

# Population Health Research Group

Annual Report 2007



Faculty of Computing Health and Science



**UNIVERSITY RESEARCH GROUPS, CENTRES AND INSTITUTES**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

**CENTRE NAME: Population Health Research Group**

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**Level I Research Group**

X

**Level II Research Centre:**

**Level III Research Institute:**

**BRIEF OVERVIEW**

The Population Health Research Group (PHRG) was formed in January 2005 and brought together the skills of various people that deal with the health of populations. The key areas of research strength within PHRG revolved around environmental health (including Occupational / environmental health risk assessment), women's health with a particular focus on family and domestic violence and reproductive issues; alcohol and other substance use; health services management, adult health promotion; and occupational safety and health - and the linkages between these.

Members are actively involved in industry, community, government and professional groups including in the area of road safety, prevention of and early intervention into family and domestic violence and child abuse and neglect, alcohol and other drug issues, environmental health and occupational hygiene and work alongside the community to provide research and evidence to inform practice.

In 2006 the Health Services Management staff established their own research group, however the remaining members of the PHRG have managed to establish a stable core group of members and they have continued to improve in terms of research income, and outcomes, particularly in the area of post graduate research completions.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Dr Colleen Fisher  
Dr Jacques Oosthuizen  
Dr David Ryder  
Dr Shelley Beatty  
Ms Jodi Linto  
Ms Jill Darby  
Ms Leesa Bonniface  
Martyn Cross  
Dr Kaniz Gausia & Mahama Saaka (PhD students)

## **GRANTS**

Rio Tinto (\$48 654). **Oosthuizen, J.** and Lynn, T. Rio Tinto; (2007), An investigation into the health effects of occupational exposure to black shale at Mt Tom Price Operations, Tom Price Western Australia.

Lotterywest (\$102,660-00). **Fisher, C.** in collaboration with ASSeTS. Understandings of Family & Domestic Violence in Emerging African Communities (Research component: \$49,642-26)

Department for Child Protection (\$30,000-00) **Fisher, C.**, Guilfoyle, A., & O'Connor, M., Evaluation of I&IE SAAP V Early Intervention Outreach Programmes.

WA Police (\$40,000) **Fisher, C., Ryder, D.**, Guilfoyle, A., O'Connor, M., Darby, Design, Conduct, Interpreting of Results and Report on an Evaluation Strategy for the "Fit for Life" Workplace Health Program.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

**Fisher, C.**, Fenwick, J. & Hauck, Y. (2006). How social context impacts on women fears of childbirth: a Western Australian example. *Social Science & Medicine*, 63(1). 64-75.

**Gausia, K., Fisher, C.**, Algin, S. & **Oosthuizen, J.** (2007). Validation of the Bangla version of the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale for Bangladeshi sample. *Journal of Reproductive & Infant Psychology*, 25(4). 308-315.

**Fisher, C.**, Hunt, L., Adamsam, R. & Thurston, W. (2007). 'Health's a difficult beast': The interrelationship between family and domestic violence and health. The Western Australian situation. *Social Science and Medicine*, 65(8). 1742-1750.

**Gausia, K.,** Hamadani, J., Islam, M.M., Ali, M., Algin, S., Yumus, M., **Fisher, C., & Oosthuizen, J.** (2007). Prevalence of and Risk Factors for Postnatal Depression (PND) among Bangladeshi Women. *Psychiatry Investigation*, 4 (Supp 1). 107

O'Connor, M., Guilfoyle, A., Breen, L., Mukhardt, F. & **Fisher, C.** (2007). Relationships between Quality of Life, Spiritual Well-being and Psychological Adjustment Styles for People Living with Leukaemia: An Exploratory Study. *Mental Health, Religion & Culture*, 10(6). 631-647.

**Gausia, K.,** Hamadhani, J. D., Islam, M. M., Ali, M., Algin, S., Yunus, M. **Fisher, C., & Oosthuizen, J.** (2007). Bangla translation, adaptation and piloting of Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale. *Bangladesh Medical Research Council Bulletin*, 33(3), 81-87.

Bright, S.J., McKillop, D. & **Ryder, D.** (2007). Current understanding and future direction of the Trans-Theoretical model: The role of adolescent egocentrism. *Australian Educational and Developmental Psychologist*, 24 (2). 25-43.

Alam, N., Rahman, M., **Gausia, K.,** Yunus, MD., Islam, N., Chaudhury, P., Monira, S., Funkhouse, E., Vermund, S.H., Killewo, J. (2007). Sexually transmitted infections and risk factors among truck stand workers in Dhaka, Bangladesh. *Sex Transm Dis*, 34(2). 99-103.

Wing, H., **Oosthuizen, J.** (2007). Exposure assessment; a case study. *Environmental Health*, 7(1). 22 - 34.

Paul, S., **Oosthuizen, J.** (2007). Effectiveness of Online Vs Paper Based Post Graduate Courses in Occupational, Environmental Safety and Health at Edith Cowan University, Western Australia. *Safety in Australia*, 29(2). 19-25.

## **Reports**

**Fisher, C.,** Guilfoyle, A., & O'Connor, M. (2007). SAAP V Innovation and Investment Fund Family and Domestic Violence Pilot Outreach Projects Evaluation. Interim Report. Unpublished Report, Perth, Edith Cowan University.

**Fisher, C.,** Guilfoyle, A., O'Connor, M., O'Loughlin, M., **Ryder, D., & Darby, J.,** (2007). Report on the Findings of a Needs Assessment - 'Fit for Life' Comprehensive Workplace Health Promotion Program, WA Police. Unpublished Report, Perth, Edith Cowan University.

**Fisher, C.,** Darby, J., Guilfoyle, A., O'Connor, M. & **Ryder, D.** (2007). Report on the Evaluation Strategy for Fit for Life Health Promotion Program. Perth, WA: Police Department of Western Australia. (*Bulletin of the Australian Psychological Society*) 28(6). 14-15.

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

**Fisher, C., O'Connor, M., Guilfoyle, A., & Maasen, M. (2007).** 'A Foot In Two Worlds': Young Women And Identity Construction In The Context Of Cancer. Joint SAANZ & TASA Conference, Auckland NZ.

**Gausia, K., Fisher, C., & Oosthuizen, J. (2007).** Prevalence of and Risk Factors for Post Natal Depression among Bangladeshi women. World Psychiatry Association Conference, Seoul South Korea. (*Paper received WPA Scientific excellence award*).

**Gausia, K., Fisher, C., Ali, M., and Oosthuizen, J. (2007).** Depression in Pregnancy among rural Bangladeshi women: a community-based study Fourth Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights (APCRSH), Hyderabad, India.

Lynn T.F., **Oosthuizen, J.**, and Lindars, E. (2007). An investigation into the health effects of occupational exposure to pyritic black shale at Mt Tom Price Operations, Tom Price Western Australia. 25<sup>th</sup> Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists Conference. Melbourne, Australia.

**Ryder, D. (2007).** Australia's approach to alcohol and other drug use: An overview. Department of Psychology, University of Northern Kentucky.

**Ryder, D., Bright, S. & McKillop, D. (2007)** Stages of change, cognitive egocentrism and cigarette use. Department of Psychology, University of Northern Kentucky.

**Bonniface, L., & Green, L. (2007).** Online Community: The near death experience – masks and miscommunication. IADIS International Conference, Web Based Communities, Salamanca, Spain.

### **HIGHER DEGREES BY RESEARCH (HDR) LOAD**

Dr Kaniz Gausia (PhD)  
Mr Martin Cross (PhD)  
Mr Ian Douglas (PhD)  
Ms Ellie Kirov (PhD)  
Mr Mahama Saaka (PhD)  
Ms Trish Prosser (PhD)  
Ms Deborah Kaercher (PhD)  
Ms Jane Namasasu (PhD)  
Ms Marika Guggisberg (PhD)  
Ms Kelly Gibson (PhD)  
Ms Kaia Evans (PhD)  
Ms Mary O'Loughlin (MPH)  
Mr Tristan Lynn (MPH)  
Ms Laura Bond (MPH)  
Mr David Nastau (MPH)  
Ms Patricia Cardoso (MPH)  
Mr Dane Waters (Honours)  
Ms Marissa McDonald (Honours)  
Ms Gemma Maletesta (Honours)  
Ms Amy McAlpine (Honours)  
Ms Jelica Grbic (Honours)  
Ms Lucie Dann (Honours)

### **HIGHER DEGREES BY RESEARCH (HDR) COMPLETIONS**

#### **PHD**

Prosser, T. (2007). Utilisation of health services: How gender and education level affect the use of health and medical services and health seeking behaviour in rural areas in Kenya. PHD: Edith Cowan University.

Gausia, K. (2007). Epidemiology of postnatal depression in rural Bangladesh.

Saaka, M. (2007). Effect of prenatal Zinc supplementation on malaria morbidity, pregnancy anaemia and birth weight.

Douglas, I. (2007). The mining and resource contractors' safety training association (MARCSTA) and the efficacy of a generic occupational health and safety induction system when used across an industry.

#### **Masters**

Meier, S. (2007). Comparative assessment of the effectiveness of online VS paper based post graduate courses in occupational and environmental safety and health at ECU, Perth, WA.

### **Honours**

Lucie Dann. (2007). An exploration into the motivations for long-term heroin abstinence. Bachelor of Arts (Psychology): Honours thesis (First Class). Edith Cowan University.

Jelica Grbic. (2007). Year Eight Students' Experiences of Primary School to High School Transition and Attitudes Towards Alcohol and Other Drug Use. Bachelor of Arts (Psychology): Honours thesis (Upper Second). Edith Cowan University.

Amy McAlpine. (2007). The Effect of Brief Education, Dispositional and Demographic Variables on Attitudes Toward Harm Minimisation Among a University Sample Population. Bachelor of Arts (Psychology): Honours thesis (Upper Second). Edith Cowan University.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION**

Members have ongoing engagement and collaboration with the following organisations and individuals locally, nationally and internationally:

#### **Academic (Australia)**

University of WA  
Child Health Promotion Research Centre, ECU  
National Drug Research Institute  
University of Southern Queensland  
ANAPHI – Australian Network of Academic Public health Institutions

#### **Community/Industry**

Rio Tinto – pilbara iron  
National Heart Foundation  
National Dress Red for Women Advisory Committee  
HeartNET Community  
CREATEC  
CSBP  
Telethon Institute for Child Health Research  
Mission Australia  
The Smith Family  
RACWA  
Australian Health Promotion Association  
Public Health Association of Australia  
Injury Control Council of WA  
Orana House Inc  
ASeTTS  
Australian institute of Environmental Health  
Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists

**Government**

West Coast TAFE  
WA Department of Health  
Road Safety Council of WA  
City of Stirling Road Safety Committee  
Department for Child Protection  
Department for Communities

**International**

NHS Institute for Innovation & Improvement, UK  
Warwick University UK  
Henley Management College, London  
University of Calgary, Canada  
Ministry of Public Health, Thailand  
BRAC, Bangladesh