



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

**GET YOUR RESEARCH,
NEWS, MEDIA
RELEASES,
RECRUITMENT TRIALS,
EVENTS OUT THERE!!**

*Submissions by end
July for our next
issue out in August*

**Social Media
submissions
(TWITTER, FB AND
LINKEDIN):**

*Submissions open
anytime*

**Submissions must align
with HDA:**

We aim to promote, facilitate and enable multidisciplinary research to advance understanding of healthy development, ensuring the physical, psychological and social health of infants, children and adolescents.

OUR PARTNERS

PLATINUM



GOLD



**University of
South Australia**



**Flinders
UNIVERSITY**

SILVER



Government of South Australia
Department for Education



**Government of
South Australia**

Women's and Children's Health Network



Women and Kids



Government of South Australia
Department for Child Protection

BRONZE



RECENT HDA EVENTS

HDA forum on **Supporting South Australia's children to thrive in their early years**. This forum was held in conjunction with our partner organisation the Department for Education.

Our speakers included **Dr Yasmin Harman-Smith**, Deputy Director, Child Health, Development and Education (inclusive of the Fraser Mustard Centre), Telethon Kids Institute; **Jackie Bray**, Head of the Office for the Early Years, Department for Education; **Dr Anne Glover AO**, Chair, South Australian Child Development Council, Adjunct Senior Research Fellow, UniSA Education Futures, University of South Australia; and **Professor Barbara Spears**, Adjunct Professor of Education and Social Development, Education Futures, University of South Australia, Member South Australian Child Development Council. Our chair was **Professor Carol Maher** (HDA Co-Convenor), University of South Australia.



HDA forum and the South Australia's Commissioner for Children and Young People's Disability Report launch: **Understanding Inclusion via the lived experience of children with disability**.

Our speaker and panellists included **Helen Connolly**, South Australian Commissioner for Children and Young People; **Ksharmra Brandon**, Director, Social Inclusion, Department of Human Services; **A/Professor Pammi Raghavendra**, Disability and Community Inclusion, College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Flinders University; **Penny Miller**, Neurodevelopmental Service Stream Lead, Novita; and **Ruby Nankivell**, Peer Crew Leader, South Australian Council on Intellectual Disability. Our chair was **Rosanna Mangiarelli**, Presenter and Reporter, 7NEWS Adelaide / HDA Ambassador.



RECENT HDA EVENTS

HDA forum on **Disrupting pathways into family violence**. This forum will covered the *Epidemiology* – who is caught up in family violence, what are their characteristics, *Causal pathways* into family violence – the accumulating evidence regarding the role of early-life trauma and what this means for *Effective* individual, family and community-based *strategies*.

Our speakers included **Professor Leonie Segal**, Research Chair, Health Economics and Social Policy, University of South Australia; **Dr Jackie Amos**, Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist and Specialist Therapist, Children's Services Unit, Centacare, Adelaide; and **John Mannion**, Mental Health Commissioner, South Australia and Executive Director Breakthrough Mental Health Research Foundation. Our chair was **Professor Claire Roberts** (HDA Co-Convenor), NHMRC Leadership Fellow / Professor and Matthew Flinders Fellow / Group Leader, Pregnancy Health and Beyond Laboratory (PHaB Lab), College of Medicine and Public Health, Flinders University.



BECOME A HDA MEMBER TODAY ...

Join us in fostering South Australian multidisciplinary research, policy and practice at basic, clinical, social and population levels to enhance the healthy development and wellbeing of Australia's future generations.

HDA membership is open to researchers, PhD students and professionals working in areas relevant to HDA's research.

Membership benefits

- Access to travel grants (PhD students and early career researchers)
- Access to PhD scholarships
- Eligibility to apply for HDA awards
- Free HDA event attendance certificates towards your continuing professional development points
- Build relationships with people working in areas relevant to the health and development of young children and adolescents
- Contribute your knowledge and expertise to make a difference
- Support HDA into the future

1 year (2022) for \$20 or 3 years (to 31 Dec 2024) for \$50 (excluding GST).

<https://health.adelaide.edu.au/healthy-development-adelaide/get-involved>

HDA / CRF 7NEWS MEDIA TRAINING WITH ROSANNA MANGIARELLI

HDA and CRF recently held it's inaugural media training for our HDA Scholars, HDA School Communicators and CRF Fellowship recipients.

"I found the training to be excellent, fabulous timing, for me as a final year".

"It was fantastic! She was a brilliant speaker and everything she said was super helpful".

"The media training session was very enjoyable and insightful especially for me who has had minimal exposure to the media as of yet".

"Rosanna is very knowledgeable and delivered the contract perfectly".



UPCOMING HDA EVENT



Please join us for the **Healthy Development Adelaide (HDA)** and **Australian Association for Infant Mental Health SA branch (AAIMH)** forum on **Understanding Early Trauma** to be held on Thursday 16 June, 5.30-8.00pm, Napier 102 lecture theatre, 1st floor, Napier Building, North Terrace, University of Adelaide.

As Infant Mental Health Awareness Week approaches (13-19 June) we focus on infant mental health as an often overlooked and misunderstood subject. This forum provides an opportunity to discuss the importance of babies' mental health as well as some of the issues that affect it.

Why Understanding Early Trauma?

The experiences we have in the earliest years of our lives impact the development of our brains. Experiencing trauma, such as exposure to domestic abuse, in the earliest years can have a significant impact on brain development, potentially leaving serious and lasting consequences that can create difficulties for the child into their adult years. This is not inevitable. Secure relationships with parents and carers can reduce stress caused by trauma and limit the long term impact it has on the baby's development. Specialist support can help to strengthen these relationships and reduce the harms to babies.

OUR SPEAKERS

The Hon Katrine Hildyard, Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, and Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing - **Opening Address**

Tessa Kong, AAIMH SA Branch President / Senior Clinical Practitioner, Child Protection Service, Flinders Medical Centre / Clinical Psychologist, Private Practice - **Infant Mental Health Awareness Week and the Australian Association for Infant Mental Health**

Dr Liberty Gallus, Senior Consultant Paediatrician, Flinders Medical Centre, Southern Adelaide Local Health Network - **The clinical consequences of infant trauma**

Joy Makepeace, Kamilaroi / Murrawari woman from North Western New South Wales - **Making peace with my past**

Dr Prue McEvoy, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist: Lead Psychiatric Director, Department for Child Protection - **Child Maltreatment and Infants – a dangerous combination. What do we know and what can we do?**

OUR CHAIR

Professor Claire Roberts (HDA Co-Convenor), NHMRC Leadership Fellow / Professor and Matthew Flinders Fellow / Group Leader, Pregnancy Health and Beyond Laboratory (PHaB Lab), College of Medicine and Public Health, Flinders University.

Open to everyone. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/349835546537>

UPCOMING HDA AND WCH GRAND ROUND (ONLINE)



Please join us for the Healthy Development Adelaide (HDA) and Women's and Children's Hospital Grand Round on **Quality improvement in perinatal care – how to use it to make a difference to outcomes that matter.**

This event is open to everyone and will be held on Wednesday 22 June, 12.30-1.30pm, Online via MS Teams.

OUR SPEAKER

A/Professor Amy Keir is a Consultant Neonatologist at the Women's and Children's Hospital, Adelaide, Women's and Children's Health Network and an NHMRC Early Career Fellow with the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) Women and Kids and the University of Adelaide.

Amy's work focuses on using clinical practice improvement approaches to improve outcomes that matter to families experiencing preterm birth and neonatal care.

Presentation blurb

There is a clear need to rapidly implement research evidence into health policy and service delivery in perinatal care to improve clinical outcomes. Preterm birth (being born early) occurs in up to 10% of pregnancies in Australia, with significant lifelong impacts on individuals, families, and society. Cerebral palsy is 79 times more likely in preterm infants, intellectual impairment is ten times more likely, and adults born preterm are seven times more likely to need social support. Reducing disability in preterm infants is possible by supporting clinicians to fast-track translating evidence into care. My talk will take you through our applied healthcare research program, PerinatalQI, that will improve the health and developmental outcomes of children born preterm or with other vulnerabilities.

OUR CHAIR

Dr Jenny Fereday, Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery, Women's and Children's Health Network / HDA Ambassador.

This online event (via MS Teams) is free and open to everyone from researchers, students, government and the community. The MS Teams link will be emailed to registrants 2 days prior to the event.

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/355329880237>

CHANNEL 7 RESEARCH FOUNDATION GRANTS

**Funding research
today, to improve the
lives of children tomorrow.**



The Channel 7 Research Foundation (CRF) has advised that they are providing additional funding opportunities for South Australian researchers.

The CRF 'Enabling Grant' program exists to support South Australian researchers seeking co-funding support for NHMRC Partnership and ARC Linkage grant applications relevant to the health, education and/or welfare of children.

Applications can be submitted at any time and those received prior to 31 July each year will be assessed by CRF's Independent Research Committee, with outcomes advised to applicants by the end of September.

CRF will consider providing funding of up to \$30K p.a. for the initial funding period for a successful NHMRC/ARC grant, to a maximum of 4 years (\$120K).

Further information is available on the CRF website at www.crf.org.au/grants

HDA MEMBER RESEARCH PUBLICATION

The basics of optimising men's preconception health

There is increasing focus on the relevance of preconception care to maximize pregnancy success and child health. While preconception care has primarily focused on would be mothers, there is now compelling evidence for men's contribution to successful conception and the formation of a healthy pregnancy and child.

This article discusses the basic biology of how eggs and sperm are made, why preconception care should start well before a couple is trying to conceive and what can be done to optimise the health of sperm and eggs and therefore chances of conception.

McPherson NO, Grieger JA. The science of preconception. International Journal of Birth and Parent Education. 2022;9(2):9-14.

For further information, read the article and some helpful tips for male preconception go to:
<https://fcmhw.org.au/news/preconceptionsience>

We need you for the PoppiE Study!
Iodine supplementation in pregnancy to improve early childhood neurodevelopment: How much is enough?



Seeking women less than 13 weeks pregnant to participate in an iodine intake research study



Iodine is an important nutrient for baby's brain and nervous system development. Since 2009, iodine has been added to some of our food and pregnant women are also advised to take a supplement containing iodine. However, recent population studies have indicated that women who get enough iodine from the food they eat may not need the amount that is contained in common prenatal supplements. These studies show that too much iodine in pregnancy may result in lower developmental scores in children.

Dr Karen Best from the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) is leading a national clinical trial to determine the optimal level of iodine needed during pregnancy for baby's development. This is funded by the Medical Research Futures Fund and is titled 'Prenatal iodine Supplementation and Early Childhood Neurodevelopment' – the PoppiE Study.

We aim to enrol 754 women who are less than 13 weeks of pregnancy. Women will receive information about their iodine intake, free prenatal supplements and an in-depth developmental assessment of their child when they reach 2 years of age. So far, 295 women are taking part from six states in Australia. Please help us by sharing within your health networks and with any women in early pregnancy.

For more information, visit

<https://sahmri.org.au/research/themes/women-and-kids/programs/child-nutrition-research-centre/projects/the-poppie-study> or contact the PoppiE Study team on 0428 642 471 or poppie@sahmri.com.

New micro device injects a boost to IVF success

Media Release - 16 May, University of Adelaide



A research team led by the University of Adelaide, in partnership with medical technology company Fertilis, has delivered a ground-breaking new micro-device to streamline the only fertility treatment procedure available for men with low sperm counts.

The first-of-its-kind device will allow more IVF clinics to offer Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI) as a treatment, while several IVF procedures, such as embryo culture, embryo cryopreservation and in vitro maturation, will also be improved by using the device.

ICSI is a slow and difficult procedure which involves the injection of a single sperm into an egg for fertilisation, and it can only be carried out by experienced embryologists. This new technology – smaller than a pinhead in size - holds up to 10 eggs in segregated positions for quicker injection, making it easier for embryologists to track and avoid the risk of errors.

Lead researcher Dr Kylie Dunning, from University of Adelaide's Robinson Research Institute, said the device will cut treatment time in half, require less training for embryologists with less expensive equipment than current ICSI treatment and improve access to the procedure for more patients.

"The development of this new, innovative ap-

proach is an important breakthrough for people wanting to start a family who haven't been able to due to male infertility," Dr Dunning said.

"By removing the need for the pipette that normally holds the unfertilised egg in position during ICSI, this device simplifies the injection process, reduces dependency on a high level of technical experience and will dramatically improve embryo production.

"This discovery removes significant barriers to treatment for people with infertility and will improve IVF success."

Device inventor and Fertilis co-founder, Professor Jeremy Thompson, said his company is excited to bring the breakthrough device to market.

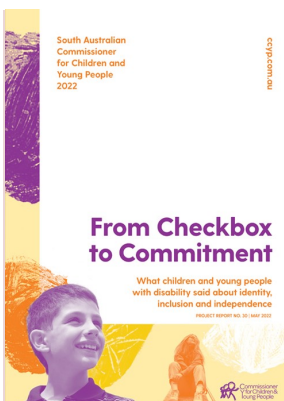
"Where IVF science has excelled, technology has tended to stagnate - until now," Professor Thompson said. "ICSI hasn't changed since its discovery 30 years ago. Continued innovation in the IVF lab like this is the only way we will boost success and reduce the financial and emotional burden for patients."

The device will undergo global clinical trials in 2022. This cutting-edge development would not have been possible without the support of the Australian Research Council and The Hospital Research Foundation Group.

Paul Flynn, Chief Executive Officer of the Hospital Research Foundation Group, said the organisation has been proud to support Dr Dunning's research during the past three years to improve IVF success rates.

"This device is set to be a game changer for thousands of hopeful parents who need to rely on ICSI," Mr Flynn said.

Primary author, Suliman Yagoub, is a PhD candidate in the School of Biomedicine at The University of Adelaide. Professor Kishan Dholakia from the University of Adelaide, and University of St Andrews, Scotland, Professor Brant Gibson from RMIT University and Dr Antony Orth from the National Research Council of Canada were also co-authors on this research, which published its findings in the Journal of Assisted Reproduction and Genetics.



SA Commissioner for Children and Young People ::: REPORT :::

From Checkbox to Commitment

What children and young people with disability said about identity, inclusion and independence

Read the report here - <https://www.ccyp.com.au/ccyp-reports>

COVID-19 in babies - here's what to expect

The Conversation - 26 May



Parents are understandably worried about what would happen if their infant caught COVID-19. Babies may be considered vulnerable due to immature immune systems, and are also not eligible for most of the treatments and vaccinations available for older children and adults.

The good news is, most babies experience mild illness. Here's what to expect if your baby tests positive.

Read the full story at <https://theconversation.com/au/health>

A wet nose and a wagging tail opens a new world for autistic kids

UniSA - 30 May



A new Australian study looking at the impact of an autism assistance dog for children and their parents has made an unexpected discovery: the dog has expanded their world, literally.

The presence of a specially trained therapy dog for autistic children is giving families the confidence to venture further afield and to many more locations, according to researchers from the University of South Australia.

Read the full story at www.unisa.edu.au/media-centre/Releases/2022

2021 Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) Data Launched



Our Children
Our Communities
Our Future

2021 AEDC data is now live!



Visit www.aedc.gov.au to begin using AEDC data to support you in your early years planning.

The AEDC is the most comprehensive collection of its kind in the world. It helps shape the future and wellbeing of our children by providing evidence to support education, health and community policy and planning. 2021 AEDC data was launched in March.

AEDC data supports organisations across Australia to undertake evidence informed planning. Australia is uniquely positioned to identify how children and families have fared through the pandemic.

AEDC Data from 2021 shines a light on how children have fared through the challenges of the past few years and provides the evidence communities and governments need to effectively shape supports.

Read the AEDC report and explore the AEDC results here <https://www.aedc.gov.au>

What do kids like and dislike about school? This is why it matters – and we can do something about it

The Conversation - 30 May



“School SUX!”

We’ve all heard it and some of us have felt it. It’s such a common sentiment that parents and teachers might be tempted to dismiss it. After all, school is good for you! Like vegetables. It is something you have to have, whether you like it or not.

But does the intrinsic “good” and compulsory nature of school education mean we should ignore students who say they don’t like it? Or that we shouldn’t try to make it more palatable?

Feeling positive about school is associated with higher attendance, better classroom adjustment and engagement, and higher academic achievement.

Read the full story at <https://theconversation.com/au/education>



First Review of South Australia’s Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People – open consultation closes 30 June 2022

There are more than 369,000 young South Australians under 18 years living in our State – that’s 21% of South Australia’s total population (2020).

Children and young people come from diverse backgrounds and cultures with many different circumstances:

4.9% are Aboriginal :: 1.12% are in out-of-home care :: 16.7% live with disability

It’s important to work together to enable children and young people to grow strong and to be happy, healthy and safe with opportunities for the future. **South Australia’s Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People** is a useful tool to help guide all of state and local government to work together and more effectively. Reporting data and facts under the framework then raises awareness about where efforts are needed to improve outcomes.

The Child Development Council is leading the first review of the framework and invites individuals and organisations to review the framework and comment either through an **online survey** or by providing a written submission to **ChildrenSA@sa.gov.au**

The online survey is open until 30 June 2022.

Further information here - <https://childrensa.sa.gov.au/outcomes-framework-review-2022>

Go directly to the survey here - <https://childrensa.sa.gov.au/online-survey>

Helen Mayo House Annual Perinatal and Infant Mental Health Conference

HELEN MAYO HOUSE ANNUAL PERINATAL AND INFANT MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE 2022
"The first 1000 days for everybody – connecting, decolonising, innovating"

Adelaide Convention Centre, Monday, 21st November

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

An Opportunity To Share Your Work In Perinatal And Infant Mental Health!

Helen Mayo House Conferences have offered teaching in perinatal and infant mental health for South Australians (as well as interested interstate colleagues) since 1993.

You are invited to submit an abstract for an oral presentation or poster regarding any vital clinical or research insights you may want to share, reflecting in some way the conference theme – *"the first 1000 days for everybody – connecting, decolonising, innovating"*

Contact helenmayohouse@sa.gov.au for the submission form.

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION IS COB MONDAY, 20th JUNE 2022
Successful presenters will be notified by **Friday 12th August**.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SERIES THE POWER OF OUR WORDS

Webinar: Family Engagement series - The Power of our Words
9 June, 8:00pm, Online

The pandemic has highlighted the importance of family service providers communicating effectively with families. But the complicated language used and the overwhelming amount of information they provide can create barriers that cause the families to tune out or even express strong negative emotions toward service providers. In this workshop, Patricia Weinzapfel will share practical tips, tools, and techniques that can be used to build and rebuild relationships with families.

More info here <https://events.humanitix.com/family-engagement-series-the-power-of-our-words>

Supporting children and young people with disability in challenging times

Webinar: Supporting Children and Young People with Disability in Challenging times
15 June, 11am (AEST), Online

Families Australia will be hosting an online Policy Forum to discuss ways of supporting children and young people with disability through a variety of challenging contexts such as family violence, the COVID pandemic and the challenges for families navigating systems such as the NDIS.

More info here <https://familiesaustralia.org.au/events/supporting-children-and-young-people-with-disability-in-challenging-times-1100-1330/>

Listen up! Hear from young people about their understandings of domestic violence

Webinar: Listen up! Hear from young people about their understandings of domestic violence
20 June, 1:30pm (AEST), Online

ANROWS is hosting this webinar, which will be facilitated by Body Safety Australia and feature a panel of young people passionate about preventing violence against women. The webinar will unpack how young people define and make sense of domestic violence in their own terms.

More info here <https://www.anrows.org.au/event/webinar-listen-up-hear-from-young-people-about-their-understandings-of-domestic-violence/>