



The Consortium for **Social and Policy Research** on **HIV, Hepatitis C** and **Related Diseases**

Workshop Research with Injectors: What are the issues?

Thursday 30 September

Dockside, Cockle Bay, Sydney

Aims

- ▶ To explore innovative methods for research with people engaging in highly stigmatised and illegal behaviours;
- ▶ To explore locally practical and methodological issues in this research in terms of ethical implications, consumer involvement and dissemination; and
- ▶ To explore locally applicable and relevant questions and methods for innovative research work with people who inject drugs.

Introduction and framework for the workshop

Research with people who inject drugs is challenging on many levels. In public health terms, there are many potential impacts on the health and well-being of people who inject drugs which could be the focus of research.

This workshop aims to discuss both the practical and methodological issues in research with injectors as well as draw out main priorities for research in this area. The workshop presenters will discuss the aspects of their research work that goes beyond typical research.

Delegate profile: who should attend?

The workshop has been designed for delegates with an active interest in social research in the area of injecting drug use. Employees of research centres, area health services and government and non government organisations should apply.

Guest Speakers

Philippe Bourgois (University of California San Francisco) Philippe Bourgois has conducted fieldwork in Central America and in the urban United States. Philippe is currently conducting participant-observation fieldwork in the shooting encampments of homeless heroin injectors for an HIV-prevention study funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Lisa Maher (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research) Lisa Maher is an Associate Professor at the NCHECR and in the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at the UNSW and an Honorary Associate of the Centre for Harm Reduction at the Burnet Institute. She has experience in research, program development and service delivery to sentinel groups such as injecting drug users, sex workers and marginalised youth and has worked as a technical advisor to WHO and AusAID.

Susan Carruthers (Curtin University) Susan Carruthers is a Research Fellow at the National Drug Research Institute. Her major interests are in the area of injecting drug use with particular reference to risks associated with hepatitis C. Over the past five years Susan has been responsible for the coordination of a number of state and national projects and is currently working on two projects, one involving prevention of hepatitis C from the perspective of injecting drug users who are already infected with hepatitis C and the other involving a randomised controlled trial of a video based prevention program targeting novice injectors.

Ingrid van Beek (Kirketon Road) Ingrid van Beek is the Medical Director of the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Center and Director of the Kirketon Road Centre in Kings Cross. She is a graduate of the University of New South Wales and an internationally recognised authority in harm reduction.

Craig Fry (Turning Point) Craig Fry is a Senior Research Fellow at Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre and Fellow, Department of Public Health, University of Melbourne. His recent ethics research has focused on participant payment issues, ethical guidelines for drug epidemiological research and the profile and practice of ethics in the alcohol and other drugs field.

Andrew Trist (NUAA) Andrew Trist works at the NSW Users and AIDS Association. NUAA is a peer-based drug user organisation with a primary aim of preventing and reducing transmission of blood-borne viruses among people who inject illicit drugs and to ameliorate the negative impact of such conditions among those already infected.

Carla Treloar (NCHSR) Carla Treloar is a Research fellow at the NCHSR. Carla heads the hepatitis C research stream and manages a range of projects across the spectrum of harm reduction and in the area of living with hepatitis C. Her background is in health psychology and public health.

<http://theconsortium.nchsr.arts.unsw.edu.au>

Cost

There is a registration fee of \$55 (including GST) per participant per workshop.

You may be eligible for funding from NSW Health Workforce Development Program to attend. Funding covers registration fees and, where appropriate, travel and accommodation costs. Check the guidelines for applying for a WDP Grant in the *WDP Training Directory* or at www.wdp.nsw.gov.au

Registration

To register, please send an email to Rodney McDonald at rodney.mcdonald@unsw.edu.au and include your name, job title, the organisation you work for, postal address and contact phone numbers (work and mobile) in the email.

Please note: there are strictly limited numbers and delegates will be selected on a first come first serve basis contingent on them meeting the delegate profile above. **Registrations open on August 30 and close on September 27.**

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