

Tracker 13 June 2008

NHMRC Partnerships information paper: Creating effective partnerships between policy and research

The aim of the [NHMRC Partnerships initiative](#) is to build more effective connections between policy makers and researchers, and to improve the availability and quality of research evidence to help inform the policy process. The initiative will provide funding and support for researchers and policy makers in defining research questions, undertaking research, and interpreting findings.

Enquiries about NHMRC Partnerships can be directed to michael.nutt@nhmrc.gov.au

PCU launch

The NHMRC Australian Health Ethics Committee launched two [publications](#) on the 19 June in Sydney; the care of people in post-coma unresponsiveness (PCU) or a minimally responsive state (MRS):

- *Ethical Guidelines for the Care of People in Post-Coma Unresponsiveness (Vegetative State) or a Minimally Responsive State* and
 - *A Guide for Families and Carers of People with Profound Brain Damage.*
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Latest NHMRC podcast: Professor Wendy Hoy on Closing the health gap for Aboriginal Australians

Australia is working harder than ever to close the health gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

Professor Wendy Hoy has spent many years researching chronic disease in indigenous populations, both in Australia and overseas.

[In this podcast](#) she talks about the root causes of poor health among Aboriginal people and how we can solve the problems.

This is the latest in the NHMRC's **Great minds in health and medical research** podcast series.

New Guidelines to promote the wellbeing of animals used for scientific purposes

The NHMRC has released new ***Guidelines to promote the wellbeing of animals used for scientific purposes: The assessment and alleviation of pain and distress in research animals, 2008.***

These [guidelines](#), to be read in conjunction with *the Australian code of practice for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes, 2004*, are designed to help institutions to minimise pain and distress in animals used for scientific purposes.

Guideline for Venous Thromboembolism Prevention

The NHMRC National Institute of Clinical Studies (NICS) is developing an evidence-based guideline for the prevention of venous thromboembolism (VTE) in hospitalised patients, for use in Australian health care. The guideline uses existing VTE prevention guidelines and adapts to the local environment using an international methodology known as **ADAPTE**. The scope and further information is available on the [NICS](#) website.

Public Consultation on the Draft Guidelines on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

In February 2007 NHMRC and the Royal Australian College of Physicians (RACP) commenced a Review of the Guidelines on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

The Draft Guidelines on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder will be released for public [consultation](#) and advertised in the Weekend Australian on Saturday 28 June 2008.

Review of the NHMRC Road Map: A Strategic Framework for Improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health through Research

The NHMRC Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Research Advisory Committee (ATSIHRAC), are currently reviewing the [NHMRC Road Map: A Strategic Framework for Improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health through Research](#).

The written submission process and public consultation is now complete.

Around 150 people participated in the workshops across Australia in Sydney, Melbourne, Alice Springs, Perth and Townsville over May and June 2008.

The report is due for release in 2009.

For more information on the review, please contact Cathy Mitchell, Director, Strategic Partnerships, on (02) 6217 9384; or e-mail: cathy.mitchell@nhmrc.gov.au

**Clinical Research Excellence Conference (CRX08) 7 – 9 August, 2008.
Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre**

NHRMC is a proud sponsor of the [Clinical Research Excellence Conference](#), CRX08 which provides a forum for extensive discussion surrounding a wide range of clinical research issues that are of key relevance to researchers, practitioners and industry.

NHMRC's CEO Professor Warwick Anderson will make a presentation about the NHMRC at this event and Professor Michael Good, Chair of the National Health and Medical Research Council, will speak about Translating Research into Policy.
