



Education Projects
The University of Queensland

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Newsletter No 14

June 2009

Farewell Jean Martin & Dale Symons & welcome Shaun Stanton



Jean & Dale will be missed

For the first time in a good number of years, the unit has experienced some staff change. Both Ms Jean Martin and Mr Dale Symons have resigned and now moved on to other organisations in Brisbane. We wish them both the very best with their new positions and look forward to continued contact and

collaboration. We also take this opportunity to introduce our

newest member of the team, Shaun Staunton. Shaun will be looking after much of the HIV education as well as some other projects in the unit. Taking the opportunity to slightly restructure the unit, the team are now looking to fill a part time research assistant position to lead this emerging component of the unit. If you know anyone with an interest in this area please contact **Steve Lambert** on

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Education in the Torres Strait

In May 2009 the team at the HIV & HCV Education Projects again staged a very successful three day education workshop on HIV and Sexual Health on Thursday

Island. This course has now been delivered three years in a row and continues to attract participants from the Torres Strait and Far North Queensland.





2009 Meeting of HIV Clinicians

The one-day 'Inaugural Meeting of HIV Clinicians' was held on Wednesday 20th May 2009. This day was funded by Queensland Health and was attached to the annual 'Meeting of Sexual Health Clinicians' that was staged on the two following days. 71 participants attended the day from all over

Queensland. The meeting was open to health workers currently working in the HIV sector. This included HIV and sexual health physicians; HIV and sexual health nurses; Infectious Diseases physicians and registrars; Immunologists; and General Practitioners and other community based HIV prescribers.

Specific invites were directed to Indigenous Project Officers working in HIV and sexual health. 2 personnel from each service were funded by Queensland Health to attend. Additional personnel were able to attend however needed to be funded locally. Presentations are available on our web site.

2009 HIV & Sexual Health Research Forum

Attached to the Sexual Health Clinician's meeting was a half-day mini research forum. This was evaluated extremely favourably with many suggestions that the concept should be repeated and possibly

be included as a standard feature of this meeting. Research topic presented were from the areas of HIV and sexual health and presenters came from Griffith University, University of Queensland, Queensland

University of Technology, AIDS Medical Unit, Townsville, Gold Coast and Brisbane Sexual Health and Family Planning Queensland. Research presentations are available on our web site.

ASHM Meeting

The HIV & HCV Education Projects have continued to provide organisational and logistic support to hold clinical meetings funded by the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM).

Since the beginning of 2009, x have been staged in Queensland – one in Brisbane with Dr Michelle Giles on 18th Feb and one in Cairns with Prof Martyn French on 23rd April. The deci-

sion to move some of these clinical meetings away from the South East corner of the state has been greatly appreciated. More meetings are set for the second half of the year.



2009 Meeting of Sexual Health Clinicians

The 2009 Meeting of Sexual Health Clinicians was staged in Brisbane on Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd of May 2009. This was the Ninth annual meeting to be funded through the Communicable Diseases Branch, Queensland Health. The University of Queensland, School of Medicine HIV & HCV

Education Projects was funded by Queensland Health to develop, implement, facilitate and evaluate the two-day meeting. In total 95 participants attended the day and the meeting was open to health workers currently working in the HIV sector. This included representatives from each of the 16 sexual

health services; 6 Family Planning Queensland services; the AIDS Medical Unit; the Brisbane Sexual Health and AIDS Counselling Service. Specific invites were directed to Indigenous Project Officers working in sexual health. 2 personnel from each service were funded by Queensland Health to attend. Presentation are available on our web site.



HIV & HCV Testing Policy

Three courses explaining the HIV and hepatitis C testing policies have been staged across the state. In February a course was held in Brisbane and in June a course was held at Tweed Heads. As

well as the staging of these courses, the unit has been working on developing fact sheets about these testing policies. These shall be released in the near future.



News letter by email

Our project continues its efforts in recycling and 'going green' To minimise the paper used, if you would like to receive this newsletter by email rather than via Australia post we

would love to hear from you. If you could nominate an email address that we can send this newsletter to our staff and the trees would be very happy.



ETHOS Course

A successful Workshop on 'Enhancing Treatment for Hepatitis C in Opioid Substitution Settings' (ETHOS) was staged in Brisbane on 18 February this year. This education activity was a component of a broader initiative being undertaken by the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (NCHECR) and funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing. NCHECR contracted the HIV & HCV Educa-

tion Projects, School of Medicine, The University of Queensland to design a locally relevant program; to source local presenters; to recruit participants to the workshop; and to facilitate, stage and evaluate the workshop. This is one of several workshops conducted across Australia in the last 12 months as part of this broader initiative.

The primary aim of the ETHOS project was to im-

prove HCV treatment uptake and outcomes in opioid substitution settings. This translates to more patients on methadone or buprenorphine being assessed and referred for HCV treatment, and more taking up and completing HCV treatment.

On the day, 41 participants attended. This included 14 Medical Practitioners, 25 nurses, 1 psychologist and 1 pharmacist. The course was the most highly evaluated and strongly attended of any of the courses offered across the country.

Deadly Sex

The HIV & HCV Education Projects, again was contracted by the Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Queensland Health and the Deadly Sex Congress Committee to organise, facilitate and evaluate three

days of education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sexual Health Workers from across Queensland. This year this was staged in March 08 in Cairns and the Congress evaluated very successfully.

ATSICHET

The unit has entered into a collaborative arrangement with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation for Health Education and Training (ATSICHET) and Family Planning

Queensland (FPQ) to design the curriculum for a newly developed Certificate IV Short Course in Sexual Health. This is the first course of this type in Australia. The course is to be deliv-

ered in six blocks, two of which are by distance learning. The first three blocks were delivered in the first half of 2009 and the remainder will be delivered in the second half.



HIV Nursing Practice Course

The annual 'HIV Nursing Practice Course' is this year being staged on Thursday 30 and Friday 31 July 2009 at the UQ School of Medicine. This is the first time the course is be

staged on a week-day and is an attempt to examine whether education activities currently being staged on weekends present disadvantages to enrolment. If you are eligible to attend the course

and have not yet enrolled, please contact **Steve Lambert** on s.lambert@uq.edu.au



Hobart HCV Course

The HIV & HCV Education Projects continues to be contacted to assist with the delivery of education and evaluation across the country. The latest approach

has been from the Tasmanian Department of Health to develop and stage a one day update on hepatitis C treatment initiatives, including shared care in

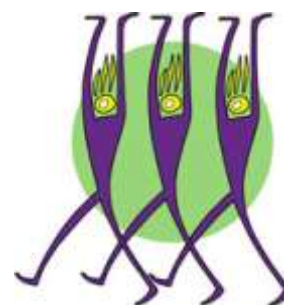
Hobart on Wed 24th June. Qld Nursing and Medical presenters travelled with Ms Sam White to Hobart to assist with the delivery of this course.

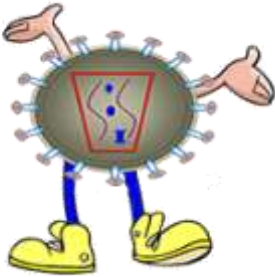
Queensland Positive Speakers Bureau

The Queensland Positive Speaker's Bureau moves from strength to strength with the coordinator of the Bureau now pro-

actively sourcing speaking engagements from schools across the South East. Plans are to extend this to other areas of

the state as more speakers are sourced.





HIV Review

The external review of the education in HIV offered by the HIV & HCV Education Projects is well underway and almost reaching conclusion. The external reviewers, Drs Anne Mijch and Olga Vujovic have visited Queensland a number of times

to attend the education activities offered by the unit. From the findings of this review, recommendations for change will be made to Queensland Health in anticipation of a revised funding agreement in 2010. If you have not yet had an

opportunity to chat with the reviewers and would like to discuss topics with them, please contact **Steve Lambert** on s.lambert@uq.edu.au and he shall forward on your email.

HIV & Wellness this year examining cardiovascular risk

The HIV & Wellness workshop this year will be staged on Saturday 18th July and continues the emphasis on wellness by discussing modifiable cardiovascular risk factors for PLWHIV. This

workshop explores topics including smoking, drugs, exercise and lipid lowering treatments through the eyes of a client and presented as a case study format. As this is the next

course following the distribution of this newsletter, enclosed is an application form for your information.

Conferences

Australian HIV / AIDS Conference 2009

21st annual Conference of the Australian Society for HIV Medicine, Brisbane Convention Centre 9th to the 12th September
Web: www.hivaidsconference.com.au



Australian Sexual Health Conference 2009

Brisbane Convention Centre, 7th to the 9th September
Web: www.sexualhealthconference.com.au

Facilitations Activities

The HIV & HCV Education Projects has developed a strong reputation in effective outcome – focussed facilitation. In 2009, members of the team have facilitated events across the state on a 'fee for service' basis including:

One Day Medical advisory panel strategic planning meeting

A two day Child Protection Liaison Officer workshop for - 60 participants.

A two day Maternity Workshop for 90 participants

If your organisation requires outside outcome-focussed facilitation for any event please contact any members of the HIV & HCV Education Projects.



Sexual Health Society Queensland

After a long period of stability and all positions being filled, the Sexual Health Society of Queensland (SHSQ) has at least two vacant positions on the committee this year – Secretary and Treasurer - and it is

time for some 'new blood' to nominate for these or any positions on the committee. If you are a member of the SHSQ, please consider nominating for the committee prior to the AGM on

Saturday
8th August
2009.



Purchase Our Services

Does your organisation need customised workplace clinical training in the areas of HIV, Hepatitis and Sexual Health? Due to changed funding mechanisms we are now able to offer as-

sistance on a 'fee for service' basis. We are also able to assist in Event Management, Facilitation, Resourcing and Monitoring & Evaluation for your next training session. To obtain a copy of

our newly developed prospectus, please phone **Sam White** on 07 3346 4813 or email s.white@uq.edu.au.



The **HIV & HCV Education Projects of the School of Medicine** specialises in the provision of quality evidence-based clinical education for the complete range of health care professional areas of expertise, specialising in the domains of HIV, sexual health, and viral hepatitis. We are able to design customised education activities for specific clients and topics



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**Queensland
Government**
Queensland **Health**



**THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND**
AUSTRALIA

Website Update

The website of the unit is continually updated as a result of the unit having a resident IT specialist – **Brad Reuter**.

Check out the website for latest courses, information, PowerPoint's and evaluations from previous activities, as well as links to other sites that offer education and training.

A Change of Address

If you have recently changed or are about to change your contact details please use our fax sheet or email **Brad Reuter**: b.reuter@uq.edu.au to let us know. This will ensure that we continue to keep you updated on the latest courses being offered and information regarding the unit.

