Journal of Australia (MJA)  
This article looks at the measurements and biological samples used in health research, it is the extraction and analysis of genetic material that has caused the most controversy in indigenous health research across the globe.  

'It's been a long hard fight for me': the stolen generations and narratives of poor health in Australia 1883-2009  
Through four themes, alienation, mental illness, alcohol abuse and crime, this thesis demonstrates how nineteenth and twentieth-century Australian government policies have influenced the health of Indigenous Australians today.  
[http://researchcommons.waikato.ac.nz](http://researchcommons.waikato.ac.nz)

Ten principles relevant to health research among Indigenous Australian populations  
As committed Indigenous health researchers in Australia, these researchers aim to provide the answers to key questions relating to health that might enable Indigenous Australians to live the lives that they would choose to live.  

Deaths, Australia, 2011  
ABS Cat 3302.0  
There were 146,932 deaths registered in Australia in 2011, 3,459 (2.4%) more than the number registered in 2010. The standardised death rate decreased to 5.6 deaths per 1,000 standard population in 2011, down from 5.7 in 2010 and 6.6 in 2001. Over the past 10 years, life expectancy at birth has improved by 2.7 years for males and just under 1.8 years for females. Based on current mortality rates, a boy born in 2009-2011 can expect to live 79.7 years, while a girl can expect to live 84.2 years. There were 2,558 deaths in 2011 where the deceased person was recorded as being an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. In 2009-2011, NSW, Queensland, SA, WA and the NT recorded a combined infant mortality rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians that was around twice the rate for non-Indigenous Australians (7.2 and 3.9 per 1,000 live births respectively).  

ABS 4338.0 - Profiles of Health, Australia, 2011-13  
Profiles of Health provides a comprehensive statistical overview of people's health in Australia. Designed to be updated progressively, this product will present the latest results on key health topics from various ABS surveys including: the Australian Health Survey, the National Nutrition and Physical Activity Survey and the National Health Measures Survey.
Topics include General health, Long-term health conditions, Health risk factors, Physical measurements, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous comparisons and Population groups.

http://www.abs.gov.au

ABS 4364.0.55.001 - Australian Health Survey: First Results, 2011-12
First results from the Australian Health Survey have some good and bad news; smoking rates continue to fall, as do rates of drinking at risky levels, but the number of people who are overweight and obese continues to rise. Contents:
Key Findings
About the Australian Health Survey - Includes: Structure of the Australian Health Survey and Release schedule
General Health - Includes: Self-assessed health and Psychological distress
Long-Term Health Conditions - Includes: Arthritis, Osteoporosis, Asthma, Cancer, Diabetes Mellitus, Heart disease and Mental and behavioural conditions
Health Risk Factors - Includes: Overweight and obesity, Tobacco smoking, Alcohol consumption, Daily intake of fruit and vegetables, Exercise and Children's risk factors
Physical Measurements - Includes: Height and weight, Waist circumference and Blood pressure

http://www.abs.gov.au

Most Aussie kids doing well, room for further gains
Most Australian children are doing well in terms of their health and wellbeing, but there is room for improvement for some, according to the AIHW report A picture of Australia's children 2012. The report shows that death rates for infants and children halved since 1986, the prevalence of asthma among children has dropped, and rates of risky drinking and smoking among children aged 12-14 are down. Smoking in households with children has also dropped. Additional challenges exist among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children living in areas of low socioeconomic status. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children experience higher death rates than the national average. They also had higher smoking rates than the general child population and were less likely to have achieved reading and numeracy minimum standards. Children in the lowest socioeconomic status areas were less likely to be read to on a regular basis, and their parents were more likely to report poorer physical and mental health.
AIHW media statement available at http://www.aihw.gov.au

Friends at the 12th Conference

Poetry and Photographic Competition & Unsung Hero Award.
The National Rural Health Conference brings with it the opportunity for you to highlight life in rural and remote Australia in pictures and verse. Entries are open to all members of the rural and remote community, (except professional photographers and poets) a judging panel will select the top entries to be displayed at the Conference. Conference delegates will vote for their favorite entry, with the winners announced at the 12th Conference.
For more information visit the Friends page of the Alliance website. We look forward to receiving your creative contributions!
LOWITJA INSTITUTE eBULLETIN
(Subscribe here)

26 October 2012
* Welcome
* Vale Tony Boxall
* Congress Lowitja 2012
* Apologies
* Research at the Lowitja Institute
* Our publications
* Conferences
* Events
* Jobs
* Media
* Publications
* Resources and Websites
* Scholarships, Awards, Funding, Grants and Tenders
* Seminars, Courses and Workshops

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NEWS

Social Inclusion Week 2012
The theme for Social Inclusion Week 2012 is Collaborate, Connect and Celebrate with a focus on mental health and engaging older Australians. Social Inclusion Week is about encouraging communities to reconnect and be inclusive of all cultures, age groups, nationalities and the disadvantaged. Social Inclusion Week aims to help Australians feel valued and to give people the opportunity to participate in society. It's about connecting with local communities, work mates, family and friends to build relationships and networks, addressing isolation and exclusion by supporting people who may be unable help themselves. Social Inclusion Week runs from 24 November to 2 December. For more information, ideas for events and to register your event go to the Social Inclusion Week website.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Men's Sheds Share in New Funding
Twenty-six Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Men's Sheds and groups, located in every mainland state and the Northern Territory, have won grants for their local community activities in a special $125,000 round funded by the Australian Government. http://www.health.gov.au

Tackling alcohol abuse in Northern Territory communities
The Australian Government has released draft minimum standards for Alcohol Management Plans, which are designed to help improve safety for Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory. http://jennymacklin.fahcsia.gov.au
AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF RURAL HEALTH

The Australian Journal of Rural Health is a multidisciplinary journal, which aims to facilitate the formation of interdisciplinary networks to build and advance rural practice for all health professionals. Get published in the Australian Journal of Rural Health! The Journal welcomes short reports and letters to the editor as well as review articles, original research articles and clinical perspectives. For useful tips on submitting your manuscript, read the FREE editorial, How to get published in the Australian Journal of Rural Health.

Manuscripts can be submitted online at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ajrh Manuscript Central or posted to AJRH. The Australian Journal of Rural Health is published on behalf of the National Rural Health Alliance by Blackwell Publishing Asia Pty Ltd 155 Cremorne Street Richmond Vic 3121 Tel +61 (0)3 9274 3100 Fax +61 (0)3 9274 3101 E-mail melbourne@johnwiley.com.au

October 2012 issue now available. Contents include:
Editorials
Fly in Fly out and Drive in Drive out - useful contribution or worrying trend?
Rural health professions can change the world
Review Article - Culture and rural health
Original Articles
Rural physical health care services for people with serious mental illness: A nursing perspective
Rural physicians' skills enrichment program: A cohort control study of retention in Alberta
Telemedicine for rural cancer care in North Queensland: Bringing cancer care home
The FIRST2ACT simulation program improves nursing practice in a rural Australian hospital
Balance outcomes from two small rural hospitals
Quality Improvement Report - Teleoncology for Indigenous patients: The responses of patients and health workers
Short Report - Australian rural maternity services: Creating a future or putting the last nail in the coffin
Practice Pointer - Introducing the New England 4G framework of guided self-health for people in rural areas with physical and psychological conditions
From the Journal Associates
Bush Support Services
Citizens Kan

ACRRM COUNTRY WATCH
(Subscribe by email to rrmeo@acrrm.org.au; website at http://www.acrrm.org.au)

31 October 2012
* Record delegate numbers applaud national award winners
* Medico-Political Forum: the big issues
* Cairns gets the nod for Rural Medicine Australia 2013
* The app was a snap with RMA 2012 delegates
* 40 new perspectives on rural and remote medicine
* 'Angry Boils' winners not 'rash-nil' in the end
* Your feedback: Maternity Care Classification System
* Calendar of Events

7 November 2012
* Over 100 rural doctors competing for 30 Independent Pathway places
* New! Registrar assessment dates and fees for 2013
* New Registrar Director on the ACRRM Board
* Attracting and retaining the 'right doctors' is new RTP CEO priority
* Free chronic pain and mental health webinar
* Celebrating 15 years: the world’s first rural medical college
* Represent ACRRM on STI guideline development
* How would you prefer to access national STI guidelines?
* Antibiotic Awareness Week - starts Monday

LIFELINE INFORMATION SERVICE

The Lifeline Information Service provides access to a variety of self-help tool kits with information about issues such as mental illness, depression, suicide prevention, and more. These resources focus on practical steps to help promote mental health and are available online at http://www.lifeline.org.au/infoservice. A limited number of printed tool kits are available on request by emailing infoservice@lifeline.org.au. For more information please visit http://www.lifeline.org.au. If you are in need of 24 hour crisis support, call Lifeline on 13 11 14

The Salvos are among those at the coalface in rural areas with suicide prevention - http://suicideprevention.salvos.org.au/

AUSTRALIAN RURAL DOCTOR E-NEWSLETTER
(Register at http://links.reedbusiness.mkt4198.com)

* Stop importing some IMGs: Cronin
* 'Arbitrary' boundaries stymie doctor search
* Husband and wife team win top honour
* National award for 'doc of all trades'
* GP defends upfront 'care plan' fee
* Aeromedical retrieval
* Indigenous heavy smoking down 45%
* Record-high national life expectancy leaves remote communities behind
* IMGs unhappy in compulsory rural practice
* Hopes high after ASGC-RA meeting
* FARGP now faster, more accessible
* Concerns voiced over synthetic dope
* Building bridges

**HEART FOUNDATION NEWS**

New Heart Foundation A-Z publications listing
Check out the new Heart Foundation A-Z publications listing of all things 'heart health' on the website, visit [www.heartfoundation.org.au/publications](http://www.heartfoundation.org.au/publications). It allows easy location of publications, tools and resources that you previously may not have been able to easily find. The new directory provides suggestions for you to try different topics to find what you are looking for. You can download the professional resources and preview the consumer resources. If you would like to order any resource you can always call our Health Information Service on 1300 36 27 87. Can't find something? Let us know at health@heartfoundation.org.au.

**Swap It, Don't Stop It - BMI Wheel and Tape Measures**
To assist health professionals in educating consumers on healthy weight and waist circumference measurements, free BMI wheels and tape measures are now available through the Heart Foundation. These resources complement the suite of Swap It, Don't Stop It resources already available to support adults in maintaining a healthy weight. These can all be ordered from the Swap It WA website at [http://www.swapitwa.com.au/resources.html](http://www.swapitwa.com.au/resources.html).

**Australian Organ Donor Register** is Australia's only national organ and tissue donor register and serves as a lifeline to the people on the organ transplant waiting lists. Register online at [http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/public/services/aodr/register.jsp](http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/public/services/aodr/register.jsp) to be an Australian Organ Donor now!

**BUSH SUPPORT SERVICES (formerly Bush Crisis Line) - 1800 805 391**
The Bush Support Services Line is a 24 hour confidential telephone support service for workers, and their families, who work in health related services in remote and isolated situations. It is staffed by qualified psychologists with remote and cross cultural experience, is toll free and available from anywhere in Australia. For more information: [http://www.bss.cran.org.au](http://www.bss.cran.org.au)

**RDAW NEWS**

9 Nov 2012
Government 'ROALS' out expanded locum support for rural doctors
http://www.rdaa.com.au

31 Oct 2012
Outgoing RDAA President slams Government inaction on key concerns
http://www.rdaa.com.au

31 Oct 2012
Rural doctors call for salaried registrar system
http://www.rdaa.com.au

30 Oct 2012
General practice - delivering taxpayer value in tight fiscal times: new RDAA President
http://www.rdaa.com.au

28 Oct 2012
National award for rural doctor who works through 'hell and high water'
http://www.rdaa.com.au

28 Oct 2012
Remote medicine specialist awarded rural medical Registrar of the Year
http://www.rdaa.com.au

GET REGIONAL
Get Regional is the new information and referral service for people living and working throughout country Australia. Engaging and interacting rural, regional and remote communities, via dynamic interactive technologies, to ensure a more sustainable future for the bush. The most up-to-date and independent information service with a wide range of broadcast distribution services.
http://getregional.com.au

ARTICLES IN RURAL AND REMOTE HEALTH

'A review of dental caries in Australian Aboriginal children: the health inequalities perspective'
Extensive dental decay impacts a child's nutrition, health and wellbeing. Amid indications that the oral health of Australian Aboriginal children is worsening, this important review collates the evidence, comparing Aboriginal with non-Aboriginal children, by state, rural/urban location and over time. The evidence speaks for itself.
http://www.rrh.org.au

'Factors affecting access to healthcare services by intermarried Filipino women in rural Tasmania: a qualitative study'
Access to health care is vital for every migrant's health and wellbeing. With interracial marriages increasing in rural and urban Australia, this study looked at factors affecting
healthcare access for intermarried Filipino women in rural Tasmania.
http://www.rrh.org.au

'Remote supervision of health professionals in areas of workforce need: time to extend the model?'
This commentary by a well-known Australian rural medical educator puts the case for extending the successful medical Remote Vocational Training Scheme supervision model to all health professions.
http://www.rrh.org.au

'Nourishing networks: an interprofessional learning model and its application to the Australian rural health workforce'
For rural health clinicians to participate in continuing professional development it is necessary to transcend conventional educational methods - or so say these authors. They present a different approach to interprofessional learning that is both flexible and adaptable.
http://www.rrh.org.au

'Mental health and aging initiative: intervention component effects'
Mental health assessment and mental health care for the elderly remain challenging in many rural areas. Much must be understood to move the people in a community towards better mental health. This article is a good primer for community based interventions that help people in areas such as properly identifying mental health issues and separating mental health changes from aging changes.

"It's a regional thing': financial impact of renal transplantation on live donors'
In Australia, live kidney donation is a critical source of organs for transplant. While nephrectomy is now a common procedure with low morbidity, what is the financial cost of this altruistic act to non-metropolitan donors?
http://www.rrh.org.au

Health Workforce Australia inaugural conference - Inspire 2012: Reshaping Australia's Health Workforce
Melbourne
13 - 14 November

Congress Lowitja 2012
14 - 15 November 2012
Melbourne
www.lowitja.org.au
Draft Program Now available here
Keynote Speakers:
Professor Ian Anderson (The University of Melbourne): 'Setting the scene' The Lowitja Institute's perspective on knowledge exchange and translation into practice
Dr Malcolm King (University of Alberta): The Aboriginal Canadian experience of Knowledge Exchange and Translation into Practice - Experiences from the ground
Professor Alex Brown (Baker IDI Central Australia): Knowledge Exchange and Translation into Practice - Experiences from the ground
Dr Dan McAullay (Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia): Importance of knowledge exchange from his perspective as an Aboriginal health researcher who has worked in academic, policy and public health settings

Congress Lowitja 2012 Awards for an Emerging Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Researcher and an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Student
These awards are focused on researchers and students whose area of interest is Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health. Successful recipients will receive $5,000 towards their professional development along with a trophy. Awards will be given during Congress Lowitja 2012, which successful applicants are required to attend. Applications will be assessed for a demonstration of excellence in research and knowledge exchange. Further selection criteria and the application forms are available from our website. Closing date is 31 August 2012.

4th Australian Rural and Remote Mental Health Symposium
"Putting People First: Mental Health Needs and Initiatives in Australia Rural and Remote Communities"
19 - 21 November
Hotel Grand Chancellor on Hindley, Adelaide
http://anzmh.asn.au/rrmh/

First National Sexual & Reproductive Health Conference
20 - 21 November 2012
Hilton on the Park, Melbourne
http://www.phaa.net.au/NSRHConference.php

The International Congress on Innovations in Nursing 2012
21 - 23 November 2012
Pan Pacific Hotel, Perth

Indigenous Allied Health Australia - National Conference 2012
Social Inclusion Week 2012
The theme for Social Inclusion Week 2012 is Collaborate, Connect and Celebrate with a focus on mental health and engaging older Australians. Social Inclusion Week is about encouraging communities to reconnect and be inclusive of all cultures, age groups, nationalities and the disadvantaged. Social Inclusion Week aims to help Australians feel valued and to give people the opportunity to participate in society. It's about connecting with local communities, work mates, family and friends to build relationships and networks, addressing isolation and exclusion by supporting people who may be unable help themselves. Social Inclusion Week runs from 24 November to 2 December. For more information, ideas for events and to register your event go to the Social Inclusion Week website.

Australian Health and Medical Research Congress
25 - 28 November 2012
Adelaide Convention Centre

2nd International Conference on Global Telehealth - GT2012
26 - 28 November
Four Points By Sheraton, Sydney
"Delivering Quality Healthcare Anywhere Through Telehealth"

Telehealth, including telemedicine, patient monitoring and associated eHealth considerations, is currently experiencing a rapid expansion in adoption worldwide. Deployment of new information and communications technologies, and their enabling systems and infrastructure, offer many emerging avenues for implementation of Telehealth solutions. Widespread initiatives by public and private sector health providers with government reimbursement and regulatory support are transforming previously small scale activities into widespread adoption. This situation provides a great opportunity to raise levels of access and increase quality of healthcare globally. The conference will offer a limited number of half-day Workshops, for presentation of "work-in-progress" on thematically related sets of current Telehealth projects, and half-day Tutorials, for experts to provide concentrated overviews on topics of contemporary interest.

http://www.GT2012.org
International Arts and Health Conference
The Art of Good Health and Wellbeing 4th Annual International Arts and Health conference
Notre Dame University, Fremantle, Western Australia
26 - 29 November 2012

Conference Streams
* Arts and Health in Primary and Acute Care
* Creative Ageing and Aged Care
* Community Arts and Health Practice
* Health Promotion and the Arts
* Education and Training for Health and Arts Professionals
* Arts and Health Research and Evaluation

Preliminary Conference Program here
Conference Registration Form here
Latest Arts and Health News here

Research Symposium: The future of primary health care in Australia: opportunities and constraints
27 - 29 November 2012
Alice Springs
Hosted by the SA Community Health Research Unit and the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress, the symposium is a chance to participate in a summit engaging policy makers, health service executives, managers, and practitioners and researchers in dialogue. You will also be able to discuss emerging results from NHMRC-funded research on primary health care models in Australia. This dynamic symposium will feature international guest speakers and panel discussions with representatives from Medicare Locals, the Aboriginal Community Controlled sector, specialist NGOs, South Australian GP Plus and other PHC policy experts.
http://www.flinders.edu.au

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IN HEALTHCARE CONFERENCE
28 - 30 November 2012
Rendezvous Hotel, Melbourne

UPDATE and RESHAPE your performance management strategy
MINIMISE the risks of staff retention rates on your organisation
EXPLORE the opportunities in utilising innovative interview techniques
COMPARE different levels and methods of performance management within your framework
COMPREHEND compliance requirements for effective time management in appraisals and reviews
DISCOVER broader and downstream impacts of measuring patient delivery
Don't miss your chance to network with the key players in Australia's healthcare performance management sector!
Palliative Care Nurses Australia Conference
10 - 11 December 2012
Melbourne
http://pcna.org.au/conference/program

National Rural Women's Conference - February 2013
Canberra
18 - 20 February 2013

Registrations for the inaugural National Rural Women's Conference are now open. The Conference will bring more than 500 women from regional, rural and remote Australia to learn, discuss challenges, celebrate and share their vision for the future.

Australia's favourite cook, Maggie Beer, Fashion Designer Liz Davenport, and Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Elizabeth Broderick are just some of the speakers.

Visit www.nrwc.com.au for more information

12th National Rural Health Conference: Strong Commitment. Bright Future
7 - 10 April 2013
Adelaide, SA
If you are committed to a bright future for people living in rural and remote Australia mark this date in your diary now and come to Adelaide in April 2013. The first Conference Advisory Committee has been held and planning has commenced. You will receive a call for abstracts postcard with the next edition of Party-line so start planting ideas if you have something innovative to share with the rural and remote health community.
Further information: 02 6285 4660 or conference@ruralhealth.org.au

7th Australian Women's Conference 'Gender Matters: Determining Women's Health'
7-10 May 2013, Sydney
The conference will continue Australia's focus on showcasing cutting edge research and best practice approaches in women's health policy and practice locally, across Australia and internationally.
Heart Foundation Conference 2013
Register your interest now for the 4th Heart Foundation Conference Prevention of cardiovascular disease: translating evidence into practice, to be held on 16-18 May 2013 at the Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, South Australia. The Heart Foundation is the leading organisation in the fight against cardiovascular disease in Australia. The conference will host leading international and Australian speakers showcasing the latest updates on key clinical, research and public health cardiovascular disease issues. Register your interest by calling 08 9389 1488 or visit http://www.heartfoundation.org.au/about-us/conference/Pages/welcome.aspx

International Council of Nurses 25th Quadrennial Congress
18 - 23 May 2013
Melbourne
http://www.icn.ch

5th SNAICC National Conference For Our Children: Living and Learning Together
4 - 6 June 2013
Cairns Convention Centre
The conference is hosted by the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC), the national non-government peak body in Australia representing the interests of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families. Enquiries to Sharyn Low, T: 02 4572 3079 or email sharyn@sharynlow.com.au http://www.snaicc.asn.au/index.cfm

21st National Conference Australian Health Promotion Association: 'Changing Settings: liveable, vibrant, healthy places'
17 - 19 June 2013
Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour
The focus of this conference will be on settings in health promotion with emphasis on workplaces, children's environments, local government as well as the virtual communities and the role of social media in health promotion. http://www.ahpa2013.com.au/

United Nation's International Day of the World's Indigenous People
9 August
LIME Connection V: Re-imagining Indigenous Health Education: Harnessing energy, implementing evidence, creating change
26 - 28 August 2013
Darwin
The fifth biennial LIME Connection will continue to support collaboration between medical schools and build linkages with other health disciplines. The LIMElight Awards, which acknowledge and celebrate the many successes in the field, will also be presented at LIME Connection V.
http://www.limenetwork.net.au/content/lime-connection-v

8th Health Services and Policy Research Conference
2 - 4 December
Wellington, New Zealand
The purpose of the Health Services Research Association of Australia and New Zealand is to facilitate communication across researchers, and between researchers and policymakers, to promote education and training in health services research, and to ensure sustainable capacity in health services research in Australia and New Zealand. More information from Jackie Cumming, by email jackie.cumming@vuw.ac.nz.
http://www.hsraanz.org

CONTRIBUTION AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMER
The NRHA e-forum is published fortnightly. Contributions are sought on any topic relevant to rural health concerns. Please send contributions to the moderator at grovesc@winshop.com.au (do not "reply" to this email - send contributions to grovesc@winshop.com.au). Contributions received by the Friday of publication will be included in the e-forum.

The NRHA e-forum is edited by a third party moderator, Jim Groves. As such, the Alliance does not control postings and the contents do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Alliance. Nor do postings necessarily reflect the views of Jim Groves or any organisation he is associated with. Jim Groves can be contacted at grovesc@winshop.com.au

Please forward a copy to any colleague you think may be interested.