



AFAO Community and Advocacy Hub

Thursday 17 September

Morning tea

Morning tea: 10.30 – 11.00

Biomedical update: AFAO

Update on biomedical prevention advocacy issues, including:

- current status of TGA licensing of Truvada as PrEP
- research to support an application on funding;
- discussion about PrEP as part of health promotion work for HIV prevention and sexual health for gay men;
- what about PrEP for other communities?

HIV Australia launch: Expanded horizons for HIV treatment and prevention

Lunch

Lunch: 12.30 – 2pm

The ATRAS study and the treatment access gap: NAPWHA

Aaron Cogle, NAPWHA, will outline the findings of the Australian Temporary Resident's Access Study (ATRAS). What are some of the challenges of supplying HIV antiretroviral to Medicare ineligible people after the study concludes? What does this mean for Australia achieving the Seventh National HIV Strategy treatment access targets?

Call for a snap to action on sex work - better prevention, treatment & care for sex workers: Scarlet Alliance

This panel brings the voices of sex workers into a much needed conversation on where the targets and indicators are missing the mark and provides a snapshot insight into priority gaps.

PrEP campaign launch: QuAC

ComePrepd is the Queensland AIDS Councils (QuAC) new campaign for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) which is being launched at the ASHM Conference and at Brisbane Pride Fair Day, on 19 September. ComePrepd is primarily an online awareness campaign which aims to encourage open discussion. You can join the PrEP discussions on the public Facebook group ComePrepd or visit the website on www.comeprepd.info.

The launch of ComePrepd follows six months of community consultations and discussion to explore what gay, bi, and MSM want from a campaign that openly discusses the newest tool to prevent HIV transmission. Hear about the design of the campaign and its various stages.

***Presenters:** QuAC's health promotion officers Robert Muscolino and Alex Bartzis will be joined by the campaign's Creative Director, Dou Ribu, and Graphic Designer, Dale Napier*

***Panel:** to include Brisbane community members with their personal PrEP stories. QuAC staff and guests will be available after the presentation to take questions.*



LGBTI mental health and suicide prevention: MindOUT_ Queensland

Focussing on LGBTI mental health and suicide prevention, this session will outline opportunities for community members and health professionals to enhance the mental health and wellbeing of LGBTI people, and to address suicidality. Sherryn will be available after the presentation to talk with delegates about the MindOUT program and other resources available.

***Presenter:** Sherryn Davies, MindOUT Queensland Coordinator at the Queensland AIDS Council*

**Afternoon
tea** ***Afternoon tea: 3.30 – 4pm***

Population mobility/CoPAHM: launch of Report Card

CoPAHM is a cross-sector alliance of over 67 members from government organisations, non-government organisations, research institutions, community groups, and peak bodies working in HIV prevention and management. Members work to build momentum for action in the 5 priority areas outlined in the HIV and Mobility in Australia: Road Map for Action report. During this session CoPAHM will launch a report card showing Australia's progress to date and hear from four CoPAHM members on what they are doing and what needs to happen next.

***Speakers:** Roanna Lobo, Research Fellow and Project Manager - SiREN (Sexual Health and Blood-Borne Virus Applied Research and Evaluation Network), Curtin University; Andrew Burry, CEO, WA AIDS Council; Danny Gallant, Manager, Sexually Transmissible Infection and Blood Borne Virus Section, Communicable Disease Control Branch, Department for Health and Ageing, Government of South Australia; Graham Brown, Senior Research Fellow, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University; Linda Forbes, Manager, Policy and Communications, Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO)*

**9.00 -
5.00pm** **Available for community bookings**
(not pre-programmed)



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Testing advocacy update: ACON

Update and discussion on new testing technologies and related advocacy, focusing on rapid HIV testing and dried blood spot testing. While most of the regulatory barriers to RHT have now been removed, uptake by services remains limited. Join the discussion - why the slow uptake and what could be done to address this? And what about dried blood-spot testing – update on the planned NSW trial and what it might tell us.

Lunch

Lunch: 12.00 – 1.30

Remembering, Recognising and Responding: 21 years of the Anwernekenhe National HIV Alliance

2015 marks the 21st year of the ANA's operation. The ANA's Executive Officer, Michael Costello-Czok, will outline plans for "Anwernekenhe 6: Remembering, Recognising and Responding" – the ANA's forthcoming National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Conference on HIV Education, Prevention and Wellbeing.

2Spirits Program

For 19 years the 2Spirits Program has provided health promotion activities that incorporate cultural practices into a health promotion framework to engage with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander gay men and sisters in Queensland. Our cultural identity as health professionals and community members reinforces our connection with communities and is the 'key' to our connectedness and rapport with our target group - normalising conversations about sexual health, sexuality and identity. The Program is never simply 'culturally appropriate', but instead incorporates a cultural way of working in every aspect of our work.

Presenters: Brett Mooney and Phillip Sariago (Health Promotion Officers)

Partnerships with faith leaders to address HIV stigma in Australia: AFAO and CEH

For many individuals and communities from refugee and migrant backgrounds, health and faith beliefs have a significant role in approaches to health and wellbeing. Social research with people living with HIV from these communities has identified that stigma has a major negative impact on their lives. This session will discuss initiatives developed by the Multicultural Sexual Health Network (MSHN) and AFAO which respond both to the support needs of faith leaders and to the need for



communities to address HIV-related stigma.

Presenters: Alison Coelho (CEH) and Jill Sergeant (AFAO)

**Afternoon
tea** *Afternoon tea: 3.00 – 3.30*

HIV Futures 8: Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society

HIV Futures, a major survey of people living with HIV in Australia, was first run in 1997 by the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society (ARCSHS) at La Trobe University. The study has been repeated periodically since this time. In 2015, the survey for HIV Futures 8 has been substantially revised to include updated information about social and financial participation, use of treatments, testing, viral load, PEP and PrEP, stigma and discrimination, sex and safe-sex, use of social media and service use. There is also an expanded section for women, focusing on experiences of conception, pregnancy and birth as well as contraceptive use, sex and relationships. The HIV Futures 8 survey is now open for participation and will be officially launched at the ASHM conference.

Presenters: Professor Jayne Lucke - Director, ARCSHS; Dr Jennifer Power - Research Fellow, ARCSHS; Associate Professor Edwina Wright - infectious diseases physician and clinical researcher at the Alfred Hospital, Monash University and the Burnet Institute

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