

Invitation and Registration

NT Rehabilitation Clinical Reference Group
2009 CONFERENCE

Physical and Cognitive Rehabilitation for Territorians with an Aboriginal Perspective

DARWIN

Thursday 11 June 2009 (8.00am-4.15pm)

Friday 12 June 2009 (8.00am-3.00pm)

Venue: CDU Mal Nairn Auditorium

Opening: Hon Malarndirri McCarthy, Minister
for Children & Families and Senior Territorians
Larrakia welcome to country

The large difference in the health status between Australia's Aboriginal and non-indigenous populations has been extensively documented and reported. The reasons for this disparity are multi-factorial and clearly impact upon rehabilitation service delivery. It has also been raised as a political issue which the Federal government's controversial intervention strategy is supposed to address. This conference will bring together experts in the rehabilitation field with the goal of improving rehabilitation service delivery for all Territorians, particularly Aboriginal people. It will provide participants with a chance to learn about this complex equation and to express their views.

Who should attend?

The conference is free and open to all health practitioners and stakeholders in the NT. You are welcome to extend this invitation to colleagues and those who you believe would benefit from attending.

 Northern Territory Government

What are the aims?

The primary aim of the conference is to improve rehabilitation service delivery to all Territorians and in particular Aboriginal people. It is envisaged this will be achieved by dynamic interactions involving all participants culminating in a panel discussion. As part of the presentations Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) will be discussed in order to determine whether it is a model that could be implemented more widely in the Northern Territory.

What outcomes can you expect?

Delegates can expect to learn about the best rehabilitation service delivery models for Territorians (particularly Aboriginal people) including the need for two way interaction and how agencies and support providers – including medical specialists, therapists, psychologists, consumer representatives, hospital managers, doctors, nurses, private healthcare providers, insurers and vocational staff – can best participate. It is anticipated that over 150 delegates will attend this NT conference, providing a wealth of networking opportunities.

The conference program

The fine details of the program are still being finalised, however the following speakers are confirmed: Julia Bailey, Alice Mitchell, Frances Abbott, Paul Gerken, Anne Lowell Phyllis Batumbi, Helen Guyulun, Jane galathi & Rachel Baker, Denys Spencer, Deidre Widdell, Jade Phillips & Jacqui Francis, Natalie Rowe, Minister Kon Vatskalis, Felicity Pidgeon & Michael Hodson, Joann Ahmat, Rob Curry, Tracey Symmonds, Libby Morgan, Renee Morgan, Penny Feilding.

There will be a number of case presentations, consumer and community representatives, including a panel discussion.



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We have secured highly-credentialed keynote speakers!

Mark Reid

Mark has been involved in the assessment and treatment of trauma related conditions since 1975. Originally trained as a Clinical Psychologist, he gained membership of the specialist College of Clinical Neuropsychology in the early 1980s and the College of Forensic Psychology in 1990. Much of his work has therefore centred around acquired brain injury suffered in MVAs, industrial and forensic settings. This inevitably means dealing with issues of emotional trauma and stress, both acute and post-traumatic. Having conducted regular monthly clinics in Darwin and Alice Springs for the past 19 years, Mark has inevitably been involved the Territory's indigenous population. The challenges and usefulness of this experience are examined in a critical but practical manner.

Heather Jensen

Heather has been working at the Centre for Remote Health for the last five years as the allied health academic. She is actively involved in Services for Rural and Remote Health where her work has included the development of the clinical placement scholarships, representing AHPs on the expert panel advising the Minister for Health about the emergency response, the development of a position paper on AHPs working in remote communities and a web-based education orientation program for AHPs new to remote and rural practice. She continues her OT practice through involvement with Ngaanyatjarra Health Service and is currently undertaking a project to ensure that people with disabilities in the cross border region of central Australia are able to access the equipment they need.

Kathleen Abbott

Kathy Abbott has been an aboriginal health worker for over 30 years. She graduated in 1970 through the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress in Alice Springs and progressed to be manager of the first Aboriginal Health Training Unit in Alice Springs in 1980 before joining the Tangentyere Council to deliver a family wellbeing programme. Kathy assisted in establishing the Healing Centre in Alice Springs in 2000 and continues to practice healing with traditional medicines, herbs and massage at the Wallace Rockhole Community. She has been a strong advocate for the Central Australian and Barkly Aboriginal Health Workers Association and brings a vast amount of experience of working with Aboriginal clients, families and health practitioners throughout the central Australian region.

Bilawara Lee

Bilawara Lee is a senior woman from the Larrakia Nation of Darwin, Northern Territory. She is a Cross Cultural Awareness trainer, Conflict Resolution Mediator and Registered Civil Celebrant. Bilawara has over 57 years experience working with, living in and being part of a vibrant Aboriginal family and community. She is acknowledged and respected as a community communicator and teacher of the ancient wisdoms of Aboriginal spirituality and healing. Currently the Australian Aboriginal representative for the International Gathering of Indigenous Grandmothers, who are the acknowledged wisdom keepers of the world, and Deputy President of the Zonta Club – an international woman's organisation – Bilawarra was honoured earlier this year when she received the Northern Territory Woman of the Year Award.

Robyn Glynn

Robyn Glynn is an Occupational Therapist (OT) who has been involved in the delivery of aged and disability services to people in remote indigenous communities over the past 15 years, both in the NT and more recently in Northern Queensland. Her experience over this time includes working together with indigenous clients, families and co workers whilst delivering OT services, providing education to remote allied health practitioners and working on projects to deliver a variety of services. Robyn initiated work which looked at how principles from the international "Community Based Rehabilitation" approach could be used to improve access to rehabilitation services by indigenous people living in remote areas, particularly in relation to the development of indigenous community-based worker roles.

Sponsorship & promotional opportunities

There are a limited number of sponsorship options, with a conference exhibition area available in both the Darwin and Alice Springs venues. Please call Claire Bell on 0408 821 912 if you wish to support this conference.

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Registration RSVP by Wednesday 27 May

To register your interest in attending the Conference in Alice Springs, please complete the form below and **fax it to 8942 0233** or email your details to **aap2@internode.on.net**

REGISTRATION FORM

I/we wish to attend the conference in Darwin

Contact name: _____

Company/Organisation: _____

Postal address: _____

Tel: _____ Mob: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Number of people attending: _____

Names: _____

For catering purposes please confirm your requirements below

Thursday: morning tea () lunch () afternoon tea ()

Friday: morning tea () lunch ()

Please advise if you have food allergies or special dietary requirements.

If you do not wish for your email address to be made available to conference sponsors and expo participants please advise upon registration.