3rd National Rural Health Conference Proceedings

The Politics of Rural Health: How Far Have We Come?
Mt Beauty 3-5 February, 1995

PRELIMINARIES

Foreword, Editor's Note, Acknowledgments

SECTION 1

Conference Recommendations

SECTION 2

Conference Program
SECTION 3 - CONFERENCE PAPERS IN THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY WERE PRESENTED

▶ Welcome and Introduction
  Sabina Knight, Chairperson, Conference Organising Committee

▶ Opening Session
  Chaired by Prue Power, Deputy Director of the Australian Hospital Association

▶ The Politics And Economics Of The Rural Health System: Equity And Efficiency
  Gavin Mooney, Professor in Health Economics, Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation, Westmead Hospital, Sydney

▶ Official Opening Address
  Hon Dr Carmen Lawrence MP, Federal Minister for Human Services and Health

▶ A Total Rural Health Care System As Judged By The Expectations And Experiences Of Its Consumers
  Merrilyn Walton, Commissioner NSW Health Care Complaints Commission
Rural Health Consumer Issues

Rob Currie, Senior Physiotherapist, Rapid Creek, NT
Robbie Sallee, Deputy Chairperson, Apunipima Cape York Health Council
Jack Shepherd, Immediate Past President, Rural Doctors’ Assoc. of Australia

SECTION 4 - KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS ON INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS FOR RURAL HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

The Rural Health Education Centre

Dr Robert Hodge, Director, Rural Health Education Centre ANU Canberra

Mind In Cyberspace, Feet On The Ground: Utilising New And Existing Communications Technology For Health Service Delivery To Aboriginal People In Remote Areas

Peter Toyne and Robin Japanangka Granites, Tanami Network

The Western Australian Centre For Remote And Rural Medicine

Dr Brian Williams, Director

Extending To Rural And Remote Australia A Multidisciplinary Continuing Professional Education Program On Child And Adolescent Health

Hilary Russell, Director, Education and Quality Assurance, Centre for Community Child Health & Ambulatory Paediatrics, Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne
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Dabbling With Data: Morbidity And Mortality In Rural Australia Part I
Roger Strasser, Australian Rural Health Research Institute

Dabbling With Data: Morbidity And Mortality In Rural Australia Part II
Patricia Buckley, Director, Australian Rural Health Research Institute

SECTION 5 - SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 1995

Consumers And The National Rural Health Strategy
Des Murray, Director, Workforce Support and Rural Health, Dept of Human Services and Health

An Overview Of The Support Needs Of The Various Categories Of Health Workers In Rural And Remote Areas
Margaret Conley, Executive Director, Public Health Assoc, Canberra

Governments And The Improvement Of Rural Health Outcomes
Gillian Biscoe, Secretary, Dept of Community and Health Services, Tasmania
SECTION 6 - KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS ON SEXUAL AND WOMEN’S HEALTH

- Helping Rural And Remote Area Health Professionals Work With STDs and HIV: Where Are We, And Where Are We Heading?
  Dr Ron McCoy, HIV/AIDS Education Co-ordinator, Fairfield Hospital, Melbourne
  Ms Margaret Scott, Project Manager, National HIV Education Program for Australian Doctors, Sydney

- Alukura -An Aboriginal Women’s Community-Controlled Health And Birthing Centre
  Lynette Stuart, Acting Director (February 1995)

- Primary Sexual Health Care For Women, By Women
  Elaine Dietsch, Clinical Nurse Consultant, Womens Health, Leeton NSW

- The Tri-State Project: In The Pursuit Of Excellence
  Marilyn Chalkley and Kerry Arabena

- A Community Based Well Woman's Programme In A Remote Aboriginal Community
  Susan Crewe, RN Ida Granites, AHW NT Rural Health
  Annette Coppola, AIDS Unit CDC Alice Springs Marisa Gilles, DMO Rural Health
Where The Past Meets The Future: A Role For Prevention In Aboriginal Mental Health?
Ernst Hunter, Regional Psychiatrist, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Peninsula Health Authority, Cairns

Lunchtime Address
Hon Dr Denis Napthine MLA
Parliamentary Secretary to the Victorian Minister for Health

SECTION 7 - KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS ON MULTI-PURPOSE SERVICES AND CENTRES

The Dalwallinu Multi-Purpose Service One Year On: What have we done? Why did we do it
Irene Mills, Chairperson, Dalwallinu Health and Hospital Board

Multi-Purpose Services: The Braidwood Experience
Anthony J Bailey, Manager, Braidwood Multi-purpose Service

The Multi-Purpose Centres In The Victorian Bush Nursing Association’s Network
Andrew Tsindos, Chief Executive, VBNA, Melbourne
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- **Nganampa Health Council As A Multi Purpose Service**
  
  John Lawrence, Health Services Co-ordinator
  Mandy Pusmucams, Project Officer Nagampa Health Council, Umuwa, South Australia

- **Responding To The MPS Challenge**
  
  Dr John Dunn, Senior Lecturer, Dept of Education, University of South Australia

- **The Multi-Purpose Service Initiative As An Example Of Flexible Service Provision**
  
  Dale Stevenson, Assistant Secretary, Quality Assurance and Access Branch, Dept of Human Services and Health

**SECTION 8 - KEY CHANGES IN RURAL HEALTH IN THE STATES AND THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

- **Papers**
  
  Jon Blackwell, Director Rural Health Policy Unit Country Health Services South Australia
  Peter Brown, Assistant General Manager Rural Health and Direct Services NSW Department of Health
  Denise Degn, Director, Rural Health Policy Unit, Queensland Health
  Dr Dayalan Devanesen, Director Community Health Program Northern Territory Department of Health and Community Services
  Pip Leedham, Manager, Planning and Development (North) Department of Community and Health Services, Tasmania
  Ralph McLean, Manager Hospitals Section, Planning and Development Branch, Acute Health Services Division, Department of Health and Community Services, Victoria
  Kim Snowball, Director Rural Health Policy Health Department of Western Australia
SECTION 9

- Rural Health Policies: The Priorities For Attention And Their Implications For Workable Recommendations
  Assoc. Prof. John S Humphreys, Dept of Geography & Planning, University of New England

- Remote Area Health Services In The Northern Territory: Matching Resources To Needs
  Dr Robyn McDermott, Australian Rural Health Research Institute, Menzies School of Health Research, Alice Springs

- How I See It And What Our Recommendations Should Attempt To Achieve
  Margaret Brown, Convenor, Rural and Remote Consumer Health Network

- Perspectives On Conference's Recommendations
  Dr David Rosenthal, President, Rural Doctors Assoc. of Australia

- Community Values, Equity And Justice
  Prof. Gavin Mooney, CHERE, University of Sydney

- Closing Address
  Hon Ken Hayward MLA, Queensland Minister for Health

- Closing Comments
  Sabina Knight, Chairperson, NRHA
SECTION 10 - PAPERS FROM THE ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS

1. Recruitment Of Rural Students To The Health Professions
   Jan Jones and Ann Stradley, Senior Policy Officers, Queensland Health, Rural Policy Unit, Brisbane

2. Extending To The Bush A National Multi-Disciplinary Education Program On Child Health
   Dr Hubert Van Doorn, Director, Australian Paediatric Review Training Program
   Hilary Russell, Centre for Community Child Health, Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne

3a. Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Program (ACAP)
   Maria Palmer-Thompson and John Wakerman, Alice Springs Rural District, NT Dept of Health and Community Services

3b. Strategies For Facilitating Community Control Within The Public Sector
   John Wakerman, Helen Stuart and Pat Field, Alice Springs Rural District, NT Dept of Health and Community Services

Aboriginal And Torres Strait Islander Health Curriculum Design Project: Steering Committee Summary
   Les Collins, Project Officer
   Neil Beaton, Medical Advisor
SECTION 11 - CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

- A Tertiary Rehabilitation Pilot Project In Remote Aboriginal Communities
  Louis Ariotti, Rehabilitation Officer, Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service, Alice Springs

- Barriers To Introducing Nutrition Services In Rural Communities
  Michelle Auld, Rural Allied Health Team, Community Health Services, Darling Downs Regional Health Authority, Toowoomba

- Improved Breast Feeding Retention Rates Associated With Postnatal Maternal Oral Zinc Supplementation
  Alison Barker-Vile, Maternal and Child Nurse, Tallangatta, Victoria

- Rural General Practitioner Involvement In Critical Care
  L Beeney, P Hungerford, S Guider, J Trollor
  Rural Training Unit and Emergency Dept. Tamworth Base Hospital

- National Women's Health Program In Country South Australia
  Jeanette Brown, Country Health Services Division, SA Health Commission

- Health & Health Care In An Isolated Northern Territory Community
  Dr P Brown, Numbulwar, NT
Access To Health Care In Remote Regions: A Critique Of The Patient’s Assistance Travel Scheme  
Elisabeth Burrell, Health Consumers Council, WA

Agro-Culture And Ager-Violence  
Betty Carrasco, Senior Lecturer, School of Nursing, La Trobe University, Albury-Wodonga Campus

A Progress Report On The General Practice Rural Incentives Program Evaluation Strategy  
Dr Steve Clark, Director, Rural Health Training Unit, Townsville

Postpartum Stress Syndrome - Fact Or Fallacy?  
Majorie Cuthbert, Health Care Consultant, Wodonga

School Injuries: A Profile Of Injuries Occurring At A Rural Primary School In North East Victoria  
Neil Duggan, Community Health Worker, Glenrowan, Victoria

'Paddock To Campus' Rural Practice Training Unit - Modbury High School And Undergraduate Programs  
Dr David Gill, Director  
Jenny Tonks, Programmes Coordinator, Rural Practice Training Unit, Modbury Hospital, SA
Community Based Vocational Rehabilitation Opportunities For People With A Severe Disability In Rural Communities
Ruth Grayson, Severe Disabilities case Worker/Occupational Therapist, Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service, Lismore, NSW

Delivering Across-Discipline Education Through Rural Health Training Units
Dr Ross Hartley, Director, Rural Health Education and Research centre, Tamworth, NSW

Ruralising The Undergraduate Medical Curriculum: A Grass Roots Approach
R Hays, D Price, M Jelbart, D Saltman
North Queensland Clinical School, University of Queensland, Townsville

Taking Care Of Me: A Caring For The Carer Program For Rural Health Nurses
Lynn Hemmings, Executive Director, Riverina Rural Health Training Unit, Wagga Wagga

General Practice Rural Incentives Program
Linda Holub, Director, Rural Incentives Section, General Practice Branch, Dept of Human Services and Health, Canberra

A Woman’s Experience When Her Husband Sustains A Farm Injury A Qualitative Research Project
Mary Hoodless, Andrea Herrin, Desley Joyce, Christine Simpson, Ann Turnbull
Health Service Provision From The Tasman Peninsula
Dr Stephen Ireland, Dr Pamela Ireland, Nubeena, Tasmania

All In A Day's Work: Comparative Case Studies In The Management Of Nursing Care In A Rural Community
Prof. Dirk Keyzer, School of Nursing, Deakin University, Warrnambool, Victoria

Difficulties Experienced By A Rural Hospital
Valerie Lang, Lismore, Victoria

Early Discharge
Sylvia Laxton OAM, National President, CWA of Australia

Stresses On Rural Communities
David Leech, Social Worker and Dr John Walters
Warwick Medical Centre, QLD

Community Health Pharmacy
Patrick Mahony, Community Pharmacist, Manilla, NSW

Community Pharmacists' Role In Medication Management
Patrick Mahony, Community Pharmacist, Manilla, NSW
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- Bush Practice At Northern Territory University: An Educational, Financial And Political Tale
  Janie Mason, Health Sciences, NT University, Darwin

- Building Health Into Our Buildings
  Thomas Moritz, Electrical Engineer, Environmental Consultant, Cheshunt, Victoria

- Information Services For Rural Health: The Bibliography Of Rural Health
  Anna Nichols, Dept. of Social and Preventative Medicine, University of QLD, Brisbane

- Information Services For Rural Health: The Rural Research Profile, 1994
  Anna Nichols, Dept. of Social and Preventative Medicine, University of QLD, Brisbane

- Man The Machine: Research Into Rural Men's Health
  Bill O'Hehir, Psychologist, Mount Gambier, SA

- Impact Of Rural Health Changes In South Australia
  Jan Sneyd, Chairman, Upper and Mid North Rural Justice Committee, Booleroo Centre, SA

- The Bachelor Of Indigenous Health Studies Program
  Irene Stein, Dept of Nursing, University of Wollongong
  Russell Gluck, Aboriginal Education Centre, University of Wollongong
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- **The Best For The Bush**
  *Allan Thomson, Executive Director, Australian Council of the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, Sydney*

- **Mental Health Training For Rural Health Workers**
  *Judy Tilley and Judy Muirhead, Mackay Mental Health Services, Queensland*

- **Continuing Education In Emergency Medicine For Rural General Practitioners**
  *Dr Helen Tolhurst, Dr Graeme Choat, Jenny Williams, Hunter Rural Division of General Practice, Cessnock, NSW*

- **Assisting Farmers With Disabilities To Return To Work**
  *Cam Wright, Rehabilitation Counsellor, Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service, Gympie, QLD*

**SECTION 12**

**PAPERS FROM THE WALL POSTERS**

- **Community Liaison Pharmacy At A Regional Base Hospital**
- **Rural General Practice Term Education Release Program**
- **Rural Pharmacists Australia (RPA) Special Interest Group (SIG)**
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- Education And Support For Rural And Remote Social Workers, Welfare And Other Community Workers
- Rural Health Project
- The Royal College Of Nursing
- East Gippsland Municipalities Human Services Committee Inc

SECTION 13 - LIST OF CONFERENCE DELEGATES

- List Of Participants

SECTION 14

- INFORMATION ON THE NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH ALLIANCE (NRHA)
- LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS
- CONFERENCE PHOTO ALBUM