Policy Solutions for Oral Health Inequalities

Conference Information

Over 3.6 billion individuals suffer from oral diseases globally. The burden of oral diseases is borne disproportionately by poor people and poor societies. Academics and policy makers from 15 countries committed to tackling oral health inequalities have formed a global network ‘International Centre for Oral Health Inequalities Research & Policy’ (ICOHIRP), which was launched with a successful conference in London, UK on 21 May 2015. The Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPOH) at The University of Adelaide, is Australia’s pre-eminent population oral health research body undertaking dental research and provides a broad range of dental and oral health statistics for Australia. ARCPOH is a member organization in the ICOHIRP network, and recognizes the importance of addressing persistent oral health inequalities locally and globally. In partnership with ICOHIRP, ARCPOH is organizing a one day conference themed ‘Policy Solutions for Oral Health Inequalities’ in Adelaide, South Australia on 24 September 2017. This event will also run as a Pre-Conference workshop for the International Association of Dental Research’s (IADR) regional 2017 conference.

Conference Objective

The conference will identify ways forward for cohesive policy environments and evidence-based action to address oral health inequalities.
List of Confirmed Speakers

Keynote Speakers:

- Professor Richard G Watt – University College London (UCL), London, United Kingdom
- Professor Sharon Friel – Australian National University (ANU), Canberra, Australia

Session 1: Societal Determinants and Common Risk Approach

- Emeritus Professor Andrew Rugg- Gunn – New Castle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
- Associate Professor Caroline Miller – University of South Australia (UniSA), Adelaide, Australia

Session 2: Role of Health Services and Systems

- Emeritus Professor John Spencer – University of Adelaide, Adelaide, Australia
- Doctor Martin Dooland – SA Health, Adelaide, Australia
- Professor Jon Karnon – University of Adelaide, Adelaide, Australia

Session 3: Political Economy and (Oral) Health Inequalities

- Doctor Tamara Mackean – Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia
- Doctor Rob Beaglehole - Nelson Marlborough District Health Board, Nelson, New Zealand

Session 4: Place and Person

- Doctor João Luiz Dornelles Bastos - Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina - UFSC (Federal University of Santa Catarina), Florianopolis, Brazil
- Doctor Tessa Boyd-Caine - National Centre for Health Justice Partnerships, Australia
- Professor Mark Daniel – University of South Australia (UniSA), Adelaide, Australia
Short biographies of the confirmed speakers:

Professor Richard G Watt: Professor of Dental Public Health and Head of the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at University College London. His research has focused on the social determinants of oral health inequalities and the development and evaluation of health improvement interventions. Prof. Watt is the founder director of the ICOHIRP.

Professor Sharon Friel: Director of the the School of Regulation and Global Governance (RegNet) and Professor of Health Equity, Australian National University. She is also Director of the Menzies Centre for Health Policy ANU. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences Australia and an ANU Public Policy Fellow. In 2014 she was named by her international peers as one of the world’s most influential female leaders in global health.

Emeritus Professor Andrew Rugg-Gunn: Emeritus Professor of Preventive Dentistry and former Co-Director of the Human Nutrition Research Centre, Newcastle University. Andrew as also Head of the University's Department of Child Dental Health. His main research interests include the interrelationships between nutrition, diet and dental public health.

Associate Professor Caroline Miller: Executive officer at the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI). A/Professor Miller also leads a program of research in population health, focused on tobacco control and obesity prevention. She is a Beat Cancer Project Principal Research Fellow. Caroline has qualifications in psychology, public health and economics.

Emeritus Professor John Spencer: Emeritus Professor of Population Oral Health and former director of the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPOH), Adelaide Dental School, Australia. E/Prof Spencer has expertise in use and provision of services, dental labour force, fluoridation and dental policy.
Doctor Martin Dooland: Australian dentist who has led public dental services in Victoria and South Australia for over 20 years. Dr. Dooland was Chief Executive of Dental Health Service in Victoria (1996-2001) and South Australia (2001-2013). Dr Martin Dooland retired from the position of Executive Director Statewide Services in the Central Adelaide Local Health Network in July 2013 and was awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA) in the same year.

Professor Jonathan Karnon: Professor in Health Economics at the School of Public Health, The University of Adelaide. Prof. Karnon has two broad areas of research interest: service evaluation and quality improvement and complex decision analytic modelling and model calibration/validation. He is the current president of the Health Services Research Association of Australia and New Zealand.

Doctor Tamara Mackean: Waljen woman of the Goldfields region of Western Australia (WA). She is a Senior Research Fellow in the Southgate Institute for Health, Society and Equity at the Flinders University of South Australia (FUSA). Her research activities span health equity, population health, social and mental health, health systems and Indigenous health.

Doctor Rob Beaglehole: Clinical dentist and the Principal Dental Officer and Public Health Advocate for Nelson, New Zealand. Dr. Beaglehole is a key public health policymaker in NZ, advocating mainly on reducing sugary drink consumption with the goal of reducing tooth decay and other non-communicable diseases such as obesity and type 2 diabetes.

Doctor João Luiz Dornelles Bastos: Assistant Professor of public health at the Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil. His main research interests include the health effects of
discrimination as well as the development of psychometric scales to assess self-reported experiences with discrimination.

**Doctor Tessa Boyd-Caine:** CEO of the Australian National Centre for Health Justice Partnership. Dr. Boyd-Caine has also worked in health, criminal justice and human rights organisations in Australia and internationally. She was previously Deputy CEO of the Australian Council of Social Service and received the inaugural Fulbright Professional Scholarship in Nonprofit Leadership.

**Professor Mark Daniel:** Head of the School of Population Health, Research Chair of Spatial Epidemiology and Director of the Spatial Epidemiology and Evaluation Research Group at the University of South Australia. His research targets an understanding of the biological pathways between social and physical environments and important population health outcomes.
Conference Organizing Committee:

Professor Marco A Peres: Professor of Population Oral Health and Director of the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPOH), Adelaide Dental School, University of Adelaide. He is the Deputy Chair of the Expert Working Group for Fluoride of the Australian and New Zealand Nutrient Reference Values for Fluoride, a member of the Oral Health Expert Group of the Australian Burden of Diseases 2011 study. Prof. Peres is a founding member of the ICOHIRP and has keen interest in research on oral health inequalities.

Professor Lisa Jamieson: Professor of Population Oral Health and Director of the Indigenous Oral Health Unit at the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPOH), Adelaide Dental School, University of Adelaide. Prof. Jamieson is recognised as a leading researcher in the area of Indigenous oral health globally.

Associate Professor Loc Giang Do: Associate Professor of Population Oral Health at the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPOH), Adelaide Dental School, University of Adelaide. Chief Investigator of the National Child Oral Health Study. Currently A/Prof Do is the Regional Councillor – Asia-Pacific Region – for the IADR Global Oral Health Inequalities Network.

Associate Professor Karen Glazer Peres: Associate Professor of Population Oral Health and Director of the Dental Practice Education Research Unit at the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPOH), Adelaide Dental School, University of Adelaide. Her main research interests are in the epidemiology of oral diseases, particularly in social inequality in oral health and life course.
Doctor Jane Harford: Doctor Jane Harford is a Senior Lecturer based at the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPOH), Adelaide Dental School, University of Adelaide. She has a background in public health, health policy and health economics. Her research interests include the impact of population ageing on oral public health and on the provision of oral health care, strengthening a public health/primary care approach to oral health, the impact of various funding arrangements including government subsidies on oral health service delivery and status, and the role of food policy in oral health.

Doctor Ankur Singh: Dr. Ankur Singh has a M.Sc in Dental Public Health and is a current PhD student at Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPOH), Adelaide Dental School, University of Adelaide. His current research investigates the impact of social inequality on oral health among Australians.

Doctor Helena Silveira Schuch: M.Sc in Dentistry, PhD Student in Population Oral Health at the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPOH), Adelaide Dental School, University of Adelaide. Her research targets on the effects of socio inequalities in oral health over the life course.

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