



South Eastern Sydney Research Collaboration Hub

Primary Health and Integrated Care

Research and Evaluation Profile

Summary of projects conducted and /or funded by
Primary, Integrated and Community Health Services

South Eastern Sydney Local Health District

(Appendix)

2014-2016

August 2016

Contents

Introduction	1
Child, Youth, Women and Families	2
Universal access, assessment and intervention in community child and family health services	2
Maternal and infant health outcomes for vulnerable population groups across South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD)	3
Access to health home visiting services for new mothers experiencing intimate partner violence ..	4
Drug and Alcohol Service	5
The DAS Clinical Outcomes Quality Indicator (COQI) Framework Project: Study 1: Assessing the validity and interrater reliability of the Client Complexity Rating scale	5
Study 2: Establishing the psychometric properties and developing a composite indicator	6
Evaluating a structured approach to benzodiazepine reduction (BURP-E)	7
The evaluation of a pilot shared care clinic between General Practice and the Langton Centre public opioid treatment program (OTP) service	8
Evaluating the Integrated Management Pathways for Alcohol and Drug Clients into Treatment (IMPACT) Service	9
Risk factors for cognitive impairment in drug and alcohol clients	10
Integrated Care Unit	11
Implementing the Patient Activation Measure as a tool to improve quality of care	11
Kirketon Road Centre	12
Control and Eradication within Australia of Hepatitis C from people living with HIV (CEASE-D)	12
Impact of the rapid expansion of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) on HIV incidence	13
Evaluation of a pilot project: Expanded Access to Treatment for Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) among People who Inject Drugs (PWID)	14
LiverLife (formerly Healthy Liver Campaign)	15
Evaluation of a pilot opioid overdose prevention and management intervention	16
Rapid HIV testing in men who have sex with men in sexual health clinics in Sydney	17
A phase II, open-label, single arm, multicentre, international trial of sofosbuvir and GS-5816 for people with chronic hepatitis C virus infection and recent injection drug use (SIMPLIFY)	18
Health outcomes and service utilisation in a cohort of people who inject drugs, sex workers and ‘at risk’ young people – a data linkage study	19
Multicultural Health Service	20
Exploration of the use of water pipe in the Arabic speaking community in the St George area	20

Access 3: Access to health care and health system navigation for young people in New South Wales.....	21
Phase 2: Evaluation of the Acceptability and Clinical Utility of the Arabic Language Mindfulness Program in a group setting	22
Evaluation of the Acceptability and Clinical Utility of the Arabic Language Mindfulness CD.....	23
Cultural biographies, medical knowledges: A sociological study at the intersections of cancer and culture.....	24
Exploring the Experiences of overseas and locally trained staff working in a culturally diverse hospital (TSH) environment	25
Longitudinal study of the health and wellbeing of refugee children.....	26
Attitudes and experience of menopause amongst Macedonian menopausal women living in South Eastern Sydney and the Illawarra Areas	27
Measuring Acculturation and Psychological Health of Senior Indian Women Living in Australia: MAHILA project.....	28
Innovations in Integrated Care: Optimising health and learning in newly arrived refugee and vulnerable migrant young people.....	29
Multicultural Health Service (funded by).....	30
Engaging people with advanced chronic kidney disease from Greek backgrounds in home dialysis therapies. (Funded).....	30
Early childhood development assessment and screening - everyone’s business	31
Identifying barriers to access to palliative care services at Calvary Health Care Kogarah by CALD communities. (Funded).....	32
Interpreting the language of Aphasia- a training package for interpreters.....	33
Development of a measure of cancer care coordination for migrant cancer patients undergoing treatment.....	34
Joint Simulation Training for Interpreters and Paediatric Medical Officers.....	35
Oral Health Service	36
Exploratory study on patterns of utilisation of publically funded oral health services.....	36
Primary and Integrated Health Directorate.....	37
45 and Up Primary and Community Health Cohort Study.....	37

Introduction

The South Eastern Sydney Research Collaboration Hub (SEaRCH) is a five year collaboration between the UNSW Research Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity (CPHCE) and South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD). Our mission is to support the goals of both organisations to achieve better and fairer health for the population of south eastern Sydney through:

- Undertaking, promoting and supporting research and evaluation that strengthens primary health care and equity
- Supporting the implementation of research evidence into practice and policy
- Contributing to the development of primary health care in SESLHD.

The purpose of this profile is to describe the research and evaluation projects undertaken or funded by services that are part of the Primary and Integrated Health (PIH) Directorate, or the Directorate as a whole. These services include: Child, Youth, Women and Families (CYWF); the Drug and Alcohol Service (DAS); the Integrated Care Unit (ICU); Kirketon Road Centre (KRC); Multicultural Health Service (MHS) (which also funds research and evaluation projects undertaken by other services); and the Oral Health Service (OHS). The profile seeks to summarise the range and focus of evaluation and research projects conducted in the last two years: 2014-2016. The project was restricted to projects which have/or will be submitted to an accredited ethics committee for approval and which have a primary care or integration focus. Some clinical trials have been included in this initial scope, but more complete information on clinical trials from DAS will be included in the next edition. A considerable amount of service redesign and quality improvement activities are also being undertaken in the Directorate. Given the range and complexity of these, they have not been included in this profile, but maybe a focus of a separate project at a future date.

Methods

A project template was developed to collect information on each project. This information included: title, ethics committee and approval number, research team, aims/questions, summary of methods, timeframe where up to, funding, publications and conference presentations. A draft template was circulated to service directors/managers for review prior to finalisation. The template was emailed to each service director/manager for completion for each project, with a return date of 6 May 2016.

Analysis

A total of 38 completed project templates were returned. Two were excluded (one was a proposal, and funding was not yet secured; 1 was not being conducted/funded by a service of the PIH Directorate). Summary data for each of the 36 projects was entered into an excel spreadsheet for analysis. The project summaries were edited and compiled into a single reference document.

Acknowledgement

Thanks to the directors and managers of the services who supported this project and encouraged staff to complete the template. Particular thanks to Sarah Hutchinson (DAS), Karen Chronister (KRC) and Milica Mihajlovic (MHS).

For further information: Dr Julie McDonald; email: j.mcdonald@unsw.edu.au; ph: 9385 8412

Child, Youth, Women and Families

Universal access, assessment and intervention in community child and family health services

Research team

A/ Prof E Harris, UNSW; T Bruce, SESLHD; V Clift, SLHD; Dr S Woolfenden, SCHN

Aims

To assess the extent to which programs (particularly Universal Health Home Visiting), is able to achieve universality of access, assessment and intervention, including the range of service models, program reach, and service use.

Methods

Mixed methods design including retrospective analysis of de-identified routinely collected service utilisation data from 2012-15 child and family health LHD data systems; document analysis; description of service models and qualitative interviews with service managers and staff.

Timeframe

April 2016-September/October 2016

Funding

SESLHD, SLHD and SCHN: \$60,000. (\$20,000 each)

Child, Youth, Women and Family Services

Maternal and infant health outcomes for vulnerable population groups across South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD).

Research team

SESLHD: H Rogers

Aims

To provide a comprehensive profile of women who birth at a SESLHD maternity facilities (Royal Hospital for Women, St George and The Sutherland Hospitals) and identify vulnerable populations.

Methods

Analysis of administrative data (2012/3, 2013/4 and 2014/5) from the ObstetriX database, including number of maternal and infant health demographic characteristics, health status indicators and health outcomes.

Timeframe

Data extraction was undertaken in December 2015. Analysis in progress.

Funding

SESLHD: \$7,800

Child, Youth, Women and Family Services

Access to health home visiting services for new mothers experiencing intimate partner violence

Research team

SESLHD: J Walsh, and PhD candidate UNSW; UNSW Dr J Spangaro, (PhD supervisor)

Aims/questions

1) What child and family health nursing (CFHNs) health services are being provided to new mothers where DV is disclosed? 2) What risk assessments are carried out? 3) What differences are there in access and uptake of CFHN services – DV identified/ DV not identified? 4) What are CFHN's experiences of working with women where DV is disclosed and any identified facilitators and barriers to this work? 5) What strategies have CFHNs developed to negotiate safety to support access to health services for women who have disclosed DV?

Methods

This is a mixed methods study comprising: a) Retrospective file audit; b) Online survey for Child and Family Health nurses recruited from SESLHD, SLHD and SSWLHD, c) Face-to-face semi-structured interviews with a sample of Child and Family Health nurses.

Timeframe

2015-2020. Currently finalising Site Specific Assessment prior to commencement of data collection. Completion of the retrospective file audit by July 2016, complete online survey by end 2016 and carry out interviews early 2017.

Funding

Supported from existing resources.

Publications

Walsh, J., Spangaro, J., & Soldatic, K. (2015). Global understandings of domestic violence. *Nursing & Health Sciences*, 17(1), 1-4. doi: 10.1111/nhs.12197

Drug and Alcohol Service

The DAS Clinical Outcomes Quality Indicator (COQI) Framework Project: Study 1: Assessing the validity and interrater reliability of the Client Complexity Rating scale

Research team

DAS, SESLHD: Prof. N. Lintzeris, J Holmes, A Jackson, W Alzaher; SESLHD: Dr R Deacon, K Mammen; HNELHD: Assoc. Prof. A Dunlop, V Hunt; University of Tasmania: Assoc. Prof. R Bruno; NDARC, UNSW: Prof A Shakeshaft, Prof. M Farrell

Aims

To assess the concurrent validity of the CCRS against 'gold standard' instruments used to rate patient complexity.

Methods

A prospective study involving two clinicians independently rating the complexity of 120 new and continuing opioid and alcohol clients against the CCRS and gold standard instruments. Comparison of the CCRS and gold standard measures will be used to assess the concurrent validity of the CCRS. Interrater reliability will be assessed by comparison of the CCRS ratings obtained from both clinicians.

Timeframe

January 2014-December 2018

Funding

Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Office, NSW Ministry of Health: \$454,545

Drug and Alcohol Services

Study 2: Establishing the psychometric properties and developing a composite indicator

Research team

See Study 1: The DAS Clinical Outcomes Quality Indicator (COQI) Framework Project

Aims/questions

To assess: 1) the validity and reliability of the ATOP in opioid and non-opioid treatment populations; 2) the validity and test retest reliability of the ATOP for telephone administration; 3) ATOPs sensitivity to change in opioid and non-opioid treatment populations. 4) Develop composite measures for the Clinical Outcome and Quality Indicator Framework items. 5) To explore key expert views on the COQI framework and any barriers that are raised, and to evaluate the training resources for COQI framework measures.

Methods

Client sub-study: Interviews with clients and clinicians at multiple time points.

Key expert sub-study: Focus groups and online survey with clinicians to explore their views on the COQI framework and to evaluate the training resources.

Timeframe

See Study 1: The DAS Clinical Outcomes Quality Indicator (COQI) Framework Project.

Funding

See Study 1 The DAS Clinical Outcomes Quality Indicator (COQI) Framework Project.

Conference presentations

Lintzeris, N., [Holmes, J.](#), Dunlop, A, Mammen, K., Deacon, R., Bruno, R., Shakeshaft, A., Farrell, M., Hunt, V., and Jackson, A., (2016, March). Developing a Clinical Outcomes and Quality Indicators Frameworks for Drug and Alcohol Services in NSW. In: After Hours Symposium: Measuring outcomes in drug and alcohol services: Shaping the future. Margins and Belonging Conference. Sydney, Australia.

Drug and Alcohol Services

Evaluating a structured approach to benzodiazepine reduction (BURP-E)

Research team

DAS SESLHD: Prof. N Lintzeris, Dr S Leung, G Rivas, Dr R Deacon, Dr L Monds; UNSW: Dr S Nielsen

Aims/questions

To conduct a pilot evaluation (feasibility and success) of a structured clinical reduction program for managing benzodiazepine dependence in 15-20 local OTP clients.

Methods

Analysis of clinical data, patient interviews and patient computerised assessment of memory and attention.

Timeframe

Data is currently in the process of being analysed.

Funding

Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Office, NSW Ministry of Health: \$20,000

Conference presentations

Chapman, J., Monds, L. [Presenter], Nielsen, S.,... Lintzeris, N. (2015). The development and evaluation of a structured benzodiazepine reduction program in an opioid treatment population. Oral presentation at the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs Scientific Conference, Perth, Australia.

Drug and Alcohol Services

The evaluation of a pilot shared care clinic between General Practice and the Langton Centre public opioid treatment program (OTP) service

Research team

DAS, SESLHD: Dr H Wilson, L Hakerian, Prof. N Lintzeris; M Schulz, A Morris; East Sydney General Practice: Prof. M McMurchie; The University of Sydney: Dr S Rooke

Aims/questions

To evaluate a shared model of service delivery between a public opioid treatment program at The Langton Centre with two local GP practices involved in providing opioid treatment services.

Methods

Collation and documentation of new or amended procedures, business rules or work practices arising from the project; descriptive statistics including: number of patients seen, basic demographics; conditions treated; referrals of patients from primary care to specialist setting and vice versa ; training, education and quality assurance activities conducted with community OTP providers; analysis of clinical outcome using the Australian Treatment Outcome Measure (ATOP) – a one page multi-domain instrument of patient self-reported substance use and health and well-being outcomes. Surveys and interviews with participating patients, GPs, nursing and OTP clinic staff examining their perceptions of the treatment models and a survey with GPs and other staff on their recommendations regarding future service delivery, KPIs and opportunities for further research

Timeframe

Commenced in 2012. Interim results submitted to funding body, recurrent funding received, anticipated completion in 2016.

Funding

Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Office, NSW Ministry of Health, Research Grant: \$15,000

Publications

In draft.

Conference presentations

Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs Conference 2012: Shared Care Pilot in a SESLHD Drug and Alcohol Service.

Drug and Alcohol Services

Evaluating the Integrated Management Pathways for Alcohol and Drug Clients into Treatment (IMPACT) Service

Research team

DAS, SESLHD and The University of Sydney: Prof. N Lintzeris, Dr R Deacon, Assoc. Prof. A Demirkol, Dr L Monds; DAS SESLHD: S Hutchinson, G Rivas

Aims/questions

To evaluate the success of the pilot IMPACT clinical model of care in: 1) reducing preventable hospital presentations relating to D&A; 2) enhancing participation in a range of community based services for this patient group; 3) improving the substance use, general health, welfare and other treatment outcomes of the target patient group over time; 4) assessing the cost-effectiveness of the service model to SESLHD, as well as to the healthcare system in general; 5) existing as a sustainable service beyond the project funding period.

Methods

A historical pre-post intervention design, in which outcomes for participating patients will be compared in the six months before, during the intervention (approximately 6 months), and in the six months after disengagement with the IMPACT service. Data collection will involve analysis of administrative data (clinical records), interviews and service provider feedback.

Timeframe

2014-2016. The project is currently in the analysis/write-up phase.

Funding

SESLHD Innovation in Integrated Care: \$495,833

Conference presentations

Deacon RM, Clarke J, Demirkol A, Leung S, S MacFarlane, Shanahan M, Monds L, Jackson A, Lintzeris N. Evaluating the Integrated Management Pathways For Alcohol and Drug Clients into Treatment (IMPACT) Service. Australian Professional Society for Alcohol and Other Drugs (APSAD) conference, Perth: November 2015.

Drug and Alcohol Services

Risk factors for cognitive impairment in drug and alcohol clients

Research team

DAS SESLHD: Dr N Ridley, Dr L Monds, A Malcolm, Prof. N Lintzeris

Aims/questions

To test and validate the risk assessment and cognitive screening questionnaires for identifying cognitive deficits.

Methods

Retrospective client record audit of a convenience sample of 150 clients attending SESLHD drug and alcohol services treatment, who have completed the screening instruments.

Timeframe

Commenced 2015, and as of April 2016 120 clients have been assessed. Data analysis preparation.

Funding

Supported from existing resources.

Conference presentations

The results of the analyses will be submitted as an abstract for a presentation to the conference Australian Professional Society for Alcohol and Other Drugs conference, 2016.

Integrated Care Unit

Integrated Care Unit

Implementing the Patient Activation Measure as a tool to improve quality of care

Research team

SESLHD: L, Soars, T Chapman; UNSW: Dr J McDonald; Dr S Parker; Dr K Gardner; R Kearns, H Song, Prof M Harris. The University of Sydney: Dr S Dennis

Aims

To undertake a feasibility study on the use of the Patient Activation Measure (PAM) in SESLHD to improve the quality of care. It involves: 1) a scoping literature review on the use of PAM to improve quality of care; 2) retrospective record audit of pre and post PAM scores and health related measures ; 3) testing the use of PAM as a tool to improve the quality of care for patients with chronic conditions.

Methods

Mixed methods including a literature review, analysis of administrative data, case studies of implementation.

Timeframe

2016-2017. Literature review completed, audit completed, design of intervention underway.

Funding

SESLHD: \$70,000

Conference presentations

J McDonald, R Kearns, S Dennis, K Gardner, S Parker, H Song. Scoping review on the use of PAM as an intervention. Patient Experience Symposium, Sydney May 2016.

Kirketon Road Centre

Control and Eradication within Australia of Hepatitis C from people living with HIV (CEASE-D)

Research team

KRC: Dr P Read, R Gilliver, R Lothian, Dr K Chronister; the Kirby Institute, UNSW: Dr G Matthews, Prof G Dore, Prof A Grulich, Prof M Law, and Dr T Applegate; Dr R Finlayson (Taylor Square Private Clinic); Dr D Baker (East Sydney Doctors); Dr M Bloch (Holdsworth House Medical Practice)

Aims/questions

To evaluate the feasibility and impact of rapid scale-up of new hepatitis C treatment on the proportion of people with hepatitis C viraemia (HCV) within the HIV positive population of Australia.

Methods

Surveys of individuals with HIV and hepatitis C at enrolment (2015), follow-up 1 (2016), and follow-up 2 (2018).

Timeframe

2015 - 2018. Participants have been enrolled and completed the initial survey.

Funding

Janssen and Bristol-Myers Squibb; Kirby Institute: \$200,000.

Kirketon Road Centre

Impact of the rapid expansion of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) on HIV incidence

Research team

KRC: Dr P Read, Dr R Page, N Grant, Dr K Chronister; the Kirby Institute, UNSW: Prof D Cooper, Prof A Grulich, Dr I Zablotska-Manos, A/Prof R Guy, F (Jeff) Jin, A/Prof J Amin, L Crampton; NSW Ministry of Health: Dr J Holden, Dr C Selvey, W Whittaker, Dr H-M Schmidt, Dr K Chant; A/Prof A McNulty (Sydney Sexual Health Centre), Dr M Bloch (Holdsworth House Medical Practice), Ni Parkhill (ACON Sydney), C Cooper (Positive Life NSW), A/Prof L Crooks (Australasian Society for HIV Medicine), and investigators from 20 other sites in NSW.

Aims/questions

To evaluate the population-level impact of the rapid roll-out of PrEP in individuals at high risk for HIV and to measure the impact on HIV incidence among gay and bisexual men in NSW.

Methods

Participants will be prescribed PrEP for the prevention of HIV, attend regular health assessments including HIV/STI testing for continued prescriptions, and complete a brief survey every 6 months about medication adherence and risk behaviours. Behavioural and clinical data will be linked for analysis of HIV seroconversion.

Timeframe

March 2016 – December 2019. Enrolment will commence at Kirketon Road Centre in May 2016.

Funding

Health Administration Corporation, NSW Ministry of Health: up to \$1,000,000.

Kirketon Road Centre

Evaluation of a pilot project: Expanded Access to Treatment for Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) among People who Inject Drugs (PWID)

Research team

KRC: Dr K Chronister, R Gilliver, Dr P Read, Dr J Kearley, R Lothian

Aims/questions

To 1) evaluate the acceptability and feasibility of delivering treatment for HCV to people who inject drugs through an opioid substitution treatment (OST) program within a primary health care service regardless of their participation in OST or opioid dependence, and further to monitor treatment uptake; 2) compare the uptake of treatment by clients enrolled in the OST program with those not enrolled in the OST program and those who inject drugs other than opioids; 3) to identify predictors of treatment completion.

Methods

The study utilises data collected through routine treatment and care of clients as well as data collected specifically for the study to assess the acceptability of the project. Data will be analysed for treatment uptake, completion of treatment regimen, acceptability of providing treatment through the OST program in a primary health care setting.

Timeframe

March 2016 – December 2016

Funding

Gilead Australia Fellowship Research Grants Program, Gilead Sciences Inc: \$50,000

Kirketon Road Centre

LiverLife (formerly Healthy Liver Campaign)

Research team

KRC: A/Prof I van Beek, Dr P Read, R Gilliver; the Kirby Institute, UNSW: Prof G Dore, A/Prof G Matthews, A/Prof J Grebely; A/Prof D Shaw (Royal Adelaide Hospital), Prof M Hellard (Burnet Institute), A/Prof A Dunlop (Newcastle Community Health Centre), Prof M Weltman (Nepean Hospital), Dr I Kronborg (Western Hospital)

Aims

To evaluate the impact of a liver health promotion campaign and integrated non-invasive liver disease screening on HCV assessment among people who inject drugs.

Methods

Focus groups with participants.

Timeframe

May – October 2014

Funding

Merck Sharpe and Dohme (Australia) Pty Ltd: \$360,000

Publications

Marshall AD, Micallef M, Erratt A, Telenta J, Treloar C, Everingham H, Jones SC, Bath N, How-Chow D, Byrne J, Harvey P, Dunlop A, Jauncey M, Read P, Collie T, Dore GJ, Grebely J. Liver disease knowledge and acceptability of non-invasive liver fibrosis assessment among people who inject drugs in the drug and alcohol setting: The LiveRLife Study. *Int J Drug Policy*. 2015 Oct;26(10):984-91.

Conference presentations

Grebely J, Marshall AD, Krahe M, Erratt A, Telenta J, Treloar C, Everingham H, Jones SC, Bath N, How-Chow D, Byrne J, Harvey P, Dunlop A, Mowat Y, Jauncey M, Read P, Gilliver R, Smith J, Collie T, and Dore GJ. A Liver Health Promotion Intervention Integrating Point of Care HCV RNA Testing and Non-Invasive Liver Disease Screening to Enhance HCV Assessment and Treatment in Drug and Alcohol Settings: The LiveRLife Study (Oral Abstract Presentation). 2016 National Hepatitis Health Promotion Conference. Melbourne, Australia, May 19-20, 2016.

Grebely J, Marshall AD, Krahe M, Erratt A, Telenta J, Treloar C, Everingham H, Jones SC, Bath N, How-Chow D, Byrne J, Harvey P, Dunlop A, Mowat Y, Jauncey M, Read P, Gilliver R, Smith J, Collie T, and Dore GJ. Liver disease burden and clinical follow-up during a liver health promotion intervention integrating non-invasive liver disease screening in drug and alcohol settings: The LiveRLife study (Oral Abstract Accepted). 5th International Symposium on Hepatitis Care in Substance Users, Oslo, Norway, September 7-9, 2016.

Kirketon Road Centre

Evaluation of a pilot opioid overdose prevention and management intervention

Research team

KRC: A/Prof I van Beek, Dr M Ivan, Dr J Kearley, Dr K Chronister; Langton Centre: A/Prof N Lintzeris, A Jackson, A Ryan; Prof S Lenton (National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University), Prof P Dietze (Burnet Institute)

Aims/questions

To evaluate a pilot opioid overdose prevention and management intervention for people who inject drugs; specifically to assess uptake for the intervention, describe participants' experience with naloxone administration, assess knowledge and attitudes regarding overdose management, assess the acceptability of the intervention and to assess the feasibility of providing the intervention across clinical settings in NSW.

Methods

Pre- and post-intervention surveys and a follow-up interview with participants.

Timeframe

July 2012 – June 2015

Funding

KRC and The Langton Centre: \$12,000

Publications

Chronister KJ, Lintzeris N, Jackson A, Ivan M, Dietze P, Lenton S, Kearley J, and vanBeek I. (2016) Findings and lessons learnt from implementing Australia's first health service based take-home naloxone program. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, doi: 10.1111/dar.12400.

Conference presentations

Chronister KJ, Kearley J, Jackson A, Ivan M, Leung S, Lintzeris N, and van Beek I. (2014) Evaluation of a peer naloxone distribution project in Sydney, Australia, 2012-2014. Presented at the 2014 Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs Conference, Adelaide, November 2014.

Kirketon Road Centre

Rapid HIV testing in men who have sex with men in sexual health clinics in Sydney

Research team

KRC: Dr P Read; the Kirby Institute: A/Prof R Guy, Dr D Conway, D Callander, P Keen; Dr M Holt (National Centre in HIV Social Research), Mr P Cunningham (NSW State Reference Laboratory for HIV/AIDS), plus investigators from 10 other sites in NSW

Aims

To assess the feasibility and acceptability of rapid HIV testing, HIV seroprevalence, sexual behaviour and other characteristics of men who have sex with men.

Methods

Pre and post screening survey of enrolled participants.

Timeframe

February 2014 – December 2014. Project completed.

Funding

NSW Ministry of Health: \$216,605

Kirketon Road Centre

A phase II, open-label, single arm, multicentre, international trial of sofosbuvir and GS-5816 for people with chronic hepatitis C virus infection and recent injection drug use (SIMPLIFY)

Research team

KRC: Dr P Read, R Lothian; Kirby Institute: Prof G Dore, A/Prof G Matthews; A/Prof D Shaw (Royal Adelaide Hospital), Prof M Hellard (Burnet Institute), a/Prof A Dunlop (Newcastle Community Health Centre), Prof M Weltman (Nepean Hospital), Dr I Kronborg (Western Hospital)

Aims

To evaluate the proportion of patients taking a once-daily sofosbuvir/GS-5816 treatment with undetectable HCV RNA at 12 weeks post end of treatment (SVR12) following their SOF/GS-5816 therapy for 12 weeks.

Methods

Participants will be treated for 12 weeks with SOF/GS-5816 and then followed up for 24 weeks following their final dose of study medication.

Timeframe

2015 – 2018. Enrolment began at KRC on 11/4/2016.

Funding

Gilead Sciences Inc: \$3,370,713

Kirketon Road Centre

Health outcomes and service utilisation in a cohort of people who inject drugs, sex workers and 'at risk' young people – a data linkage study

Research team

KRS: A/Prof I van Beek, Dr P Read, Dr K Chronister; the Kirby Institute: Dr B Mathers, Dr J Reekie, Dr J Amin, Prof L Maher; Prof L Degenhardt (NDARC), Dr B Liu (UNSW SPHCM), Dr M Jauncey (Sydney MSIC)

Aims

To identify demographic, behavioural and clinical factors that predict health outcomes in a socially marginalised urban population with high prevalence of injecting drug use and sex work.

Methods

After record linkage by CHeReL, basic descriptive statistical analyses including cross-sectional tabulations will be performed to describe the cohort. Separate analyses will then be undertaken to meet the specific objectives of the study.

Timeframe

2014 – 2019

Funding

Australian National Health & Medical Research Council project grant: \$440,409

Multicultural Health Service

Exploration of the use of water pipe in the Arabic speaking community in the St George area

Research team

MHS, SESLHD: L Woodland; SESLHD: M Hua; UNSW: Dr K Gardner, Dr J McDonald, R Kearns

Aims/questions

To increase knowledge and understanding about community perceptions of the extent of waterpipe use; the sociocultural factors underpinning waterpipe use in the Arabic speaking community in the St George area to inform future health promotion and prevention initiatives.

Methods

Rapid realist literature review and qualitative interviews/focus groups with community members.

Timeframe

April –November 2016. Rapid realist review currently underway.

Funding

SESLHD: \$16,456

Multicultural Health Service

Access 3: Access to health care and health system navigation for young people in New South Wales

Research team

The University of Sydney: Dr M Kang, F Robards, Prof T Usherwood, Prof K Steinbeck, A/ Prof C Hawke, A/ Prof R Skinner, Dr A Campbell, Cr Davies; A /Prof L Sancu, (University of Melbourne); Prof S Jan, (The George Institute for Global Health); Dr M Kong, (The Kirby Institute); L Woodland, (SESLHD) A/ Prof K Zwi, Prof S Towns (Sydney Children's Hospital Network); A/ Prof O Burmeister, (Charles Sturt University); Prof F Brooks, (University of Technology Sydney); G Lane, K Tolley (NSW Youth Health Council)

Aim

To explore ways in which young people in NSW access, navigate and experience the health system in response to their stated and unstated health needs and to translate findings into policy-relevant recommendations.

Methods

Multifaceted, mixed-methods series of studies: Study One –cross-sectional survey using an online questionnaire exploring young people's barriers to and experiences of health services; Study Two – longitudinal study (qualitative) over six to 12 months using in depth interviews seeking young people's experiences of navigating the health system and identifying system inefficiencies; Study Three –qualitative study using semi structure interviews among service managers/ experts about their perceptions of health system navigation for young people; Study Four –knowledge translation workshop –focus group methodology.

Timeframe

September 2015 – March 2017. Study One and Two are underway.

Funding

Office of Kids and Families: \$250,000

Conference presentations

Liew YY, Kang M, Robards F, Usherwood T, Zwi K, Woodland L. Travelling far and wide: Healthcare Journeys of Refugee Young People in NSW [Poster]. Reform and Innovation in PHC Policy and Practice. Primary Health Care Research and Information Service Conference (PHCRIS), Canberra, 8-9 June 2016.

Liew YY, Kang M, Robards F, Usherwood T, Zwi K, Woodland L. Travelling far and wide: Healthcare Journeys of Refugee Young People in NSW [Oral Presentation]. Clinical, Digital, Leadership. The RACGP Conference for General Practice (GP 16), Perth, 29 September-1 October 2016.

Multicultural Health Service

Phase 2: Evaluation of the Acceptability and Clinical Utility of the Arabic Language Mindfulness Program in a group setting

Research team

SESLHD: L Woodland, H Saab, K Takas; A/Prof I Blignault, (UNSW); L Pitts, (Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD)

Aim

To explore the acceptability and clinical utility of the Arabic language Mindfulness program in a group setting.

Methods

Pre and post comparison of intervention and control groups; Participants will be randomly allocated into two groups (intervention group and waiting-list group), with approximately 20 women in each group. Participants will be assessed at baseline (both groups), post intervention for Group 1 (both groups) and post intervention for Group 2 (Group 2 only). Data collection includes participant reported questionnaire, log and survey (Arabic DASS21 – depression, anxiety and stress).

Timeframe

June 2016 – June 2017. To be commenced following Site Specific Assessment approval at ISLHD.

Funding

SESLHD Multicultural Health Service: \$14,000

Multicultural Health Service

Evaluation of the Acceptability and Clinical Utility of the Arabic Language Mindfulness CD

Research team

MHS, SESLHD: L Woodland, H Saab; UNSW : A/Prof I Blignault, A/Prof E Comino; Alzhra Muslim Women Association: F Hamdan

Aims

To explore the acceptability and clinical utility of an Arabic language Mindfulness CD.

Methods

A single site pre-post intervention study with Arabic speaking adults, living in or accessing services within the St George area. Participants with no psychological distress or with a mild to moderate level of psychological distress were included in the evaluation. Data collection included participant reported questionnaire, log and surveys (Arabic DASS21 – depression, anxiety and stress; The Kessler Psychological Distress Scale (K10).

Timeframe

The study commenced in October 2014. Now completed.

Funding

SESLHD Multicultural Health Grant: \$10,000

Conference presentations

Saab H, Woodland L, Blignault I. Evaluation of Arabic Mindfulness CD. International Psychology Conference, Dubai, October 2015 (Oral).

Multicultural Health Service

Cultural biographies, medical knowledges: A sociological study at the intersections of cancer and culture.

Research team

UNSW: Prof A Broom, Dr E Kirby; University of Technology: Prof J Adams; Monash University: A/Prof R Kokanovic; Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital : Dr Z Lwin, Dr D Wyld; Translational Cancer Research Unit : Prof P de Souza; SWSLHD Dr Eng-Siew Koh; MHS, SESLHD: L Woodland

Research or evaluation aims/questions

The study will explore the intersection of cultural biographies and experiences of illness; encounters with clinical/non-clinical services and the dynamics of care; and cultural knowledges and medical knowledge.

Methods

A sequential three-stage, qualitative design employing focus groups (service providers), life history interviews (patients), qualitative in-depth interviews (carers) and visual methods/photo elicitation (patients).

Timeframe

July 2016 – June 2019

Funding

ARC Linkage grant: \$210,000

Multicultural Health Service

Exploring the Experiences of overseas and locally trained staff working in a culturally diverse hospital (TSH) environment

Research team

MHS, SESLHD: Dr A Perry, C O'Callaghan, P Loukas, M Brady.

Aims

To explore the experiences of both locally and overseas trained nurses working in a culturally diverse work environment at The Sutherland Hospital, and to identify support mechanisms to address any identified issues.

Methods

A cross sectional survey of nurses about their experiences working in a diverse workforce and suggestions for support in the workplace for both local and overseas trained staff.

Timeframe

March 2014-March 2015. This project is now in the implementation phase of the findings. An extended orientation program has been developed for overseas trained nurses at TSH and a draft training module for nurse leaders to support overseas trained staff is in development.

Funding

SESLHD Multicultural Health Service, Diversity Health and Nurse Education at TSH: Supported from existing resources.

Multicultural Health Service

Longitudinal study of the health and wellbeing of refugee children

Research team

Sydney Children's Hospitals Network, Randwick: A/Prof K Zwi, Dr S Rungan, Dr S Woolfenden;
Royal Children's Hospital, Victoria: A/Prof K Williams; MHS, SESLHD: L Woodland

Aims

To describe physical health, development and social-emotional wellbeing of refugee children over their first three years of settlement and to identify risk and protective factors for health outcomes so that children at risk could be identified and prioritised for additional support.

Methods

Newly arrived refugee children were recruited between 2009 and 2013 and followed for three years. General Practitioners conducted health and pathology examinations shortly after arrival. At Years 2 and 3 of follow up, preschool children had developmental and school-aged children had social-emotional screening assessments. Families were assessed for risk and protective factors, classified into child, family and settlement factors, using a structured interview and the Social Readjustment Ratings Scale (SRRS). Participant experience of the research was explored.

Timeframe

2009 – 2015. Completed.

Funding

Foundation Markets Funding: \$158,000; Multicultural Health Service, SESLHD: \$80,000

Publications

Submitted to BMJ Open;

Conference presentations

Woodland L, Zwi K, Woolfenden S & Williams K. Child development, social-emotional wellbeing and settlement: a longitudinal study of refugee children, Australian Institute of Family Studies 2016 Conference, Melbourne, July 2016 (Oral).

Zwi K, Woodland L, Woolfenden S, Williams K, Rangan S, Allen C. Child development and settlement: a longitudinal study of refugee children. Migration, Social Disadvantage and Health Conference, Melbourne, February 2015 (Oral).

Woodland L, Zwi K, Woolfenden S, Williams K, Rungan S, Allen C. Child Development and Settlement: a longitudinal study of children from refugee backgrounds. Cultural Shift Symposium: Supporting migrant and refugee families through settlement, Parramatta, June 2014 (Oral).

Multicultural Health Service

Attitudes and experience of menopause amongst Macedonian menopausal women living in South Eastern Sydney and the Illawarra Areas

Research team

MHS, SESLHD: Dr A Perry, C Kelly, Dr C O'Callaghan; Royal Hospital for Women: A/Prof J Eden, Dr S O'Neill and Dr J Liu; Community Member, Illawarra: H Treneska; Independent Researcher: A Strezova

Research or evaluation aims/questions

1) To explore the attitudes and experience of Menopause including use of HRT among Macedonian migrant women living in the St George district and the Illawarra; 2) examine the prevalence of traditional remedies used for the management of menopause symptoms; 3) explore sexuality and relationship issues in the context of the menopausal transition; 4) determine the health care needs of ageing Macedonian women.

Methods

Qualitative (nondirective, 'affinity' group discussions). Subjects were community based samples of healthy peri or post-menopausal Macedonian women aged 45-65 years, living in Sydney and recruited in collaboration with the Multicultural Health Service of SESLHD and Illawarra multicultural contacts. Macedonian health workers that had been meeting with groups of Macedonian women for some time and identified the 'natural' affinity groups.

Timeframe

April 2014 – December 2015. Completed.

Funding

Multicultural Health Service SESLHD: \$25,000; Child, Youth, Women's & Family Health, SESLHD: \$25,000

Publications

Article to be submitted to the *Menopause* Journal in May 2016: Anita Strezova, Sheila O'Neill, Cathy O'Callaghan, Astrid Perry, Jinzhu Liu, John Eden, Cultural issues in menopause: an exploratory qualitative study of Macedonian women in Australia

Conference presentations

Attitudes and experiences of menopause amongst Macedonian women in Australia, Speaker: John Eden (Sydney, Australia), *10th European Congress on Menopause and Andropause*, 20 - 22.05.2105, Madrid, Spain

Cathy O'Callaghan to submit an abstract to *National Multicultural Women's Conference 3-4 November 2016*

Multicultural Health Service

Measuring Acculturation and Psychological Health of Senior Indian Women Living in Australia: MAHILA project

Research team

SGH: Prof R Fernandez, V Challita Ajaka; Resourceful Australian Indian Network: Dr S NatarajanDiversity; MHS, SESLHD: Dr C O'Callaghan; TSH: P Loukas.

Aims

To examine the psychological and physical health issues of Indian subcontinent seniors (women) residing in the St George & Sutherland regions in order to develop culturally sensitive interventions.

Methods

Community survey: Two hundred surveys gathered demographic, psychological and physical information about the issues that result in older women's isolation. The research gave information about culturally appropriate options to remedy the identified issues.

Timeframe

2013-2015

Funding

Multicultural Health Service Grant, SESLHD: \$6,000

Conference presentations

O'Callaghan C (2014) MAHILA research project, *Multicultural Health Research to Practice Forum Cultural Diversity – Considerations in Mental Health*, 20 March 2014, Prince of Wales Hospital

Multicultural Health Service

Innovations in Integrated Care: Optimising health and learning in newly arrived refugee and vulnerable migrant young people

Research team

MHS, SESLHD: L Woodland, Dr A Perry; Sydney Children's Hospital Network, Randwick: Dr A Montgomery and A/Prof K Zwi

Aims

To develop a cost-effective, sustainable model of care that improves health and educational outcomes in refugee and other vulnerable migrant young people attending the Beverly Hills and Kogarah Intensive English Centres (IECs).

Methods

A mixed method evaluation, combining quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis.

Timeframe

February 2014 to June 2015. Completed.

Funding

SESLHD Innovation in Integrated Care grant: \$170,000

Publications

Woodland L, Kang M, Elliot C, Perry A, Eagar S and Zwi K. Evaluation of a school screening program for young people from refugee backgrounds, *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health*, 2015.

Conference presentations

Woodland L, Eagar S, Zwi K, Kang M, Montgomery A. Optimising Health and Learning Program: targeted health screening for newly arrived refugee and vulnerable migrant young people. Sydney Alliance for Healthcare, Research and Training Symposium, Sydney, November 2015 (Oral).

Woodland L, Zwi K, Kang M, Elliot C, Perry A, Eagar S. Newly arrived young people of refugee and migrant backgrounds: an innovative, school-based partnership program to improve health and learning outcomes. Migration, Social Disadvantage and Health Conference, Melbourne, February 2015 (Oral).

Woodland L, Harmey M, Zwi K, Kang M, Elliot C, Sarris, B. Newly arrived young people of refugee and other vulnerable migrant backgrounds: an innovative, school-based partnership program to improve health and learning outcomes. Paediatric Refugee Conference, Westmead Children's Hospital, May 2014 (Oral).

Woodland L, Harmey M, Zwi K, Kang M, Elliot C, Sarris, B. Newly arrived young people of refugee and other vulnerable migrant backgrounds: an innovative, school-based partnership program to improve health and learning outcomes, Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth Conference: Linking Up for Kids, Sydney, April 2014 (Oral).

Multicultural Health Service (funded by)

Engaging people with advanced chronic kidney disease from Greek backgrounds in home dialysis therapies. (Funded)

Research team

St George Hospital: Dr S Tranter

Aims

1) To better understand the factors that inform people from Greek backgrounds' decisions regarding dialysis; 2) Identify any barriers or enablers to people from Greek backgrounds choosing home haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis; 3) Identify suitable educational strategies to support people from Greek backgrounds to consider home therapies in the future.

Methods

A qualitative descriptive study using a purposeful, convenience sample of ten patients from Greek backgrounds in the hospital Haemodialysis unit of a major Sydney renal service. The study involved interviews.

Timeframe

The study was conducted between May and December 2015.

Funding

SESLHD Multicultural Health Grant: \$10,000

Publications

Journal article has just been drafted and will be submitted for publication at the end of April 2016.

Conference presentations

Tranter S. *Engaging people with advanced chronic kidney disease from Greek backgrounds in home dialysis therapies*. Paper presented at the Renal Society of Australasia Annual Conference Perth 2015.

Multicultural Health Service-funded

Early childhood development assessment and screening - everyone's business

Research team

The Benevolent Society: R Krchnakova, V Sarkozy, D Perkins; Sydney Children's Hospital Network, Randwick: A/Prof S Woolfenden; South Eastern Community Connect: B Jursik, V Tebyani

Research or evaluation aims/questions

To promote universal developmental surveillance amongst CALD families in the Botany and Randwick area by training service providers working with preschool children in administration of the Parents Evaluation Developmental Status (PEDS) and its clinical pathway as outlined in the Blue Book.

Methods

Development of a training package to train service providers to CALD families with preschool children in a "train the trainer" model for universal development surveillance as outlined in the Blue Book. The project also sought to identify "champions in developmental surveillance" in these services and encouraged these champions to develop cultures of development surveillance in their respective services.

Timeframe

Project commenced in July 2013 and was completed in February 2016.

Funding

SESLHD Multicultural Health Grant: \$8,800

Publications

Woolfenden S, Posada N, Krchnakova R, Crawford J, Gilbert J, Jursik B, Sarkozy V, Perkins D, Kemp L (2015) Equitable access to developmental surveillance and early intervention – understanding the barriers for children from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. *Health Expectations* Volume 18(6), December 2015, p 3286–3301.

Multicultural Health Service-funded

Identifying barriers to access to palliative care services at Calvary Health Care Kogarah by CALD communities. (Funded)

Research team

Calvary Health Care Kogarah: Prof L Lobb, J Ellis, N Jerzmanowska

Aims

To understand the clinical journey of CALD patients who have transitioned from acute care facilities to either community or in-patient palliative care services at Calvary Health Care Kogarah (CHCK).

Methods

A retrospective medical record audit of 100 consecutive deceased CALD patients over a 12 month period to describe key clinical elements in the patient journey. Based on the literature and expert opinion, a Data Mining Tool was developed to record the end of life journey for CALD patients. Four focus groups with staff were also conducted.

Timeframe

6 January 2016 – 6 May, 2016. Audit completed; four focus groups with staff completed; data analysis completed; descriptive report completed; qualitative data analysis underway.

Funding

SESLHD Multicultural Health Grant: \$7,925

Multicultural Health Service-funded

Interpreting the language of Aphasia- a training package for interpreters.

Research team

St George Hospital: L Kenny

Aims

To improve the access and quality of speech pathology services available to CALD patients in SESLHD area who have acquired language difficulties (Aphasia) as a result of stroke or brain injury.

Methods

Survey of current processes and knowledge of interpreters regarding Aphasia. Establish education packages. Evaluate the impact of these resources by repeating the survey to ensure an increase in knowledge of interpreters regarding language impairments. Implement changes to the training package following feedback from the interpreters and finalise an ongoing training package.

Timeframe

March 2015 - April 30 2016. Currently at final stages of editing and approval of DVD and written training package.

Funding

SESLHD Multicultural Health Grant: \$7,877

Conference presentations

Abstract submitted for presentation at Speech Pathology Australia National Conference 2017.

Multicultural Health Service-funded

Development of a measure of cancer care coordination for migrant cancer patients undergoing treatment.

Research team

A/ Prof W Liauw, SESLHD; University of Sydney: Dr J Shaw, Prof J Young, Prof P Butow; Prince of Wales Hospital: Prof D Goldstein; Sydney Local Health District: Dr H Shepherd

Aims

To cross-culturally adapt an existing measure of cancer care coordination (patient experiences of care coordination across two subscales: communication and navigation) to reflect the unique experiences of CALD groups. The research will 1) describe the experience of cancer care coordination by CALD patients during treatment; 2) determine the utility of the cancer care coordination questionnaire to assess the experiences of care coordination by CALD patients; 3) inform the development of CALD-specific items for inclusion in a cancer care coordination questionnaire.

Methods

Six focus groups with Chinese, Arabic and Macedonian-speaking patients attending St George and Prince of Wales Hospitals for cancer treatment and their carers. Groups will be asked to review the current cancer care coordination questionnaire for cultural appropriateness and acceptability and asked about their experiences navigating the health system to ascertain important issues not addressed by the current questionnaire. Participant responses will inform the development of CALD-specific items. The CALD-specific version of the questionnaire will be translated and field tested by 10 patients from each language group and face validity determined.

Timeframe

Commenced October 2013 and completed December 2015.

Funding

SESLHD Multicultural Health Grant: \$10,000

Publications

Shaw JM, Shepherd HL, Durcinoska I, Buttow P N, Liauw W, Goldstein D, Young J M (2016), It's all good on the surface: care coordination experiences of migrant cancer patients in Australia, Support Care Cancer, 24: 2403-2410.

Multicultural Health Service-funded

Joint Simulation Training for Interpreters and Paediatric Medical Officers.

Research team

Sydney Children's Hospitals Network: M Festa, I Wolfsberger, A Polack, N Alcorn; Sydney Health Care Interpreter Service: M Walther

Aims

To improve the health and wellbeing of people from CALD communities by utilising joint simulation training with interpreters and medical officers.

Methods

Interviews with three consultant paediatricians and three experienced interpreters to elucidate key feature-event relationships drawn from a real-life experience of a difficult non-English speaking paediatric history undertaken in the clinic environment. A checklist tool will be designed based on the findings. A four hour pilot interdisciplinary simulated training course (incorporating the checklist) will be designed and delivered to junior paediatricians and less experienced NAATI accredited interpreters in effective and safe paediatric history taking. The pilot course will be assessed for its impact on participants' proficiency and confidence in paediatric history taking in CALD children and families. The pilot course will be modified and the final version delivered without participant charge for paediatricians and interpreters working in SESLHD.

Timeframe

March 2014 - June 2016. Interviews have been completed and transcribed. Analyse of the interview data is occurring at this time.

Funding

SESLHD Multicultural Health Grant: \$9,614

Conference presentations

Abstract submitted for presentation at SimHealth 2016 Conference, Melbourne.

Oral Health Service

Oral Health Service

Exploratory study on patterns of utilisation of publically funded oral health services

Research team

OHS, SESLHD: C Phelan; UNSW: Prof M Harris, Dr J McDonald, S Parker, R Kearns; Centre for Oral Health Strategy: R Byun

Aims

To describe the current utilisation of oral health services in SESLHD and changes in the service utilisation since the introduction of recent initiatives (OHFFSS, CDBS, NPA, special needs clinics).

Methods

Retrospective analysis of administrative data.

Timeframe

July 2016-Feb 2017

Funding

Oral Health Service, SESLHD: \$47,232

Primary and Integrated Health Directorate

45 and Up Primary and Community Health Cohort Study

Research team

UNSW: Prof Ma Harris, A/Prof E Comino, A/Prof E Harris, Dr J McDonald; SESLHD: T Bruce; SLHD: J Page, D Donnelly, CESPHCN: N Hansen

Aims

1) Establish a de-identified linked dataset; 2) undertake research and evaluation of questions of particular interest to participating organisations in relation to access to primary and community health care and its impact on health service use; 3) investigate the relationship between health service use and personal characteristics, health outcomes, and to examine how these relationships vary according to a range of sociodemographic, lifestyle and health related characteristics.

Methods

Data linkage study based on longitudinal cohort of people in the 45 and Up population health study linked to NSW and Commonwealth health data sets.

Timeframe

Jan 2016-June 2017.

Funding

SESLHD: \$110 071, SLHD: \$110 071, CESPHN: \$55 535 Total = \$275, 677

Publications

Comino, E; Harris, E; Page, J; McDonald, J; Harris, M. (2016) The 45 and Up Study: a tool for local population health and health service planning to improve integration of health care. *Public Health Research & Practice*, 2016

Conference presentations

Comino, E; Harris, E; Harris, M. Title: Transition of health care from hospital to community settings Primary Health care Research Conference. Canberra 8-10 June 2016.