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May 2016

News from ASHM; the HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health sector; a glimpse at upcoming courses; conferences and more.

ASHM NEWS

Launch of Viral Hepatitis Mentoring Program

ASHM is launching the Viral Hepatitis Mentoring Program at the Park Royal Hotel in Sydney on 1st June 2016. Viral Hepatitis Mentoring is a professional relationship in which an experienced viral hepatitis clinician and a GP working with patients with hepatitis B and/or C are linked to share knowledge, answer questions and offer clinical advice and support. The launch evening is open to anyone interested in learning more and will cover an introduction to the program, skills and techniques for creating an effective mentoring partnership, discussion of local referral pathways and an opportunity to sign up to be involved with the program. [Learn more](#)



Best in-house Meetings Management Award Win

The Conference and Events division at ASHM has won the national award for Best In-house Meeting Management Team for the third year in a row. The team also took home the awards for In-house Corporate Social Responsibility and In-house Education. The awards were given by Meetings and Events Australia (MEA) a national, independent not for profit organisation dedicated to fostering professionalism and excellence in all aspects of meetings and event management. [Learn more](#)

Bequest from the Estate of Dr Rosemary McGuckin 1958 – 2014

ASHM has received a bequest from Rosemary's estate to contribute to ASHM's work on BBV and STI as

they affect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities. The ASHM Board is discussing the establishment of a named scholarship program for health care providers working in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander BBV and STI care.

Our thanks go to Rosemary, her estate and family. Rosemary was a dear friend, close colleague and long-standing contributor to the care of people living with HIV, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, people with AIDS-related dementia and end of life and palliative care. She is sorely missed. This bequest will allow her memory and commitment to live on.

SECTOR NEWS

Report from the High Level Summit on Rising HIV, STI, and Viral Hepatitis in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities now available

An initiative of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander HIV Awareness Week (ATSIHAW), was the convening of a High Level Summit on Rising HIV, Sexually Transmissible Infections (STI) and Viral Hepatitis in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities ('The Summit'), held in Brisbane in December 2015. The Summit was one of the most important meetings in Indigenous Health, BBV and STIs in more than 30 years, and was convened in recognition of the rising rates of HIV, endemic rates of STIs in many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, as well as disproportionate rates of viral hepatitis. [Learn more and Download the Report](#)

New DAA Listings on PBS from 01 May

New direct-acting antivirals will be available from 1st May 2016 on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

These Abbvie regimens: VIEKIRA PAK® and VIEKIRA PAK-RBV® (ombitasvir/ paritaprevir/ ritonavir + dasabuvir ± ribavirin) are for the treatment of genotype 1 chronic hepatitis C infection in adults. They will be listed on both the S85 Schedule and S100 (HSD) and Authority is required.

Also currently available on the PBS website are a range of fact sheets published by the Department of Health designed to assist patients, prescribers and pharmacists with information on the new treatments for chronic Hepatitis C made available by the PBS since March 2016. Links to these, and also other new/revised hepatitis C treatment resources for practitioners, are available [here on the ASHM website](#).

Gilead Australia Fellowship is Offering \$250,000 in Research Grants

The Gilead Australia Fellowship is offering up to \$250,000 to fund research projects in HIV, viral hepatitis or haematological oncology. Applications are encouraged from researchers at Australian hospitals, clinics, universities, research institutes and professional organisations, including:

- Clinical and academic staff
- Young investigators
- Nurses
- GPs
- Other healthcare providers / researchers

[Learn more](#)

EUREKA Prize

Entries for the 2016 Australian Museum Eureka Prizes, Australia's premier national science awards, close 7pm AEST Friday 6 May 2016. Please note that the Eureka Prizes office will be staffed until 7pm to help with any last minute enquiries. Contact us on 02 9320 6483 or eureka@austmus.gov.au

A full listing of prizes is below, detailed prize and entry information is available [here](#).

NSW HIV Testing Week

NSW Ministry of Health will again deliver a marketing and communications campaign aimed to increase the frequency of HIV testing among individuals in accordance of their risk behaviours. The campaign will run from 1-7 June. NSW Health is currently working with the sector on campaign details.

VICTORIA: PhD Research Opportunities for Clinicians

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research is hosting an open forum for medical graduates to provide an opportunity to discuss the issues regarding undertaking a PhD as a part of their training and facilitating an introduction to the world of both basic and clinical translational research. Our clinician PhD students tackle important questions in cancer, immune disorders and infectious diseases. Over the past decade medically trained researchers have played a critical role in many world first medical discoveries and the institute wishes to encourage a new generation of clinicians to get involved in medical research. [Learn more](#)

Applications Open for Positive Leadership Development Institute Workshop

The Positive Leadership Development Institute (PLDI™) offers people living with HIV the opportunity to develop skills for leadership and resilience. Applications are now open for a workshop that will be held on 17-19 June 2016 in Victoria. [Application is here](#) More information is available: <http://www.pldiaustralia.org.au/>

ADVOCACY

New Submission to PBAC to Change Wording for DAA Prescribing

The wording of the conditions for the prescription of the new hepatitis C Direct Acting Antivirals (DAAs) has meant that a group of clinicians, many of whom have extensive experience in the treatment of chronic hepatitis C, have been excluded from independently prescribing. This has been most disappointing as this group has dedicated a significant amount of time to developing competency in this area. After extensive consultation, ASHM has made a submission to the PBAC to vary the wording of the treatment criteria in the general statement so as to include this group.

CONFERENCES

National Conference for the Australian Primary Healthcare Nurses Association (APNA) Conference

5-7 May 2016
MELBOURNE, VIC

Visit Nursing Project Officer, Nikitah Habraken, at booth number 35 to find out more about how the [ASHM Nursing Program](#) can support your work in HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health.

NADA Conference 2016—Integrated care: Working together to respond

to complexity

6–7 June 2016

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

This conference will feature experts from across the AOD sector speaking on a range of topics including domestic and family violence and drug and alcohol abuse; integrating sexual health and AOD treatment to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people; the intersection of father attachment and addiction; consumer perspectives: responding with integrity; responding to prescription drug misuse; and the impact of a cognitive remediation program on a therapeutic community.

[Register](#)

Abstract Deadline Extended

The abstract submission deadline for the **5th International Symposium on Hepatitis Care in Substance Users** has been extended to Friday 29 April.

With the program already full of internationally-renowned invited speakers, we have already received a number of high quality abstract submissions. With these combined, the program is sure to captivate the audience's attention with state-of-the art lectures and new research. Therefore the committee has decided to give everyone some extra time to submit and extended the deadline to Friday 29 April. There will be no more extensions so make sure you submit before the deadline to ensure you don't miss this opportunity.

URGENT Abstract Submission

The deadline of 8 May for abstract submission is upon us for **The Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference** on 29 September – 1 October 2016, at the Gold Coast Convention Centre, Queensland.

Keynote speakers announced:

- Professor Alex Thompson, Director of Gastroenterology, St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne, VIC, Australia
- Associate Professor Peter Revill, Senior Medical Scientist, Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory (VIDRL), Doherty Institute, Melbourne, VIC, Australia
- Dr Kate Seear, ARC DECRA Fellow and Senior Lecturer in Law, Monash University, VIC, Australia
- Enaam Oudih, Practice Manager, Multicultural Services, Manager BBV programs, Manager Multicultural Gambling Help Service, Relationships Australia [Sign up for the newsletter.](#)

Abstract Submission Open

Start planning your abstract now ready for the deadline of 29 May for the 2016 **Australasian Sexual Health Conference, and Australasian HIV&AIDS Conference**; 14 – 18 November 2016, at the Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, South Australia.

New speaker announced for the Australasian HIV&AIDS Conference:

- Dr. Jared Baeten, Vice Chair and Professor, Department of Global Health; Professor, Medicine and Epidemiology; University of Washington, USA [Sign up for the newsletter.](#)

COURSES

Chronic Hepatitis C: Curing Hepatitis C in 2016

02 May 2016

CAMPERDOWN, NSW

[Info & Register](#)

Chronic Hepatitis C: Curing Hepatitis C in 2016

04 May 2016

GRIFFITH, NSW

[Info & Register](#)

Hepatitis B & C Update

04 May 2016

LIVERPOOL, NSW

[Info & Register](#)

Curing Hepatitis C and Pathways to Care for Patients with Advanced Liver Disease

07 May 2016

PORT MACQUARIE, NSW

[Info & Register](#)

Hepatitis C: New Treatments Course

07 May 2016

SYDNEY, NSW

[Info & Register](#)

Western NSW Hepatitis B Webinar

10 May 2016
LIVE WEBINAR
Surry Hills, NSW
[Info & Register](#)

Chronic Hepatitis C: Curing Hepatitis C in 2016

12 May 2016
PARRAMATTA, NSW
[Info & Register](#)

Hepatitis C Nursing: Advanced Nursing Management & Treatment

19-20 May 2016
SYDNEY, NSW
[Course is Full. Join the Waiting List](#)

CEASE: Treatment of hepatitis C with Direct Acting Antivirals. Training for HIV prescribers.

21 May 2016
BYRON BAY, NSW
[Info & Register](#)

Prevent Liver Cancer: An Update on Hepatitis B for Primary Care Providers

23 May 2016
COFFS HARBOUR, NSW
[Info & Register](#)

HIV & STI Testing Webinar: Breaking down the barriers to testing

24 May 2016 6.30-8pm
Western and Far Western NSW
[Register for LIVE WEBINAR](#)

Chronic Hepatitis C: Curing Hepatitis C in 2016

26 May 2016
NEWCASTLE, NSW
[Info & Register](#)

HBV Advanced Management in Primary Care

26-27 May 2016
DARWIN, NT
[Info & Register](#)

Strategies for Preventing HIV - An Update for GPs and nurses in the South Eastern Sydney Local Health District

26 May 2016

BRIGHTON LE-SANDS, NSW

[Info & Register](#)

Hepatitis B Nursing: Advanced Nursing Management and Care

26-27 May 2016

SYDNEY, NSW

[Info & Register](#)

Chronic Hepatitis C: Curing Hepatitis C in 2016

26 May 2016

PERTH, WA

[Info & Register](#)

Hepatitis C: New Treatments

28 May 2016

PERTH, WA

[Info & Register](#)



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Supporting the HIV, Viral Hepatitis
and Sexual Health Workforce

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