

PROJECT UPDATE MARCH 2013



ANCD

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DRUGS

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THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DRUGS

The Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) is the principal advisory body to the Government on drug policy and plays a critical role in ensuring the voice of the community is heard in relation to drug related policies and strategies. A particular priority of the ANCD is to support initiatives that continue to build capacity within the alcohol and other drugs (AOD) sector to facilitate best practice.

Each year the ANCD commissions a number of projects, either via the ANCD itself or its subcommittees, the National Indigenous Alcohol and Drug Committee (NIDAC) and the Asia Pacific Drug Issues Committee (APDIC). These projects are selected following consideration of the ANCD's and its subcommittees' roles and work plan priorities, consultations with the AOD sector, and consideration of where the AOD sector and/or the ANCD require further information in order to provide credible advice to Government. The ANCD ensures that research projects provide a current and evidence based approach to current AOD issues and that the project findings are widely disseminated.

1. COMPLETED

1.1 Position paper: Update of *Bridges and Barriers: Addressing Indigenous Incarceration*

The National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee position paper, *Bridges and Barriers*, has been updated to include the latest data.

The paper was launched in February, 2013.

The paper is available via the NIDAC website.

1.2 Report: *An Economic Analysis for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders: Prison versus Residential Treatment*

This National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee project was undertaken by Deloitte Access to provide clear economic modelling on the costs and benefits of addressing problematic Indigenous substance use with treatment, particularly residential rehabilitation, as compared to prison.

The report was launched in February, 2013.

The report is available via the NIDAC website.

1.3 Report: *Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Dependence (MATOD)*

In response to the ongoing concerns expressed within the drug and alcohol sector and by consumer representatives, the Australian National Council on Drugs convened a roundtable of key stakeholders from the medical, pharmacy, government, NGO and consumer sectors.

The roundtable was conceived by the ANCD to be the first in a series of roundtables that would initially focus on identifying the range of issues that would need to be addressed to provide an evidence-informed, equitable, effective and cost-efficient MATOD system in Australia.

The report from the roundtable is available via the ANCD website.

2. SOON TO BE RELEASED REPORTS AND POSITION PAPERS

2.1 Report: *Link between ATS use and the transmission of HIV and other BBVs in the South East Asia region*

This project was undertaken by the Burnet Institute and the National Drug Research Institute to determine the link between amphetamine type stimulant (ATS) use and potential blood borne virus (BBV) transmission, with particular reference to the South East Asian experience.

It is anticipated that the report will be released in the middle of the year.

2.2 Survey: Secondary school principals' opinions regarding alcohol and other drug issues for schools

This project is being undertaken by John See Consulting and seeks the opinions and attitudes of school principals regarding AOD issues for the school community.

It is anticipated that the report will be available towards the middle of the year.

3. CURRENT PROJECTS

3.1 Literature review: Alternative medication treatment options for amphetamine type stimulants (ATS) users

This project is being undertaken by LeeJenn Consultants. Alternative medication treatment options for amphetamine type stimulants use will be examined.

It is anticipated that the report will be available towards the middle of the year.

3.2 Survey: Young people's attitudes and views about alcohol and other drug issues

This 12 month project is being undertaken by the Drug Policy Modelling Program to ascertain what young people think about alcohol and drug issues and associated policies.

The online survey went live in September and closed in December 2012. There were over 2,300 responses. The final report is being developed.

It is anticipated that this paper will be released by mid-year.

3.3 Briefing note: Complementary funding sources for AOD NGOs

The focus of this project is to explore additional funding sources and arrangements, including Social Compact Bonds for NGOs.

3.4 Literature review: Effectiveness of residential treatment models

This project is being undertaken by Dr Linda Gowing of the University of Adelaide. The focus of the project is a review of the literature on the effectiveness of residential treatment models in substance dependency treatment.

It is anticipated that the report will be available towards the middle of the year.

3.5 Survey: Employment participation

The ANCD conducted a survey of AOD service providers regarding the employment participation of, and employment services for, people who are receiving or have completed AOD treatment. The survey sought to gather information on the challenges and barriers faced by people in alcohol or drug treatment for finding and keeping employment.

It is anticipated that the report will be available towards the middle of the year.

3.6 Position paper: Pre-employment criminal record checks

This paper will identify issues arising from the increasing use of police checks to vet potential employees for AOD use.

3.7 Position paper: Workplace drug-testing

This paper will examine the issues arising from the increasing use of drug-testing, including its cost-effectiveness, for employers.

3.8 Survey: National representation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander AOD workers and organisations

Currently, there are no professional bodies specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander AOD workers. A number of professional bodies exist for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers, but these may not be relevant for AOD workers, and AOD workers may not be eligible to join these bodies.

The National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee is exploring the establishment of a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce and organisational representative body. Initially, the views of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers about, or experiences of, existing professional bodies, AOD workforce representation, and representational bodies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander AOD organisations are being sought via a survey.

Responses are currently being sought and the survey can be accessed at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6MMBS37>

4. ONGOING PROJECTS

Translations of 2nd Australian Needle and Syringe Program Return on Investment study

This work is being progressed by the Asia Pacific Drug Issues Committee. English, Burmese, Vietnamese, Mandarin and Khmer translations of a new summary paper based on the influential 2nd Australian Needle and Syringe Program Return on Investment Study are now available.

The paper is expected to assist in the expansion and further development of needle and syringe programs in the Asia Pacific region to potentially save thousands of lives by preventing the transmission of HIV and other blood borne viruses. Further translations are expected.

The papers are available on the APDIC website.

5. DEVELOPING PROJECTS

5.1 Literature review: Pregnancy risk assessment

The focus of this project is a review of the literature on routine assessment of pregnant women for alcohol and other drug use and the results of such assessment. The project brief is being developed.

5.2 Report on consumer participation

Consumer participation in the AOD sector is important. The aim of this project is to investigate the current situation regarding consumer participation in the AOD sector and then to develop the project in response to the findings. An in-house synopsis of some of the available models and research was produced by the ANCD Secretariat and the project brief is being developed.

5.3 Information kit on pharmacotherapies for treatment of heroin/opioid dependence

The opioid substitution therapy kit will consist of a review of the evidence, which will provide a summary of the scientific evidence about the value of opioid substitution therapy in a question and answer format; and a summary of the scientific evidence in a quick-reference format. The project brief has been developed.

5.4 Annual Drug and Alcohol Report

The aim of this project is to identify available and accessible drug and alcohol indicators that could facilitate production of an annual drug and alcohol report for the nation. The ANCD Secretariat has produced a rationale for an ANCD State of the Nation Report Card. The future direction of this project will be determined upon advice from key stakeholders.

5.5 E-Health: New and emerging technologies: their evidence base, opportunities, limitations and implications

This project will focus on a particular technological area, which may be AOD input into e-health records and its possible impacts; social media and its possible impacts in terms of promotions and opportunities for intervention; or innovative technologies for screening and reaching at-risk people who avoid attending AOD services.

5.6 Accreditation systems for AOD agencies

There are national and jurisdictional accreditation systems, each with problems. The aim of this project is to document, examine, and assess the accreditation systems currently in place for AOD agencies and services.

The ANCD Secretariat has produced a review on what work has been, and is being undertaken in this area.

6. COMPLETED PROJECTS/ REPORTS

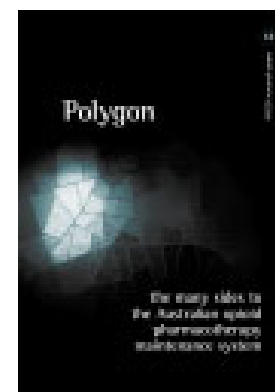
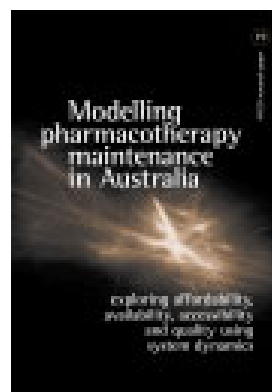
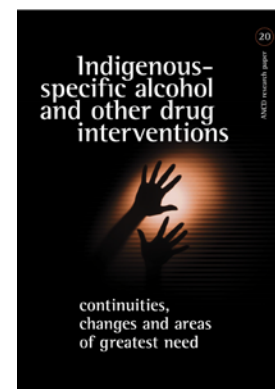
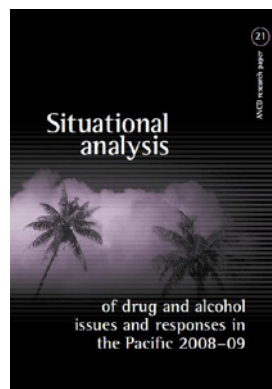
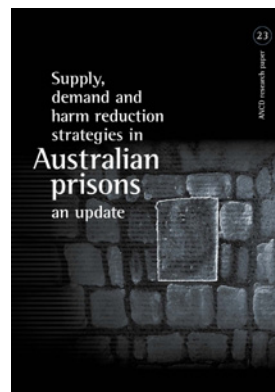
6.1 Research Reports

ANCD Research paper 24

An economic analysis for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders: prison versus residential treatment.

ANCD Research paper 23

Supply, demand and harm reduction strategies in Australian prisons, an update.



ANCD Research paper 22

Injecting drug use and associated harms among Aboriginal Australians.

ANCD Research paper 21

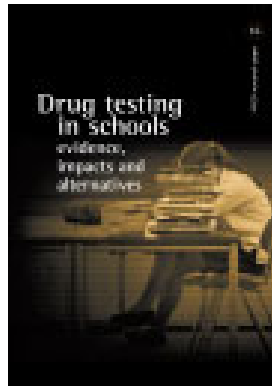
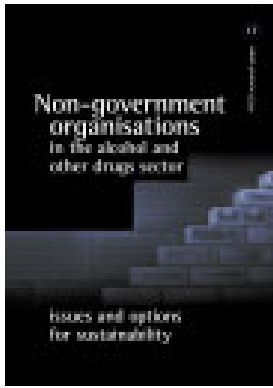
Situational analysis of drug and alcohol issues and responses in the Pacific 2008-09.

ANCD Research paper 20

Indigenous-specific alcohol and other drug interventions: continuities, changes and areas of greatest need.

ANCD Research paper 19

Modelling pharmacotherapy maintenance in Australia.



ANCD Research paper 18

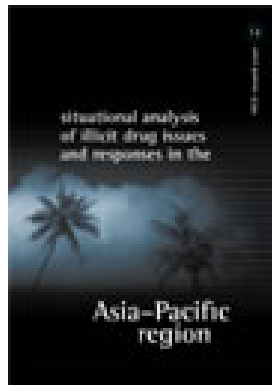
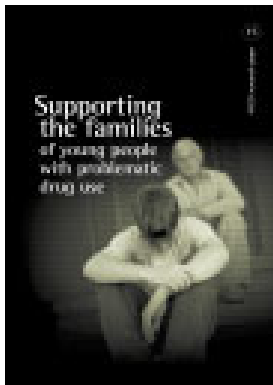
Polygon: the many sides to the Australian opioid pharmacotherapy maintenance system.

ANCD Research paper 17

Non government organisations in the alcohol and other drugs sector.

ANCD Research paper 16

Drug Testing in Schools: Evidence, Impacts and Alternatives.



ANCD Research paper 15

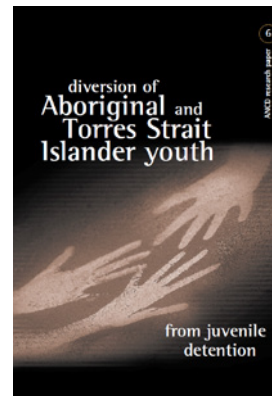
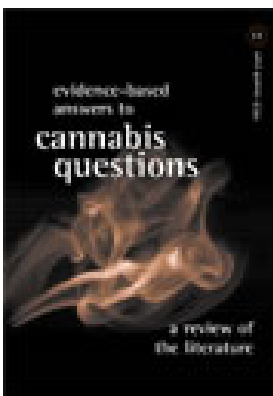
Supporting Families: Investigating Support Options for Family Members of Young People with Problematic Drug Use.

ANCD Research paper 14

Compulsory Treatment in Australia.

ANCD Research paper 13

Drug Use in the Family – Impact and Implications.



ANCD Research paper 12

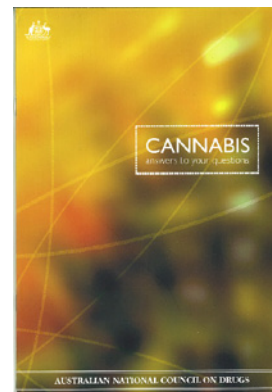
Asia Pacific Region – Situational analysis of illicit drug issues and responses in the Asia Pacific Region.

ANCD Research paper 11

Evidence-based answers to cannabis questions: a review of the literature.

ANCD Research paper 10

Mapping national drug treatment capacity.



ANCD Research paper 9

Supply, demand and harm reduction strategies in Australian prisons: implementation, cost and evaluation.

ANCD Research paper 8

Indigenous drug and alcohol projects: elements of best practice.

ANCD Research paper 7

Dealing with risk: a multidisciplinary study of injecting drug use, hepatitis C and other blood-borne viruses in Australia.

ANCD Research paper 6

Diversion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth from juvenile detention

ANCD Research paper 5

Drug policy: the Australian approach

ANCD Research paper 4

Indigenous drug and alcohol projects 1999-2000

ANCD Research paper 3

Evidence supporting treatment

ANCD Research paper 2

Structural determinants of youth drug use

ANCD Research paper 1

Heroin overdose: prevalence, correlates, consequences and interventions

6.2 Other Reports

- NGO Burden of Submission Writing Survey/ Report
- Beyond 2008 Regional Report: Australia and New Zealand
- Allocation of Resources to Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Treatment Services: A review of the literature
- Alcohol and Other Drugs Charter
- Media report – Key principles for the reporting of drug issues
- Cannabis: answers to your questions
- Cape York Indigenous Issues
- ANCD national report – Rural and regional alcohol and other drugs consultation forums
- ANCD national report – Rural and regional co-morbidity workshops
- ANCD and NEACA national report – Fetal Alcohol Syndrome National Workshop 2002

6.3 Position Papers

- Update of Bridges and Barriers: Addressing Indigenous Incarceration
- Expanding Naloxone Availability - September 2012
- Naltrexone Position Statement - March 2012
- Addressing Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in Australia
- Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC) position statement – 2008
- Methamphetamines Position Paper
- Naloxone availability: A secondary position paper on heroin related overdoses
- Needle and syringe programs Position Paper
- Heroin related overdose Position Paper
- High risk groups and behaviours: A secondary position paper on heroin related overdoses
- Bridges and Barriers: Addressing Indigenous Incarceration and health
- Addressing harmful alcohol use amongst Indigenous Australians
- Locally designed and operated Indigenous community models and practices that address Indigenous alcohol and other drug use

6.4 Other Projects

- National Drug and Alcohol Awards 2004-2011
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Conference 2012
- Homeless Information Portal website
- Positive Stories website
- ANCD rural and regional alcohol and other drugs study grants program 2000-2007
- NIDAC on line survey: Survey 1 - Alcohol
- Compulsory Centres for Drug Users Roundtable (APDIC)
- Recovery Roundtable 2012
- Pharmacotherapy Roundtable 2012



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ANCD CONTACT DETAILS

More information on the Australian National Council on Drugs and its subcommittees, including copies of completed reports, is available by accessing the ANCD website: www.ancd.org.au or by contacting the ANCD Secretariat:

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Acknowledgement:

This work has been supported by funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.