



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

School of Population Health Department of Public Health

Program Evaluation Unit
2005 Annual Report

The Program Evaluation Unit is a multidisciplinary organisation, the core business of which is health services research. Its staff have expertise in program evaluation, health economics, economic evaluation, epidemiology, social sciences and research methodology, and many have clinical backgrounds. The mission of the PEU is to contribute to the

health of the community through research and evaluation activities that advance knowledge about health programs and address relevant issues productively and flexibly, and to improve the community's ability to evaluate health programs through methodological development, exemplary practice and a varied program of teaching and training.

2005 highlights

- PEU's externally earned income in 2005 was \$3.6 million (\$1.9M to PEU). These figures represent a 50% increase on 2004 and a 100% increase on 2003.
- Publication numbers in 2005 were very good with 27 articles published and one book chapter plus 25 technical or other reports. Refereed publications rose by 50% compared with 2004.
- Four NHMRC project applications were successful.
- A/Prof Rob Carter was awarded the School of Population research award (open category).
- Rosemary McKenzie and Lucio Naccarella were short-listed finalist in the 2005 Victorian Public Health Awards, receiving a certificate of achievement for the Evaluation of the Well for Life Initiative, 2005.
- Very large numbers (200) of MPH students from both The University of Melbourne and other universities in the Consortium of Victorian universities take our postgraduates units in program evaluation and health economics. Fifteen MPH students completed their research reports in program evaluation and health economics. There are 21 Higher Degree students.

- The two short courses in Health Program Evaluation continue to attract enrolments from health professionals. Each course ran three workshops during 2005 with 38 and 29 participants respectively. The short course in Environmental Health Services evaluation was held twice in 2005. The two-day short course in Program Evaluation for DoHA policy makers and program managers in the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing is coordinated and taught by Helen Jordan and ran four times in 2005.

Staff

Associate Professor and Head

David Dunt, MB BS
Melbourne. MAPrelim *LaTrobe*
FFPHM PhD *Monash*

Associate Professor and Deputy Head

Rob Carter, BA (Hons) *Macq*.
MAAdmSt *ANU* GDipEpi&PopH
ANU PhD *Monash*

Associate Professor and Assistant Head

Jane Pirkis, BA (Hons)
Uni of Tas, MPsych *Uni of*
Tas, MAppEpi *ANU*, PhD
Melbourne

Senior Research Fellows

Andrew Dalton, BEc *Monash*

MEc *Monash* DipEd *Monash*
GDipHEcEval *Monash*

Margaret Kelaher, BSc(Psych)
NSW PhD *NSW*

Cathrine Mihalopoulos, BBSc
Monash GDipEcSt *Monash*
PGDipHlthEc&Eval *Monash*

Senior Lecturer

Steve Crowley, BAppSc
Curtin MSc *York* MBA *Monash*
GDipDietit *Deakin*

Research Fellow, PhD Student

Susan Day, BA *Deakin*, BSW
Melbourne, GradDipEval.
Melbourne, MA *Monash*

Research Fellows

Stephen Colgan, BNurs *Deakin*
Hons *Monash*

Peter Feldman, BA (Hons) *Uni*
of *Tasmania*

Alan Headey, BA (Hons),
(Double Major Psychology),
Uni of Queensland

Sally Kingsland, BAS, *ANU*.
BSc (Hons) *ANU*. MPH
(Ongoing) *Melbourne*

Fay Kohn, Dip Primary Teaching
(*Deakin*) Grad Dip TESOL *Deakin*
MA *Deakin* DED *Melbourne*

Rosemary McKenzie,
BA *Monash* MPH *Curtin*
PGDipHlthProm *Curtin*

Marjory Moodie, BA (Hon)
Melbourne. DipEd *Melbourne*.
DipTRP *Melbourne*. DrPH
Melbourne.

Belinda Morley, BA *Monash*

Lucio Naccarella, BSc (Hon) *Adel.* GDipMHS(Transcult) *Melbourne*

Michael Otim,
GDipEc *Newcastle*,
PGradDipHlthEc&EvIn *Monash*,
BSc (Hons) *Makerere University*,
Uganda, MEcon *Monash*

Cathy Segan, BA (Hons) *Melbourne*. PhD *LaTrobe*

Andrew Stewart, BA *Swinburne*

Theonie Tacticos, BBus *Monash* GDipCommDevt *RMIT*
Tay, Kuisiang, BPharm (Hons) *Monash*. MPubHlth (HlthEco) *Melbourne*

Ting-Fang, Sophy (Shih), BS *CMC (Taiwan)*, MPH *Tulane (USA)*, DrPH *Melbourne*

Lecturers

Helen Jordan, BSc *Melbourne*. GDipEd *Melbourne*. GDipEpi & Biostat *Melbourne*

Jenni Livingston, BSc *Melbourne*. MEd *Melbourne*. DipEd *Melbourne*

Research Assistant

Sarity Dodson, BSc (Hons) Psychology) *Melbourne*

Bree Rankin, BCom *Melbourne*
Michelle Williamson, BHlthSc (Hons) *LaTrobe*

PEU Manager

Tracey Mayhew

Administrative Officer

Joy Yeadon

Administrative Assistant

Elizabeth Gwynne

Honorary Appointments

Honorary Fellow & PhD Student

Sonja Hood, BA *Melbourne* MSc, MSc *Pennsylvania State University*

Penny Mitchell, BSc (Hons 1) Psych *UNSW*, MPH *USyd*

Honorary Fellow

Michelle Haby, BAppSc (Exercise & Sports Sciences) *Uni of SA* MAppSc (Exercise & Sports Sciences) *Uni of Syd*. PhD (Medicine) *Uni of Syd*

Learning and Teaching

The PEU offers graduate health professionals the opportunity to pursue further study through both course work or research higher degrees, and professional short courses.

Many of the subjects offered by the PEU in these courses are now available in both on-campus mode and off-campus distance mode, with students able to choose traditional semester length format or block mode of two to three days as their preferred study mode as well.

These subjects have been

developed for health professionals working in government, health services and health support organisations who want to take a leadership role in the fields of economic evaluation, health economics, health program evaluation or health services research.

In addition to specialist teaching and research training opportunities within the Master of Public Health, the Doctor of Public Health and the Doctor of Philosophy degrees the PEU provides specialised short courses for clients outside the university. Highlights from the 2005 year include:

Master of Public Health

Our subject provided for the Victorian Consortium of Public Health, *Health Economics and Program Evaluation* introduces health economics and economic evaluation and health program evaluation for students from Deakin University, La Trobe University, Monash University and the University of Melbourne. Rob Carter and Cathy Segan coordinated each section, with David Dunt, Margaret Kelaher, Rosemary McKenzie, Cathy Mihalopoulos, Steve Crowley, Marj Moodie, Lucio Naccarella, Michael Otim and Andrew Dalton providing lectures and tutorials. There were 94 students enrolled in this class.

Second only to the epidemiology and biostatistics specialisation in numbers within the Master of Public Health, the PEU offers a range of subjects, with largely stable numbers in the established subjects and growing numbers in the newly introduced subjects.

In the health program evaluation field in 2005, *Using Evaluation in Program Design* taught by Jenni Livingston attracted eight MPH and two doctoral students in its first offering in semester 2. This subject was developed through funding from the Public Health Education and Research Program Innovations Grant

The number of students in Margaret Kelaher's *Methods in Evaluating Health Services* increased to 8 students whilst *Health Program Evaluation 1* (Jenni Livingston) attracted 29 students, *Health Program Evaluation 2* (David Dunt, Margaret Kelaher and Rosemary McKenzie) had 12 students, and *Health Services Research* (David Dunt) had 4 students.

In the health economics/economic evaluation field, *Health Economics* (Cathy Mihalopoulos) attracted 8 students, *Economic Evaluation 1* (Steve Crowley) had 11 students, and *Economic*

Evaluation 2 (Steve Crowley and Rob Carter) had 6 students.

During 2005 15 students completed their two semester Research Project in either Health Economics/Economic Evaluation or Health Program Evaluation.

These students completed their studies in the following topics:

Jaithri Ananthapavan, ACE obesity: Laparoscopic Adjustable Gastric Banding Surgery for the management of obese adolescents (Supervisor: M Moodie).

Claire Boardman, Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Surgical Antibiotic Prophylaxis in Selected Orthopaedic (Supervisor: A Dalton).

Chien Shern Jonathan Chew, An economic analysis of the Singaporean Health System as a model for developing East Asian Nations (Supervisor: S Crowley)

Susan Garner, Evaluation Protocol for a South Australian Chronic Disease Management Program (Supervisor: D Dunt).

Anggia Ismaini, Needs assessment for an Oral Health Program for Indonesian adolescents (Supervisor: J Livingston).

Andrea Jasper, Evaluation of the inpatient diabetes care coordinator component of the North East Diabetes Service (Supervisor: J Livingston).

Ana Jerak, An economic evaluation of drug-eluting stents (Supervisor: A Dalton).

Joanne Jordan, Capturing the impact of chronic disease self management programs: Does the transition question reflect the classical pre-post assessment? (Supervisor: R Osborne).

Natalia Elisabeth Machava, An Evaluation Protocol for an AIDS program in Mozambique (Supervisor: J Livingston).

Margaret MacDonald, Intensive family therapy intervention for obese children: Assessing cost effectiveness in obesity project (Supervisor: M Moodie).

Robyn Minty, Juice bars in schools, healthy or not? A proactive evaluation of a possible health promotion program (Supervisor: J Livingston).

Rebecca Smithers, The Investigation of factors influencing the success of Pulmonary Rehabilitation programs in Australia (Supervisors: M Kelaher and A Holland).

Kiu-siang Tay, Sibutramine

therapy in Australian adults: A cost-utility analysis (Supervisor: M Moodie).

Anni Haji Mohamad Tuah, An Evaluation of an Anti-smoking Program in Brunei (Supervisor: M Kelaher)

Michelle Vu, Protocol for an economic evaluation of an Asthma Self Management Program (Supervisors: C Mihalopoulos & M Otim).

Doctor of Public Health

There were eight students enrolled in the DrPH program in 2005. This included one in first year coursework, 4 in the research year, and 3 in the final year work placement.

Three students, Dorothy Akindele, Hanny Calache and David Lee successfully completed the program and have all since taken up new positions of employment.

One new student was welcomed to the program. Periodic meetings of the students were held to allow opportunities for networking and discussion. The review of the Doctor of Public Health program has been put on hold pending the outcome of the university-wide Growing Esteem review of its courses and subjects.

Short Courses

Health Program Evaluation

The two short courses in Health Program Evaluation (SC1 and SC2) continue to attract enrolments from health professionals working in a variety of areas. The short courses provide an opportunity for very practical, workplace oriented learning about program evaluation, with students also valuing access to evaluation expertise and making the most of opportunities to network. Each course ran three workshops during 2005 with Short Course 1 on Planning, Negotiation, Evaluation Approaches, Criteria Selection and Program Logic Modelling attracting 38 participants and Short Course 2 on Data Collection, Analysis & Reporting in Health Program Evaluation attracting 29 participants.

These short courses were taught by Helen Jordan, Jenni Livingston, Theonie Tacticos, Michelle Williamson and Margaret Kelaher in 2005.

Environmental Health Services Evaluation

The short course in Environmental Health Services Evaluation incorporates a summary of the material contained within the module

in Environmental Health Services Evaluation developed by Helen Jordan of the PEU in collaboration with other institutions across Victoria, and funded by the Public Health Education and Research Program.

Two short courses were held in 2005, both in Brisbane. The first was held in collaboration with Queensland Institute of Technology, and the second as a post-conference two-day workshop/short course for participants of the 2005 Australian Institute of Environmental Health Queensland State Conference.

Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing Short Course in Health Program Evaluation

The Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) commissioned the PEU to deliver a two-day short course in Program Evaluation for DoHA policy makers and program managers across Australia. This two-day short course is coordinated and taught by Helen Jordan. Four short courses were run in 2005, twice in Canberra, and one each in the Perth and Queensland DoHA state based offices. More are planned in 2006.

Health and Ageing Postgraduate Studies Program

The Health and Ageing Postgraduate Studies Program (HAPS) was a course developed for employees of the Australian Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA). The Program, in its final year in 2005, was delivered by a consortium of Universities across Australia. PEU offered three subjects within the Health and Ageing Postgraduate Program: Program Evaluation (biennially) and Health Economics and Economic Evaluation and a more advanced subject Economic Evaluation II. The latter two subjects were offered in 2005 with a total of 33 students enrolled in the two subjects. The subjects within the Corporate Postgraduate Studies Program are delivered by a combination of distance education and direct teaching modes. The direct teaching component involves 2-3 two-day sessions of seminars and tutorials in Canberra.

Higher Degree Completions

Christopher Milne Bolton, Evaluation of the quality of different forms of early postoperative care in children following tonsillectomy (Co-Supervisor: R Carter).

Renee Louise Manser, Screening for lung cancer with

spiral CT: Costs, harms and expected health gains (Co-Supervisor: R Carter)

Research

The PEU undertakes evaluations of health programs at national, state and local levels. Since its establishment, the PEU has attracted over \$25 million in funding from key granting bodies such as the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and from organisations such as Commonwealth and state/territory health departments that fund contract research. Over half of this funding has come directly to the PEU with the remaining funds shared with collaborating agencies. Since 2004, the PEU has focussed its research around three work streams: Primary Care and Health Promotion; Health Economics; and Mental Health.

Primary Care & Health Promotion

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
Review of Indigenous use of MBS-funded Medical Services	Department of Health and Ageing.	Urbis Keys Young, Margaret Kelaher.	This project involves a review of MBS utilisation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, with a view to policy formulation.	\$510,000
Evaluation of the Best Start Program	Department of Human Services, Victoria.	M Kelaher, D Dunt, B Raban (Department of Education) and M Waniganayake (Department of Education). Other investigators: T Tacticos, P Feldman.	This project involves an evaluation of health and educational interventions aimed at improving developmental outcomes for children from disadvantaged communities.	\$408,223
Career Development Award – Strengthening the relationship between policy and epidemiology in addressing social determinants of health	National Health and Medical Research Council.	M Kelaher.	There has been increased recognition at a theoretical and practical level that social/human capital at a community or population level plays an important role in determining both health and economic well-being. The fellowship will provide a better understanding of how social capital contributes to health and health service utilisation and how government investment in welfare reform and community building is likely to impact on health.	\$334,000
Evaluation of the VicHealth Community Arts Development Scheme	VicHealth.	Lindy Joubert (Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning), Margaret Kelaher, David Dunt.	This project involves an evaluation of the VicHealth Community Arts Development Scheme on participants, audiences and the community.	\$300,000

Primary Care & Health Promotion

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
Public Health Training Fellowship – Helping people with concurrent medical conditions quit smoking	National Health and Medical Research Council.	C Segan.	This research program aims to develop and test models of integrating quitline services and health care services so that smoking cessation treatment can begin to be institutionalised into the health care system. Models under investigation include 1) health professional fax-referral of patients to the quitline and 2) doctor-quitline coordinated treatment for patients with comorbidities that interact with smoking cessation treatment.	\$264,000
Support and Evaluation Component of the Department of Human Services Well for Life Initiative	Department of Human Services, Victoria.	R McKenzie. Other Investigators: L Naccarella.	This project involves an evaluation of a health promotion program for older people in aged care facilities.	\$133,893
Senior Public Health Research Fellowship – Contributions and interactions of individual community and environmental characteristics on health	Victorian Health Promotion Foundation.	M Kelaher.	The fellowship aims to develop a better understanding of the relationship between social capital and health across individuals, family and community. The research would focus on the potential impact of government initiatives on health at each of these levels.	\$66,000
Evaluation of the NHMRC Centre of Clinical Research Excellence in Neurosciences	Centre of Clinical Research Excellence in Neurosciences.	D Dunt.	This is a review of capacity and attainment regarding the Centre's Strategic Plan.	\$49,962
Workforce Development Evaluation (Local Diabetes Service Development (LDS) Program)	Department of Human Services, Victoria.	R McKenzie. Other Investigators: A Stewart and L Naccarella.	This is an evaluation of the Workforce Development Component of the LDS Program in Primary Care Partnerships.	\$44,683

Health Economics

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
Burden of Disease and a Cost-Effectiveness of Intervention Options: Informing Policy Choices and Health System Reform in Thailand	National Health and Medical Research Council, Wellcome Trust (UK)	T Vos and A Lopez (University of Queensland), J Richardson (Monash University) and Thai Colleagues. (R Carter named as specialist consultant).	This project will apply burden of disease and economic evaluation methods to selected diseases to guide national decision-making in the allocation of health resources in Thailand.	\$3,201,159
Assessing Cost Effectiveness (ACE) in Prevention	National Health and Medical Research Council.	Rob Carter, Ian Anderson (Centre for the Study of Health and Society, University of Melbourne), Theo Vos (University of Queensland), Alan Lopez (University of Queensland), Chris Doran (University of Queensland), Andrew Wilson (University of Queensland).	This project applies the 'ACE' approach to priority setting to the prevention of non-communicable diseases in Australia, including the implications for Indigenous Australians and the most efficient ways of implementing priority interventions in primary care.	\$3,200,000
The Pacific OPIC Study: A Four Country Study of Obesity Prevention in Communities	National Health and Medical Research Council, Wellcome Trust (United Kingdom) and the Health Research Council (New Zealand).	R Carter, M Moodie, B Swinburn (Deakin University), R Scragg (University of Auckland), J Pryor (Fiji School of Medicine), V Puloka (Ministry of Health, Tonga).	This project aims to develop effective and cost-effective approaches to obesity prevention in young populations in Fiji, Tonga, New Zealand and Australia.	\$1,600,580
Australasian Cystic Fibrosis BAL Study: Economic Evaluation	National Health and Medical Research Council.	Rob Carter, Claire Wainwright (Royal Children's Hospital, Brisbane), David Armstrong (Monash University), John Carlin (Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne), Colin Robertson (Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne), Peter Cooper (Westmead Hospital, Sydney), James Martin (Women's and Children's Hospital, Adelaide), Cass Brynes (Starship Hospital, Auckland). Other Investigators: Marj Moodie (Project Leader for economic component).	This project aims to assess the cost effectiveness of bronchoscopy and the Broncho Alveolar Lavage (BAL) in directing therapy and changing outcomes in infants and young children with cystic fibrosis.	\$577,625

Health Economics

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
The Construction and Validation of the Assessment of Mental Health Related Quality of Life (PsyQoL) Instrument	National Health and Medical Research Council.	C Mihalopoulos, J Richardson (Monash University), H Herrman (Department of Psychiatry, The University of Melbourne), G Hawthorne (Department of Psychiatry, The University of Melbourne), S Peacock (Monash University).	This project aims to develop a preference-based health-related quality of life measure specifically for use in mental health economic evaluations.	\$529,650
Career Development Award: Priority setting in population health: past experience and future directions	National Health and Medical Research Council.	R Carter.	The importance of priority setting in the health sector is generally accepted, but the central question of how priority setting is to be achieved remains contentious. This fellowship involves a coordinated program of research to develop, trial and disseminate an innovative approach to priority setting that is both rigorous and acceptable to stakeholders.	\$330,000
Referral of Newly Diagnosed Prostate and Colorectal Cancer Patients to a Telephone-based Support Program	National Health and Medical Research Council.	Trish Livingston (Cancer Council of Victoria), David Hill (Cancer Council of Victoria), Victoria White (Cancer Council of Victoria), Susan Roberts (Cancer Council of Victoria), Stewart Dunn (University of Sydney), Elizabeth Maunsell (Laval University, Quebec). Other Investigators: Rob Carter (Associate Investigator and advisor on economic models), Stephen Colgan (Research Fellow on economic evaluation).	In this study, the focus is on the referral of men newly diagnosed with prostate cancer and colorectal cancer to a telephone-based support program. The Health Economics Group is assisting with the economic evaluation component of the trial.	\$303,940
Assessing Cost Effectiveness (ACE) in Obesity	Department of Human Services, Victoria.	R Carter, M Moodie, M Haby (Department of Human Services, Victoria) and B Swinburn (Deakin University).	This project assesses, from a health sector perspective, options for change to decrease the prevalence of obesity, primarily among children and adolescents.	\$197,400

Health Economics

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
Computer Alert to Increase Chlamydia Screening of High Risk Women in General Practice: An RCT	National Health and Medical Research Council.	Christopher Fairley (Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, University of Melbourne), Jane Hocking (Macfarlane Burnett Institute for Medical Research and Public Health), Jane Gunn (Department of General Practice, University of Melbourne), Lyle Gurrin, Epidemiology and Biostatistics Unit, University of Melbourne), Rob Carter.	Chlamydia trachomatis in young women is an increasing public health problem. The burden of subfertility has high economic costs as well as personal costs for those affected. This project involves a randomised controlled trial based in general practice and includes an economic evaluation.	\$180,125
Priority Setting in Aboriginal Health: Planning for the Prevention of Non-communicable diseases in Aboriginal and Torres Strait (Islander Communities	The CRC for Aboriginal Health.	M Otim.	This PhD project applies the 'ACE' approach to priority setting to the prevention of non-communicable diseases in Indigenous Australian and how to contextualise Indigenous health.	\$81,000
Exploring the Economic Implications Arising from the Proposed National Coronary Heart Disease Initiative in General Practice	National Heart Foundation of Australia.	Rob Carter.	Undertake literature review and economic analysis to develop an economic case for the National Heart Foundation proposed model of coronary heart disease management in general practice.	\$81,000
Economic Evaluation of Primary Mental Health Care Pathways	Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute.	J Gun (Department of General Practice University of Melbourne) Grant Blashki (Department of General Practice, Monash University), Graham Meadows (School of Psychology, Psychiatry and Psychological Medicine, Monash University), C Mihalopoulos.	The aim of this project was to conduct some preliminary economic analyses in three primary mental health care projects currently being undertaken in Victoria, namely the DIAMOND study (a cohort study of depression in general practice), the PANIC-Online study (a randomised trial of online psychological therapy for panic disorder) and the PEP project (a randomised trial of cognitive behavioural therapy training [called SPHERE CBT] for general practitioners).	\$79,845

Health Economics

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
The economics of Celiac Disease	Australian and New Zealand Celiac Research Fund Committee.	R Carter, S Colgan.	The aim of the project was to undertake initial research to describe the current health burden attributable to celiac disease, to assess the potential for the development of an economic model of the disease, and to suggest options for a future collaborative work program to further develop the economics of the disease.	\$22,052
The economic impact of Occupational contact dermatitis	Occupational Dermatology Research and Education Centre.	R Carter, S Colgan.	The aim of the project was to undertake initial research to describe the current health burden attributable to celiac disease, to assess the potential for the development of an economic model of the disease, and to suggest options for a future collaborative work program to further develop the economics of the disease.	\$17,206
Initial scoping and development of a work plan to investigate the economics of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)	The Gutsy Group.	R Carter, S Colgan.	The aim of the project was to undertake initial research to describe the health burden attributable to inflammatory bowel disease, to assess the potential to develop an economic model and to suggest options for a future work program.	\$13,025

Mental Health

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
Australian Mental Health Outcomes and Classification Network – Analysis and Reporting Component	Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Branch, Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing.	P Burgess (University of Queensland) J Pirkis	This project involves analysis, reporting and development component of a national project designed to provide leadership in the development of outcomes and case mix concepts in mental health	\$1,101,986
Re-orientating general practice toward preventative mental health care for adolescents, utilizing the practice nurse: A pilot study	Victorian Centre of Excellence in Depression and Related Disorders	L Sancu, K Hegarty (Department of General Practice University of Melbourne), E Patterson, (School of Nursing, Griffith University) J Pirkis, S Sawyer, G Patton (Department of Paediatrics University of Melbourne)	This project involves a randomised controlled trial of an opportunistic health-risk screening and counseling intervention for youth presenting to general practitioners. It includes an economic evaluation and an additional, stand-alone component that involves designing and piloting a general practice nurse-led intervention for improving pathways to care for youth at risk of depression and related disorders	\$50,000
Health risk screening of adolescents in primary care: A cluster randomized controlled trial.	Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute:	L Sancu, (Department of General Practice University of Melbourne) A Shiell, (Centre for Health Economics, Monash University) G Patton, (Department of Paediatrics University of Melbourne) J Pirkis, K Hegarty (Department of General Practice University of Melbourne), E Patterson, (School of Nursing, Griffith University) P Chondra, (Department of General Practice University of Melbourne) S Sawyer (Department of Paediatrics, University of Melbourne)	See description for <i>Re-orientating general practice toward preventive mental health care for adolescents, utilising the practice nurse: A pilot study.</i>	\$499,750
Priority Driven Research Program: Health risk screening of adolescents in primary care: A cluster randomized controlled trial.	Australian Health Ministers' Conference	L Sancu, (Department of General Practice University of Melbourne) J Pirkis, S Sawyer, G Patton (Department of Paediatrics, University of Melbourne)	See description for <i>Re-orientating general practice toward preventive mental health care for adolescents, utilising the practice nurse: A pilot study.</i>	\$499,750

Mental Health

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
Reducing Depression and Suicide amongst Older Australians: A Cluster Randomised Clinical Trial in Primary Health Care	National Health and Medical Research Council	Oswaldo Almeida (University of Western Australia), Jon Pfaff (University of Western Australia), Ngaire Kerse (University of Auckland), John Snowdon (University of Sydney), Robert Goldney (University of Adelaide), A/Prof Jane Pirkis. Other Investigators: Michelle Williamson	This project involves a randomised controlled trial examining whether an educational intervention targeting Australian general practitioners (GPs) can reduce the prevalence of depression, suicide ideation and self-harm behaviour in older patients	\$753,275
A national evaluation strategy framework for the Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care initiative	Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Branch, Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing	J Pirkis, G Blashki, (Monash University) P Burgess (University of Queensland). Other Investigators: B Morley, F Kohn	This project involves the development of a framework to guide the evaluation of the Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care (BOiMHC) Initiative, and evaluation support to Divisions of General Practice conducting Access to Allied Health Services Projects under the BOiMHC Initiative	\$653,048
Career Development Award: Preventing suicidal behaviours – Ecological studies of systemic protective factors	National Health and Medical Research Council	J Pirkis	This 5-year program of work involves a series of ecological studies that examine systemic factors that protect against suicidal behaviours	\$417,500
Journalistic news values, and medical, health professional and lay discourses on suicide and mental illness	Australian Research Council	Blood RW, Pirkis J, Martin G	This project elaborates similarities, differences and the ever-changing dynamics of the interplay between journalistic and medical, health professional and lay discourses about suicide and mental illness, with a view to understanding how people interpret (or misinterpret) the meaning of media messages about these issues.	\$175,000

Mental Health

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
An evaluation of the introduction of Case Conferences for Consultant Psychiatrists as new item numbers on the Medicare Benefits Schedule	National Health and Medical Research Council	J Pirkis, P Burgess (University of Queensland). Other Investigators: A Heady, C Francis, J White	This project evaluates the processes, impacts and cost implications of the introduction of a series of new item numbers on the Medicare Benefits Schedule that provide for case conferences between private psychiatrists and other providers.	\$99,800
The 'Learning's From Suicide Prevention Initiatives' Project	Auseinet	Jane Pirkis, Alan Headey. Other Investigators: Penny Mitchell, Jo Robinson (ORYGEN Youth Health), Philip Burgess (University of Queensland)	This project involves an analysis of the project and evaluation reports from 156 suicide prevention projects funded under the National Suicide Prevention Strategy.	\$78,464

Major Grants awarded in 2005

Grantor	Investigators	Scheme	Title	Period	Amount
NHMRC	Rob Carter, Ian Anderson (Centre for the Study of Health and Society, UoM), Theo Vos (UQ), Alan Lopez (UQ), Chris Doran (UQ), Andrew Wilson (UQ)	Health Services Program Grant	Assessing Cost Effectiveness (ACE) in Prevention	2005-2009	\$3,200,000
NHMRC	Oswaldo Almeida (UWA), Jon Pfaff (UWA), Ngaire Kerse (University of Auckland), John Snowdon (University of Sydney), Robert Goldney, Jane Pirkis	Project Grant	Reducing Depression and Suicide amongst Older Australians: A Cluster Randomised Clinical Trial in Primary Health Care	2005-2007	\$753,275
NHMRC	Dr Cathy Segan	Public Health Training Fellowship	Helping people with concurrent medical conditions quit smoking	2005-2008	\$264,000
Victorian Centre of Excellence in Depression and Related Disorders	Lena Sanci, Kelsey Hegarty (Dept. of General Practice UoM), Elizabeth Patterson, (School of Nursing, Griffith University) Jane Pirkis, Susan Sawyer, George Patton (Dept of Paediatrics UoM)		Re-orientating general practice toward preventive mental health care for adolescents, utilising the practice nurse: A pilot study.	2005-2006	\$50,000

Major Grants awarded in 2005

Grantor	Investigators	Scheme	Title	Period	Amount
Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute	Lena Sancu, (Dept. of General Practice UoM) Alan Shiell, (Centre for Health Economics, Monash University) George Patton, (Dept. of Paediatrics UoM) Jane Pirkis, Kelsey Hegarty (Dept. of General Practice UoM), Elizabeth Patterson, (School of Nursing, Griffith University) Patty Chondra, (Dept. of General Practice UoM) Susan Sawyer (Dept. of Paediatrics, UoM).		Health risk screening of adolescents in primary care: A cluster randomized controlled trial.	2005 –2008	:\$499,750
Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute	Jane Gun (Dept of General Practice UoM) Grant Blashki (Dept. of General Practice, Monash University), Graham Meadows (School of Psychology, Psychiatry and Psychological Medicine, Monash University), Cathy Mihalopoulos	Stream 1	Economic Evaluation of Primary Mental Health Care Pathways	2005	\$79,845
Australian Health Ministers' Conference	Lena Sancu, (Dept. of General Practice UoM) Jane Pirkis, Susan Sawyer, George Patton (Dept. of Paediatrics, UoM).		Priority Driven Research Program: Health risk screening of adolescents in primary care: A cluster randomized controlled trial	2005 - 2010	\$499,750
CRC for Aboriginal Health	Michael Otim	Studentship	Priority Setting in Aboriginal Health: : planning for the Prevention of Non-communicable diseases in Aboriginal and Torres Strait (Islander Communities	2005-2007	\$81,000
Victorian Health Promotion Foundation	Lindy Joubert (Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning), Margaret Kelaher, David Dunt	Contract Research	Evaluation of the VicHealth Community Arts Development Scheme Funding Body: VicHealth	2005-2007	\$300,000

Major Grants awarded in 2005

Grantor	Investigators	Scheme	Title	Period	Amount
Australian, Govt., Industry and Professional Associations	Jane Pirkis, Alan Headey	Auseinet - Contract Research	The 'Learning's From Suicide Prevention Initiatives' Project	2005-2006	\$78,464
Australian, Govt., Industry and Professional Associations	Rob Carter	National Heart Foundation of Australia - Contract Research	Exploring the Economic Implications Arising from the Proposed National Coronary Heart Disease Initiative in General Practice	2005-2006	\$81,000

PEU Seminar Program

Once again the Unit's lunch time Seminar Series which is open to all colleagues and the general public proved to be extremely successful. The seminar topics are chosen to highlight current and key aspects of the Unit's Research Program

Indigenous Health Assessment, Margaret Kelaheer, 10 May.

Implementing evidence based heart failure guidelines in the treatment of heart failure, Sonja Hood, 10 May.

Economics of Mental Health, Cathy Mihalopoulos, 7 June.

Economics of obesity, Marjory Moodie, 7 June.

Health Care & Health Promotion Stream, David Dunt, 5 July.

Piloting a Novel Statewide Smaller Hospital Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program, Noleen Bennett, 5 July.

Mental Health Stream, Jane Pirkis, 2 August.

Evaluation of the Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care Program, Belinda Morley, 2 August.

ACE prevention, Michael Otim/Sophie Shih, 4 October.

Economics of Obesity, Kiusiang Tay Teo, 4 October.

Presentations

Staff presented at a number of international and national conferences, as well as presenting at external seminars and workshops.

International Conferences

Cadilhac D, **Moodie M**, Dewey H, **Mihalopoulos C**, Thrift A, Donnan G, **Carter R**. *Development, application and appraisal of MORUCOS: an economic model of stroke care for Australia*. International Health Economics Association 5th World Congress: Investing in Health, Barcelona, Spain, 10-13 July.

Dunt D, *The impact of two after-hours model of GP services on patient satisfaction and access to care at a whole population level* World Congress of Epidemiology Bangkok, Thailand, August.

Harris M, Burgess P, Chant D, **Pirkis J**, McGorry P. *Suicide and other unnatural deaths following initial presentation to mental health services for treatment of psychotic disorders*. International Association for Suicide Prevention XIII World Congress, Durban, 13-16 September.

McKenzie R, Naccarella L, Stewart A, T. Blackwell and C. Thompson, (DHS) *Using a capacity building model for health program evaluation and development...*

Australasian Evaluation Society International Conference 2005 Brisbane October Presentation published in Australasian Evaluation Society International Conference Proceedings, 2005 at www.aes.asn.au.

McKenzie R, Naccarella L, Stewart A, T. Blackwell and C. Thompson, (DHS) *Targeting what matters in health promotion evaluation - using the RE-AIM approach to identify success in 'real world' settings*. Australasian Evaluation Society International Conference 2005. Brisbane, October Paper published in Australasian Evaluation Society International Conference Proceedings, 2005 at www.aes.asn.au.

Moodie M, Haby M, Swinburn B, Vos T, Markwick A, Magnus A, Carter R. *ACE (Assessing Cost-Effectiveness) Obesity - Priority setting for obesity*. International Health Economics Association 5th World Congress: Investing in Health, Barcelona, Spain, 10-13 July.

Moodie M, Carter R. *Measurement of costs of community-based interventions for the prevention of obesity in adolescents: OPIC project*. Pasifika Medical Association 7th Annual Conference, The Plight of Modern Pacificans, Nuku'alofa, kingdom of Tonga, 21-24 August.

Pirkis J, Blood RW. *Guidelines for media reporting of suicide*. International Association for Suicide Prevention XIII World Congress, Durban, 13-16 September.

Pirkis J, Gask L, Burns J. *Improving the quality of mental health care: The challenge for primary care*. First Alumni Health Policy Conference (The Commonwealth Fund, The Nuffield Trust and The Health Foundation), Bagshot, 17-19 July.

Swinburn B, Haby M, Marwick A, Magnus A, **Carter R, Moodie M**. *Childhood obesity - modeling the solutions?* Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, United States, December.

Swinburn BA, **Carter R**, Haby M, **Moodie M**, Bell AC. *Childhood Obesity - Where are the Solutions?* Nutrition Safari 2005. 18th International Union of Nutrition Sciences Conference, Durban, South Africa. 19-23 September

Invited Presentation

Dunt D, *Measurement approaches: Evaluation Knowledge utilization 05 (KU05) Melbourne* (International conference) 28-30 September.

National Conferences

Burgess P, **Pirkis J**, Coombs T, Clarke A. *Routine outcome and casemix measurement in Australia's mental health*

services: Clinician and consumer perspectives. Paper presented to the World Psychiatric Association Section of Epidemiology and Public Health Meeting, Brisbane, 5-7 July.

Coombs T, Burgess P, **Pirkis J**, Clarke A. *The challenge of routine outcome measurement in mental health: The need for service and workforce development.* World Psychiatric Association Section of Epidemiology and Public Health Meeting, Brisbane, 5-7 July.

Dalton A, *Economic Evaluation of the reintroduction of School Milk Programs*, Nutrition Society of Australia Scientific Meeting at Hilton Hotel, Melbourne, December.

Dunt D, *The impact of standalone call centres and GP cooperatives on access to after hours GP care: a before and after study adjusted for secular trend* Health Services Research Association of Australia and New Zealand Canberra, ACT, November.

Jordan H, *Environmental Health Services Evaluation*, Australian Institute of Environmental Health, 2005 Qld State Conference, Brisbane, 24th-25th November.

Markwick AJ, **Moodie M**, **Carter R**, Magnus A, Haby M. *ACE-Obesity: Cost-effectiveness of a school-based nutrition education intervention*

to reduce the consumption of sweetened carbonated beverages. In Sansoni, J. and Tilley, L. (Eds) 2005 Conference Proceedings: Health Outcomes 2005: Making a Difference, Canberra: Australian Health Outcomes Collaboration.

Moodie M. *Big Brothers Big Sisters – Building an evidence base to practice.* Invited paper, Launch, Monash Law Chambers, 29 June.

Naccarella L, *A Conceptual Schema for Building an Integrated Primary Health Care System.* General Practice & Primary Health Care Conference, Adelaide, July.

Pirkis J, Headey A, Burgess P, White J, Francis C. *Remunerating private psychiatrists for participating in case conferences.* 4th Health Services and Policy Research Conference, Canberra, 13-16 November.

Pirkis J, Headey A, Burgess P, White J, **Francis C**. *Remunerating private psychiatrists for participating in case conferences.* World Psychiatric Association Section of Epidemiology and Public Health Meeting, Brisbane, 5-7 July.

Pirkis J. *Access to allied psychological services: Divisional service provision.* Primary Mental Health Care Conference, Perth, 3 November.

Segan C, *Can extended*

telephone counselling reduce longer-term relapse among Quitline callers?, 3rd Australian Tobacco Control Conference The Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney, Australia 23-25 November.

Tacticos T, Warr D, **Kelahr M**, Klein H & Knowles T, *Insights into the health of disadvantaged groups: selected results from Neighbourhood Renewal Self Reported Health Data*, The Australasian Sociological Association (TASA) annual conference, Hobart, December.

Warr.D, **Kelahr M**, **Tacticos T**, *A good and sincere conversation: working with peer-interviewers for research in culturally diverse neighbourhoods*, Centre for Culture, Ethnicity & Health (CEH) conference Consumer Participation and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities: Working Together Towards Good Practice, Melbourne, September.

Tacticos T, Warr D, **Kelahr M**, Klein H, & Knowles T. *Insights into the health of disadvantaged groups: selected results from Neighbourhood Renewal Self Reported Health Data*, 36th Public Health Association of Australia annual conference (PHAA) Perth, September.

Wainwright CE,

Carlin JB, Cooper P, Byrnes C, Martin J, Grimwood K, Armstrong D, Francis P, Dakin C, Whitehead B, **Carter R**, Vidmar S, Cheney J and Roberts C on behalf of the ACFBAL study group.(2005) *“Australian Cystic Fibrosis BAL Study ~ Interim Analysis”*, 6th Australian and New Zealand Cystic Fibrosis Conference, Adelaide, 20-23August.

Poster presentations

Jordan H, Venn A, Bruinsma F, Werther G *Adolescent exposure to high dose estrogens and subsequent breast disease.* 14th Annual Meeting of the Australasian Epidemiological Association 6-7th October, Newcastle, Australia. (Attendance supported by the Menzies Research Institute, UTAS).

Pirkis J, Goldfeld S, Peacock S, **Dodson S**, Haas M, Cumming J, Hall J, Boulton A. *The capacity of the health services research community in Australia and New Zealand.* 4th Health Services and Policy Research Conference, Canberra, 13-16 November.

Seminar Presentations

Morley B, *Evaluating the Access to Allied Psychological*

Services component of the BOiMHC program: Minimum Dataset DoHA, Canberra, December.

Livingston J, *Hepatitis C Educators' Forum: Why do we evaluate*, Hepatitis C Council of Victoria, June.

Invited Presentations

Naccarella L, *General Practice Primary Health Care Research Evaluation & Development: Putting Evaluation into Practice* Melbourne Division of General Practice, February.

Naccarella L, *General Practice Primary Health Care Research Evaluation & Development: Putting Evaluation into Practice*, Whitehorse Division of General Practice, August.

Tay-Teo K, *Sibutramine therapy in Obese Australian adults*, ACE-Obesity Working Group Department of Human Services, 31 March.

Tay-Teo K, *Orlistat therapy in Obese Australian Adolescents*, ACE-Obesity Working Group Department of Human Services, 2 September.

Community and Professional Involvement

During 2005 PEU staff continued to be active in the wider community as members of important advisory committees, reviewers of potential articles for a variety of referred journals and assessors

of grant applications.

Committee Memberships

R Carter

- Member of the Victorian Policy Advisory Committee on Clinical Practice and Technology (Ministerial Appointment).
- Member of the Steering Committee for the Population Health & Use of Medicines Unit at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney.
- Member of the Australian Screening Advisory Committee (Ministerial appointment) and Member of the Evaluation Sub-Committee.
- Member, Advisory Committee for the Clinical Epidemiology and Health Service Evaluation Unit, Royal Melbourne Hospital.
- The National Institute of Clinical Studies (NICS) Clinical Evidence Project Advisory Group.

R McKenzie

- Member of the Council on the Ageing (COTA) Advisory Committee for the Evaluation of the Living Longer Living Stronger Evaluation of Strength Training Programs.

L Naccarella

- Health Service Research Association of Australia & New Zealand (HSRAANZ).
- EVALTALK - American

Evaluation Association (AEA) Discussion List. <http://www.eval.org>

- AAAGP participated in AAAGP Annual Research Meeting.
- Social Network Analysis Association.

J Pirkis

- Chair, Suicide and the Media Task Force, International Association for Suicide Prevention.
- Member, International Association for Suicide Prevention.
- Executive Member, Health Services Research Association of Australia and New Zealand.
- Member, Australian Psychological Society.
- Member, Local Scientific Program Committee, World Psychiatric Association Congress.
- Member, Organising Committee, World Psychiatric Association Section of Epidemiology and Public Health Meeting.

C Segan

- Coordinator, Cessation Tobacco Strategy Group at The Cancer Council Victoria.

M Williamson

- Treasurer, Australian Health Promotion Association (AHPA) Vic Branch).

- General Committee member, AHPA (Vic Branch).
- Convener, Victorian Young Health Promotion Network.
- Local Organising committee, National Men's Health Conference.
- Local organising committee, National Men's Shed Conference.

Referee and Assessor Services for Grant Applications and Journals

Grant Bodies

R Carter, S Crowley and M Moodie have all reviewed National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC) grants.

R Carter was also a reviewer of Public Health Committee of the New Zealand Health Research Council grants.

Journals

A Dalton,

- Reviewer – Medical Journal of Australia.

C Segan,

- Reviewer – Health Education Research & Health Promotion Journal of Australia.

J Pirkis

- Member, Editorial Board, Crisis.
- Member, Editorial Board, Australian Journal of Primary Health – Interchange.

- Reviewer, Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry, Crisis, Psychological Medicine, Journal of Abnormal Psychology, Journal of Adolescent Health, Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology, Australian Family Physician, Journal of Psychosomatic Research, Australian Journal of Primary Health – Interchange. 11 October 2005, Brisbane, Australia. (Editor: J. Cooney). Markwick, A., **Moodie, M., Carter, R.**, Magnus, A, **Haby, M.** 2005 'Cost-effectiveness of a school-based nutrition education intervention to reduce the consumption of sweetened carbonated beverages', Presented at the Health Outcomes Conference "Making a Difference" Conference, Canberra, Australia.

Awards

Both Rosemary McKenzie and Lucio Naccarella were short-listed finalist in the 2005 Victorian Public Health Awards, receiving a certificate of achievement for the Evaluation of the Well for Life Initiative, 2005.

R Carter was awarded the School of Population research award (open category).

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AND PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PAPERS

McKenzie, R., Naccarella, L., Stewart, A., Blackwell, T., Thompson, C. 2005, 'Targeting what matters in health promotion evaluation – Using the RE-AIM approach to identify success in 'real world' settings', Presented at the Australasian Evaluation Society International Conference, 9-



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