CLOSING THE GAP: THE NEED TO CONSIDER PERCEPTIONS ABOUT DRINKING WATER IN RURAL ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES IN NSW

This Perspective article reviews the literature to shed light on the need to consider NSW Aboriginal perceptions about drinking water and its acceptability. The authors urge more dialogue and research, and a policy focus that includes partnerships with discrete NSW Aboriginal communities to develop a deeper understanding of perceptions of drinking water and encourage consumption of safe water.


U AND ME CAN STOP HIV: FINAL REPORT

This high level summit looked at the underlying burden of sexually transmissible infections (STIs) and blood borne viruses (BBVs) within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, and considered the risk factors for potential outbreaks. The report outlines a suite of recommendations around HIV, STIs and viral hepatitis, which should be considered when developing future public health policy.

Read more...
RECENT ARTICLES

NB. Articles in dark blue or bold text have Australian content


Child and adolescent psychiatric clinics of North America, 25(2)2016 - Substance use disorders, part 1


Wright, P. (2016) Potential risks and benefits of nanotechnology: perceptions of risk in sunscreens. MJA, 204(10), 369–370


Cuppen, B. et al. (2016) Personalized biological treatment for rheumatoid arthritis: a systematic review with a focus on clinical applicability. Rheumatology, 55(5), 826–839


NB. Articles listed in the newsletter aren’t necessarily available FREE. We’re just letting you know what’s available! If you’ve checked HNEH Libraries’ e-journals portal (found under ‘e-Journals’ in the Quick Links box on our website) and can’t find the article, contact your local HNEH Library for further assistance. (Contact details—p.4) HNEH Libraries will be able to supply most articles—but there may be changes.

KEY FINDINGS: NATSISS 2014-15

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) was conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, from September 2014–June 2015 with a sample of 11,738 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in private dwellings across Australia. The NATSISS is a six-yearly multidimensional social survey which provides broad, self-reported information across key areas of social interest for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, primarily at the national level and by remoteness.

NEW GUIDELINE: MANAGING CO-OCcurring ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS


WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION ABOUT DRUGS

Good medicines information is critical to medical practice. Choose high-quality, pre-appraised sources first and make sure they are current. Read more...

NEW AUDIO DIGEST CDs (PSYCHIATRY)

Psychiatric disorders in children and adolescents 45(12) 2016

Conversion disorder: unifying principles / diagnostic criteria / the role of hypnosis / The Salem witch trials / clinical implications.

Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder: description / research results / management

DO-NOT-ATTEND-CARDIOPULMONARY-RESUSCITATION DECISIONS

This evidence synthesis found that structured discussions about ‘Do-not-attend-cardiopulmonary-resuscitation’ (DNACPR) at admission to hospital or following deterioration improved patient involvement and decision-making. Linking DNACPR to planning. Linking DNACPR to medical decision making. Linking DNACPR to multidisciplinary team. Linking DNACPR to advance care planning. Linking DNACPR to do not attempt resuscitation. Linking DNACPR to choice of treatment settings.

LOCAL RESEARCH: SHOULD WE TREAT OBESITY IN COPD?

Obesity is an established risk factor for poor health outcomes, but paradoxically in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), it is associated with improved survival and lung function. A major evidence gap exists to inform treatment recommendations for patients with COPD who are obese. The authors aimed to determine the effect of weight reduction involving a low-energy diet utilizing a partial meal replacement plan, coupled with resistance exercise training in obese COPD patients.

Clinical outcomes improved with weight loss including exercise capacity, health status, dyspnea, strength and functional outcomes. There was also a significant reduction in the body mass index, obstruction, dyspnea and exercise score (BODE). Skeletal muscle mass was maintained. Systemic inflammation measured by C-reactive protein however did not change. This novel study provides a framework for development of guidelines for the management of obese COPD patients and in guiding future research.

SOURCE: Vanessa McDonald, Peter Gibson, Hayley Scott, Penelope Baines, Michael Hensley, Jeffrey Presto & Lisa Wood (2016) Should we treat obesity in COPD? The effects of diet and resistance exercise training. Respirology, 21(5), 875-882

NEW EJNL ACCESS VIA CLINICALKEY

Several articles will now have the following notation under the citation (source information):

Available via ClinicalKey for Nursing—go to HNEH Libraries ejnl portal.

Follow the link and search by the journal title. Find out more about ClinicalKey on page 4.

COCHRANE FINDS NO EVIDENCE FOR PRN MEDICATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH INPATIENTS

‘As required’ or ‘Pro re nata’ (PRN) medications are a widely used intervention in mental health wards. Most service users will receive extra medication during an inpatient admission—often within the early days of an admission, and the drugs given will most likely be lorazepam, haloperidol, olanzapine, or sleeping tablets.

For some service users, access to PRN medication is a helpful way to manage distress or feelings of agitation, and of all coercive interventions used on wards PRN is one of the least restrictive, and has higher approval rates. However, there is little evidence to support the practice of using medication ‘as required’.


INVESTIGATING THE EFFECT OF EMDR ON POST-OPERATIVE PAIN INTENSITY IN ADOLESCENTS UNDERGOING SURGERY

Eye Movement Desensitization & Reprocessing (EMDR) is an inexpensive, non-pharmacological intervention that has successfully been used to treat chronic pain. It holds promise in the treatment of acute, postsurgical pain based on its purported effects on the brain and nervous system.

A randomized controlled trial of fifty-six adolescent surgical patients (12-18 years) was carried out to investigate the efficacy of EMDR for postoperative pain management in adolescents. The EMDR group experienced a significant reduction in pain intensity after treatment intervention, whereas the control group did not. These results suggest that EMDR may be an effective treatment modality for postoperative pain.


PET-CT SURVEILLANCE VS NECK DISSECTION IN ADVANCED HEAD & NECK CANCER

Survival was similar among patients with advanced head and neck cancer who underwent PET-CT-guided surveillance, and those who underwent planned neck dissection. But surveillance resulted in considerably fewer operations and was more cost-effective. The study examined the first few years of management and longer term safety, survival or quality of life differences might not have been uncovered.


NURSING TEAM LEADER HANDOVER IN THE ICU: AN OBSERVATIONAL STUDY

Despite a proliferation of evidence and the development of standardized tools to improve communication at handover, evidence to guide the handover of critical patient information between nursing team leaders in the intensive care unit is limited. The study aimed to determine the content of information handed over during intensive care nursing team leader shift-to-shift handover. Forty nursing team leader handovers were recorded resulting in 277 patient handovers and a median of 7 patients discussed at each handover. The majority of nurses discussed the identity (99%), Situation (96%) and Background (88%) of the patient, however Assessment (65%) content was varied and patient Recommendations (69%) were discussed less frequently. A diverse range of additional information was discussed that did not fit into the ISBAR (Identify-Situation-Background-Assessment-Recommendation) schema, this could lead to inadequate handovers that compromise patient safety.


MUM’S ABSENCE(S): CONCEPTUAL INSIGHTS INTO ABSENCE AS LOSS DURING A LOVED ONE’S DELIRIUM

To examine qualitative research findings about family experiences of absence or loss during older person delirium, and provide a critical discussion of the similarities and differences in these experiences with conceptual understandings of absence and loss.


TOPICAL TREATMENTS FOR SCALP PSORIASIS

The review suggests topical steroids alone or in combination with vitamin D are more effective and safer at treating scalp psoriasis than vitamin D alone. Some of the trials were industry sponsored, so we should be cautious of taking these findings at face value. An additional 24 trials were identified but unavailable for inclusion in the analysis. There is the potential that industry sponsorship favours publishing of positive results rather than negative findings.


VITAMIN D
ClinicalKey is a clinical search engine, as well as a means to access full text journal articles. It supports clinical practice by quickly providing relevant information from a range of sources. It includes local Australian content, provides access to selected medical texts and full text journals, practice guidelines, drug information, patient handouts and Continuing Medical Education (CME) materials.

ClinicalKey For Nursing provides up-to-date peer-reviewed, evidence-based information to assist with diagnosis and treatment. It includes evidence-based monographs, books, full text journals, practice guidelines, patient education handouts, images, videos, and core measures with nursing recommendations. In addition to trusted international nursing content, the database has Australian and New Zealand content including: local Australian books, journals and practice guidelines.

MIMS - Updating Australian Medicine Ingredient Names

MIMS has begun updating medicines information following the Therapeutic Goods Administration’s announcement to harmonise medicine ingredient names more closely with the International Nonproprietary Names (INN). These changes affect active ingredients (prescription and non-prescription) and excipients that are required to be included on a label or in information provided to a consumer. MIMS will be grouping medicine name changes into four stages, with the first release appearing in the July 2016 monthly update, and further changes rolled out over the next few months.

UpToDate Anywhere answers clinical questions where and when you need it.

Changes to CIAP Collections

CIAP recently completed an extensive review of their current collection, with the aim of providing the best possible collection of evidence-based decision support resources for NSW Health staff. The review was carried out in consultation with clinician working groups, specialty experts, and established networks. The result is a streamlined and optimised collection of resources – meaning some titles have been discontinued and new titles have been added. List of journal changes on CIAP or changes to book titles available via CIAP.

Assessment & Initial Management of Major Trauma: Summary of Nice Guidance

- Use direct pressure dressings, tourniquets, and pelvic binders and move rapidly to damage control surgery or interventional radiology.
- With actively bleeding patients, allow permissive hypotension and use blood rather than clear intravenous fluids.
- Use whole body computed tomography (CT) in adults with blunt trauma and multiple injuries, but avoid unnecessary CT use, especially in children.

Source: Glen, J. et al. (2016) Assessment and initial management of major trauma: summary of nice guidance. BMJ, 353/i505

Just a Few of the Books on Indigenous Health Held in HNE Health Libraries


Australia's rural, remote and Indigenous health / Janie Dade Smith (3rd ed.) 362.12642709494 SMIT 2016 Armidale, JHH & Tamworth

Health care and Indigenous Australians: cultural safety in practice / Kerry Taylor and Pauline Guerin (2nd ed.) 362.1042570994 HAMP 2013 JHH, Mater, Tamworth & Taree

Indigenous Australians and health: the wombat in the room / edited by Ron Hampton and Maree Toombs 362.849955 HAMP 2013 JHH, Mater, Tamworth & Taree

A theory for Indigenous Australian health and human service work: connecting indigenous knowledge and practice / Lorraine Muller 362.849955 MULL 2014 Mater, Tamworth & Taree

Social work with indigenous communities: a human rights approach / Linda Briskman (2nd ed.) 362.995 BRIS 2014 Mater & Tamworth

Smoking: an indigenous health challenge [videorecording] DVD 362.84/ SMOK 2013 (2 copies) Armidale