



THE UNIVERSITY
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Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation

CYSAR

Annual Report 2009

**The Centre for Youth
Substance Abuse Research**

Finding Solutions, Improving Futures

About CYSAR

The Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research (CYSAR) was established in 2008. In its inaugural year it has set out to establish effective and innovative ways to approach the complex problems associated with youth substance use. CYSAR aims to promote the health and wellbeing of young people by increasing Australia's capacity to respond effectively to the harm associated with alcohol, tobacco, and other drug misuse.

The Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research (CYSAR) is a partnership between:

- Faculty of Health Sciences, The University of Queensland
- Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, Queensland University of Technology
- Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, The University of Queensland
- Institute for Social Science Research, The University of Queensland.

*CYSAR is supported
though a philanthropic
contribution from
the Graeme Wood
Foundation.*

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Message from the Deputy Executive Dean and Associate Dean, Research

The Faculty of Health Sciences is very pleased to welcome the Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research as a Faculty level Centre.

There are already substantial research linkages being formed in this area, across most of our Schools and some other Centres, as well as with other partners both within and outside UQ, notably an excellent collaboration with people at QUT. These are to be encouraged and nurtured as health reform in general takes us further in the direction of collaborations and interdisciplinary teams.

The Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research is already successful in grant applications, publications and in nurturing young researchers and students. It has achieved significant support from the Graeme Wood Foundation, and we are grateful for this ongoing commitment and for the active involvement of external partners in the Centre. The Centre fits well within the Faculty research strengths, particularly measurement and intervention around health determinants and outcomes and ensuring quality use of limited healthcare resources.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research and the staff who have been recruited to initiate and consolidate this research area.

Susan Tett
Professor, Deputy Executive Dean and Associate Dean, Research
Faculty of Health Sciences,
The University of Queensland

Director's Report



The Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research was established in 2008 through the shared vision of the Graeme Wood Foundation and Faculty of Health Sciences, The University of Queensland. Staff appointments began in 2009. In its inaugural year, the Centre has developed a reputation for effective and innovative ways of approaching the complex issues of youth substance use and misuse. This has been achieved through the recruitment of internationally recognised researchers and strong partnerships between the Queensland University of Technology (Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation), and The University of Queensland (Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences and the Institute for Social Sciences Research).

Highlights during 2009 include:

- Recruitment of a multidisciplinary research team drawn from clinical and prevention backgrounds, with a strong focus of real world applications.
- Establishment of an Advisory Board, consisting of representatives from health, university and youth sectors.
- Appointment of Honorary Professorial and Affiliated staff, strengthening the Centre's links with the community and distinguished substance use researchers.
- Consolidation of a clear strategic direction through contributions from Centre Staff and Partners, Advisory Board Members, Honorary and Affiliate staff, Health and Education Sector representatives and Mr Graeme Wood (representing the Graeme Wood Foundation).
- Strong community engagement, with Centre staff developing key strategic alliances and joint staff appointments across youth substance abuse services at the Mater Hospital and Queensland Health.
- Engagement of national and international research collaborators drawing on the Centre's expertise in health epidemiology and statistics. Staff have been invited to lead data analyses of key longitudinal and epidemiological youth substance abuse studies.
- Initial success with competitive funding applications for national grants and tenders.
- Recruitment of outstanding PhD students successful in obtaining Centre "top-up" scholarships.
- Additional funding from the Vice-Chancellors of UQ and QUT to extend this collaborative research model between the two universities.

It is a national health priority to achieve significant and sustainable change in young people's substance use. The multifaceted nature of this problem in an age group with both great opportunity and vulnerability calls for diversity in approach. This Centre's mission is to find solutions and improve the future of young people. We have established a group of talented researchers working at the forefront of addiction science. Looking forward to and beyond 2010, the challenge remains that good science be translated to change that makes a difference.

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Connor'.

Jason Connor
Associate Professor, Director, CYSAR
Faculty of Health Sciences, University
of Queensland

What does CYSAR do?

CYSAR seeks to create new knowledge that will positively influence young people's health and well-being. CYSAR aims to:

- Understand the pathways to substance misuse among young people
- Be at the cutting edge of research into new and innovative ways of preventing and treating substance misuse among young people
- Make significant and tangible improvements to youth service provision
- Influence state and national drug strategy relating to youth substance misuse, its policing, prevention and treatment through information dissemination, policy refinement and public advocacy.

Why is youth substance abuse research important?

It is not uncommon for young people to experiment with alcohol and other drugs. Current figures indicate that 1 in 5 students between the ages of 12 and 17 years have used an illicit substance. While this may be a transitional phase, the costs are considerable. Alcohol and other drugs are major contributors to causes of death and hospitalisations of young Australians. A significant number of road injury, suicide, violence and drowning events can be attributed to intoxication. Early initiation to alcohol and drugs is a predictor of future harmful patterns of substance use, as well as physical and mental health problems. The negative outcomes of youth substance abuse also extend to families and the wider community. These health, social and economic costs are preventable. Research is essential to inform approaches to prevent young people at risk of developing substance use problems and to provide effective treatments for those currently engaging in problematic use.

CYSAR'S vision is to promote the health and wellbeing of young people by increasing Australia's capacity to respond effectively to the harm associated with alcohol, tobacco, and other drug misuse.

***CYSAR'S mission:
Finding Solutions,
Improving Futures***



CYSAR's Team

In its inaugural year, the Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research has brought together a multidisciplinary team, including the CYSAR Advisory Board, CYSAR Partners, and CYSAR staff and students.

CYSAR Advisory Board

CYSAR Advisory Board Members represent national experts in health, youth and substance abuse. Board members help to shape CYSAR's research agenda, distribute research findings to key stakeholders, and advise staff on Centre activities.

CYSAR Partners

CYSAR Partners include the Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation at the Queensland University of Technology and The University of Queensland's Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences and Institute for Social Science Research. These partnerships have made it possible to draw together the research and clinical expertise of internationally regarded Australian scholars in the field of substance use disorders.

CYSAR Staff

CYSAR Staff fall into three categories: CYSAR based, partner-institution based, and staff formally appointed as 'affiliated' with CYSAR. The Centre has been successful in recruiting leading researchers in the field of substance abuse within its first year of operation.

Students

CYSAR has advertised 3 PhD top-up scholarships to stimulate new research from the very best PhD candidates around Australia and overseas.

(Clockwise from left back row): Ross Young#, Adrian Kelly, Jason Connor, Peter Baker, Martin O'Flaherty, Matt Gullo*, David Kavanagh#, Kate van Dooren*, Lauren Rose, Suzi George, Rosa Alati, Lake-Hui Quek, Angela White.

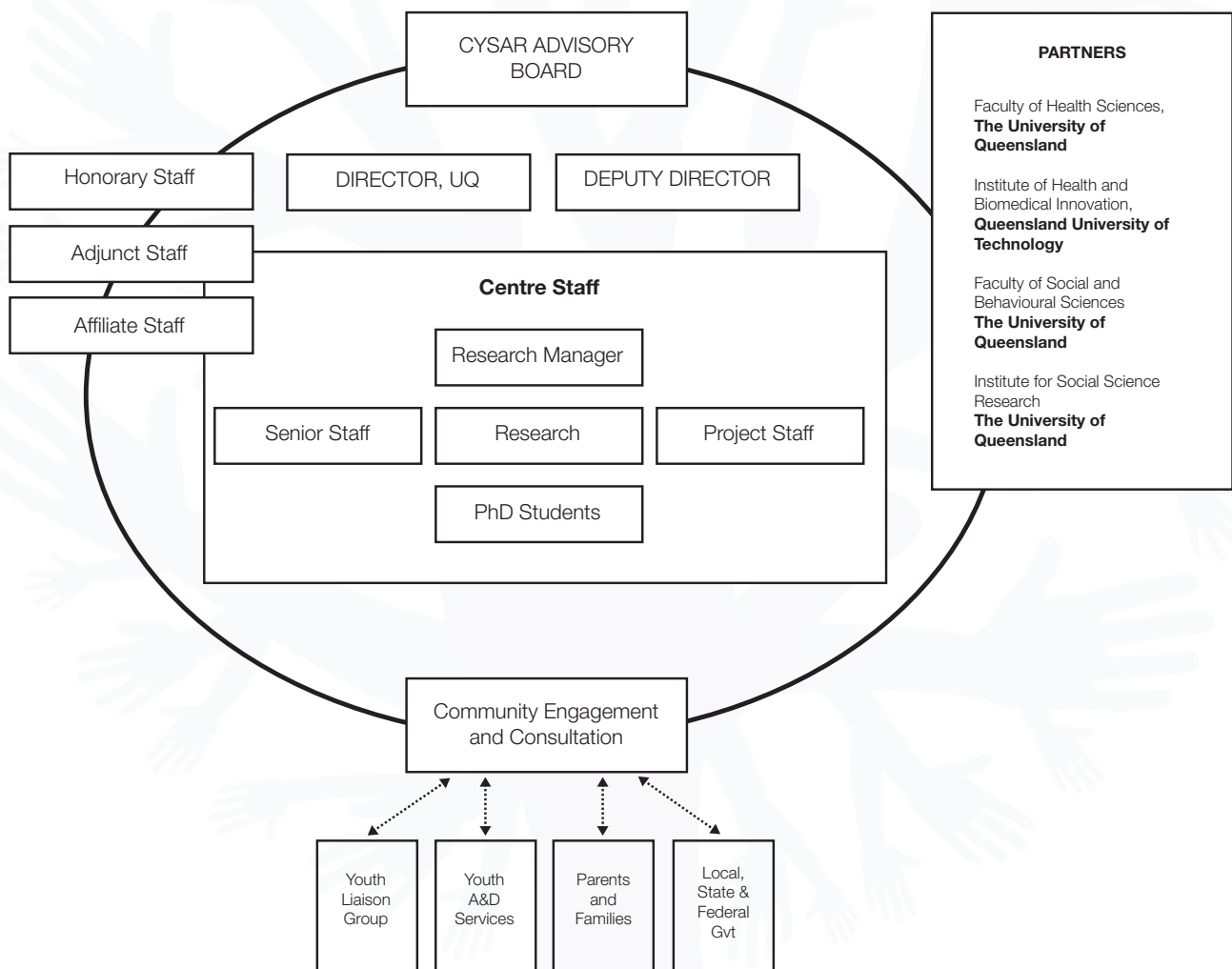
* joined CYSAR in 2010 # IBHI partners



CYSAR's Organisational Structure

CYSAR is geographically based in the Faculty of Health Sciences at The University of Queensland.

CYSAR is geographically based in the Faculty of Health Sciences at The University of Queensland, with staff also placed across partner organisations and within the community. The Centre's organisational structure includes an Advisory Board and CYSAR staff. Staff include the Director at UQ and Deputy Director at QUT (to be appointed), the Research Manager, Senior staff, Project staff and PhD students. The Centre also works collaboratively with national and international researchers and clinicians. Critical to CYSAR's effectiveness are our organisational partners, and Honorary, Adjunct and Affiliate staff. CYSAR also places a strong emphasis on community engagement, including collaboration with health services, parents, young people and state and federal authorities.



CYSAR Advisory Board

CYSAR Advisory Board members are experts in the fields of health, youth and substance use research. Collectively, they bring a diversity of skills and knowledge to help guide the work of the Centre.

CYSAR Advisory Board

Professor Sue Tett

Acting Executive Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences,
The University of Queensland (Chair)

Associate Professor Jason Connor

Director, CYSAR, The University of Queensland

Professor David de Vaus*

Executive Dean, Faculty of Social and Behavioural
Sciences, The University of Queensland

Ms Carrie Fowlie

Youth Sector Representative, Youth Coalition of the
ACT

Professor David Kavanagh*

Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, The
Queensland University of Technology

Dr Kevin Lambkin

Senior Director, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug
Branch, Queensland Health

Professor Doune Macdonald

Head, School of Human Movement Studies, The
University of Queensland

Professor Graham Martin

Clinical Director, Royal Children's Hospital and
Brisbane North Child and Youth Mental Health
Service

Professor Lorraine Mazerolle*

Program Director, Policing and Security, Institute
for Social Sciences Research, The University of
Queensland

Associate Professor Brett McDermott

Director, Mater Child and Youth Mental Health
Service

Professor Ross Young*

Executive Director, Institute of Health and Biomedical
Innovation, Queensland University of Technology

* represents CYSAR partner organisations

CYSAR Partners

CYSAR partnerships have made it possible to draw together the research and clinical expertise of internationally regarded Australian scholars in the field of substance use disorders. CYSAR's partner organisations are:



The Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, Queensland University of Technology is a collaborative institute based at The Queensland University of Technology QUT, devoted to improving the health of individuals through research innovation. IHBI's researchers focus on three broad health areas - prevention; mind and body health; and recovery. Researchers are clustered into six flexible research domains that emphasise multidisciplinary collaboration. QUT is one of Australia's leading Universities and has a long track record of success in real-world commercial partnerships and sustainable biotech companies.



The Institute for Social Science Research, University of Queensland is one of Australia's largest social science institutes. ISSR was established in 2007 to enhance social science research at The University of Queensland and to contribute nationally to the development of social science in Australia. ISSR examines national and regional priority issues relating to health, housing and wellbeing, education and employment, policing and national security, sustainability and the environment and contributes extensively to new developments in social science research methodology. The Institute aims to make a difference to individuals, households, communities and organizations in Australia and the region through its research, research training and external engagement. ISSR researchers collaborate extensively with researchers across UQ, Australia and overseas and work in close co-operation with government agencies, corporations and community sector organisations.



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The Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, University of Queensland is one of Australia's leading social and behavioural science groups offering a diverse and unique range of disciplines and study areas. There are six schools in the Faculty, which embrace research ranging from cognitive neuroscience, to social policy, to communication for social change. This diversity allows for a range of multidisciplinary or highly focused research teams in centres of excellence to conduct basic and applied research on almost the entire field of social and behavioural sciences. The Faculty also has very strong and collaborative links with the Institute for Social Science Research and its incumbent research centres.

CYSAR Staff

CYSAR has recruited leading researchers in the field of substance abuse. Centre staff are internationally recognised for their scientific contribution to the fields of epidemiology, prevention, policy and treatment.

Our multidisciplinary team is drawn from clinical and prevention backgrounds, sharpening the focus of the real world application of the Centre's activities. Staff include:



CYSAR DIRECTOR

Associate Professor Jason Connor, PhD, MAPS

Jason is a clinical and health psychologist with research expertise in psychological and genetic factors contributing to addiction. Recent research projects include youth substance abuse prevention, the efficacy of psychological and pharmacological treatments for alcohol dependence and the development of psychometric tools for addiction assessment. His research is supported by current National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia and Australian Research Council funding. Jason also holds appointments in the School of Medicine, School of Psychology and Queensland Health.

MANAGER OF CYSAR RESEARCH

Dr Angela White, PhD, MAPS

Angela is a Senior Research Fellow and clinical psychologist with expertise in mental health service development and delivery. Angela has worked in a range of disability and mental health community based services in both metropolitan and regional areas. She has also lectured across disciplines in both undergraduate and postgraduate programs. She has been involved in a range of clinical and applied research areas, having conducted research on depression, substance use, mental illness co-morbidity and family and carer support.



Associate Professor Rosa Alati, PhD

Rosa is a National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia (NHMRC) research fellow with a background in Indigenous health research and the life course epidemiology of alcohol and mental health disorders. Rosa holds an NHMRC Career Development Award to research the origins and developmental pathways to addiction. She has led research exploring associations between alcohol use and mental health status and has been involved in the analysis of influential national and international longitudinal studies to study the effects of excessive alcohol and tobacco use in pregnancy on adverse outcomes later in life. She holds an appointment within the School of Population Health and works in close collaboration with the Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre, the Department of Social Medicine (Bristol University) and the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit (University of Oxford).

Dr Peter Baker, PhD

Peter holds a joint position as a Senior Lecturer in Statistics with CYSAR and the School of Population Health. Peter was formerly a statistical researcher in bioinformatics and consultant biometrician at CSIRO's Division of Mathematical and Information Sciences for 20 years. Currently, Peter is researching causal models for epidemiology, statistical methods for modelling trajectories of alcohol consumption in youth, and analysis of longitudinal study data relating cardiovascular risks to behavioural and demographic traits.



Mr Zachary Fitz-Walter, BInfoTech (Hons)

Zac is an Information Technology honours graduate from QUT who has been working with CYSAR in the development of mobile phone technology for use in alcohol misuse prevention. Zac was recently awarded an Australian Postgraduate Award and is pursuing a PhD in mobile phone technology and gaming.

Dr Suzi George, DPsych, MAPS

Suzi is a clinical psychologist and clinical neuropsychologist who completed her thesis researching risk and protective factors for adolescent substance misuse. She has worked at The Royal Children's Hospital assessing children with spinal and neurological disorders. She has also engaged in work with children with complex developmental presentations. Suzi is particularly interested in researching the relationship between personality and substance misuse in children. In addition to her research appointment at CYSAR, Suzi currently holds a clinical neuropsychological appointment within the Acute Psychology Service at The Prince Charles Hospital, Brisbane.



Associate Professor Adrian Kelly, PhD, MAPS

Adrian is a clinical psychologist with expertise in the development, prevention, and treatment of youth substance abuse and related problems. His primary interest is in how family interactions and emotional climate contribute to and protect young people from alcohol and drug-related harm. Adrian is also working on new ways of understanding how social ecologies affect the timing and trajectory of alcohol use, and he is interested in how the characteristics of communities, schools, and families interact to predict substance use experimentation. Adrian has worked closely with seminal researchers and clinicians across Australia and the United States, and has consulted to police, education, and nongovernment service providers across Australia.

Mr Martin O'Flaherty, BA (Hons)

Martin O'Flaherty is a research assistant with Adrian Kelly at CYSAR. Martin is chiefly responsible for designing and conducting statistical analyses for the team's research, which is focussed around explaining community and network factors implicated in youth drug and alcohol use.



Dr Lake-Hui Quek, PhD

Lake-Hui is a clinical psychologist and researcher at CYSAR and IHBI. She recently completed her thesis working with young people with Asperger Syndrome. Lake-Hui has been involved in a number of clinical research projects delivering interventions for depression, anxiety and substance use. She is also interested in dissemination of psychological interventions through online programs and in developing efficient data management systems.

Dr Lauren Rose, DPsych, MAPS

Lauren has a background in health psychology and has been a Senior Research Assistant at CYSAR since June 2009. She is passionate about the positive development of young people and is particularly interested in areas of health promotion and prevention. Lauren currently manages the day to day running of Project SHIELD, a National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia funded project that investigates the efficacy of a parenting program designed to minimise alcohol related harm in teenagers.



CYSAR PhD Students

CYSAR has offered a full PhD scholarship with top up, which is largely funded by a ARC Discovery Project (Chief Investigator: A/Prof Adrian Kelly).

The PhD scholarship will enable new work investigating how families and broader social networks interact to predict how alcohol and other drug use develops in teenagers. This will help in devising new prevention strategies for teenage alcohol and other drug misuse.

CYSAR has also awarded a top-up scholarship to a new first class honours graduate and PhD Candidate in the Centre, Ms. Karen Li. Karen is finishing her clinical psychology training, and will be undertaking research on how community, school, and family factors interact to predict alcohol use through the high school years. Her research will be supervised by Adrian Kelly and Jason Connor.

Honorary Staff

Professor Wayne Hall, PhD

Wayne is a National Health and Medical Research Council Australia Fellow. This fellowship is establishing a world-class research program that will focus on the ethical implications of new treatments for drug use and addiction that are emerging from cutting edge genetics and neuroscience. Wayne was formerly Director of the Office of Public Policy and Ethics at the Institute for Molecular Bioscience and Director of the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre at the University of NSW. He has been an expert adviser to the World Health Organization since 1993. Wayne has been identified by the Institute for Scientific Analysis as a 'Highly Cited Author'.



Professor John B. Saunders, MD, FRACP, FAFPHM, FACHAM, FRCP

John is a professor and consultant physician in internal medicine and addiction medicine, with appointments at the University of Sydney and with several private hospital groups. His research has included screening and early diagnosis, brief interventions, assessment instruments, susceptibility to alcohol- and drug-related disorders, treatment of alcohol, opioid and psychostimulant dependence, and medical education in addiction studies. He has worked with the World Health Organization for many years and was responsible for developing the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT), internationally the most widely used and recognised alcohol screening instrument. He is Founding and Emeritus Editor-in-Chief of the Drug and Alcohol Review, a Vice-President of the International Society of Addiction Medicine, a member of WHO's Expert Advisory Panel on Substance Abuse, and was Co-Chair of the DSM V Substance Use Disorders Workgroup from 2003 to 2007. He has been a member of many state and federal Australian government committees, including the Australian National Council on Drugs. He is an Institute for Scientific Analysis 'Highly Cited Author'.

Affiliate Staff



Associate Professor Annemaree Carroll, PhD

Annemaree is based in the School of Education at The University of Queensland. Her major research interests include at-risk behaviours of children and adolescents, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, developmental trajectories of antisocial and aggressive behaviours, self-regulation and goal setting, and intervention and prevention approaches. Her research activities focus on the self-regulatory processes of adolescent behaviour and child and adolescent behaviour disorders especially relating to delinquency and substance use and to neuro-developmental deficits such as ADHD and Tourette Syndrome. Her most significant contributions have been the advancement of proactive interventions (Mindfields™) in behaviour change for young people at-risk, and the development of a social-cognitive model for predicting at-risk and delinquent behaviours.

Adjunct Staff

Associate Professor Gerald Feeney, FRACP, FACHAM

Gerald is the Director of the Alcohol and Drug Assessment Unit at the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane and a Visiting Physician at the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Brisbane. His research work has a strong clinical focus and has influenced treatment practice in Australia and overseas, particularly his work involving medication use in alcohol dependence.



Sophie Morson, BA (Hons.), MClinPsych

Sophie is a senior psychologist with the Child and Youth Mental Health Service of the Royal Children's Hospital, Children's Health Service District. Sophie's role is aimed at building local capacity in early intervention for the mental health of young people aged 12-18 years through coordination of the Minding Young Minds Early Intervention program. Sophie aims to utilise her adjunct position with the Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research to help promote its work directly to these stakeholders, as well as draw upon her experience to inform the planning of CYSAR initiatives.

CYSAR Activities

Positive Change through Knowledge and Engagement

Positive Change

Curtailing alcohol and drug misuse by young people remains a key public health priority, and our centre is founded on a commitment to tackle the effects of substance misuse in this vulnerable group.

CYSAR is committed to connecting researchers, health professionals, educators, parents and young people themselves with a view to improving the health, wellbeing, opportunities and potentials of Australian youth.

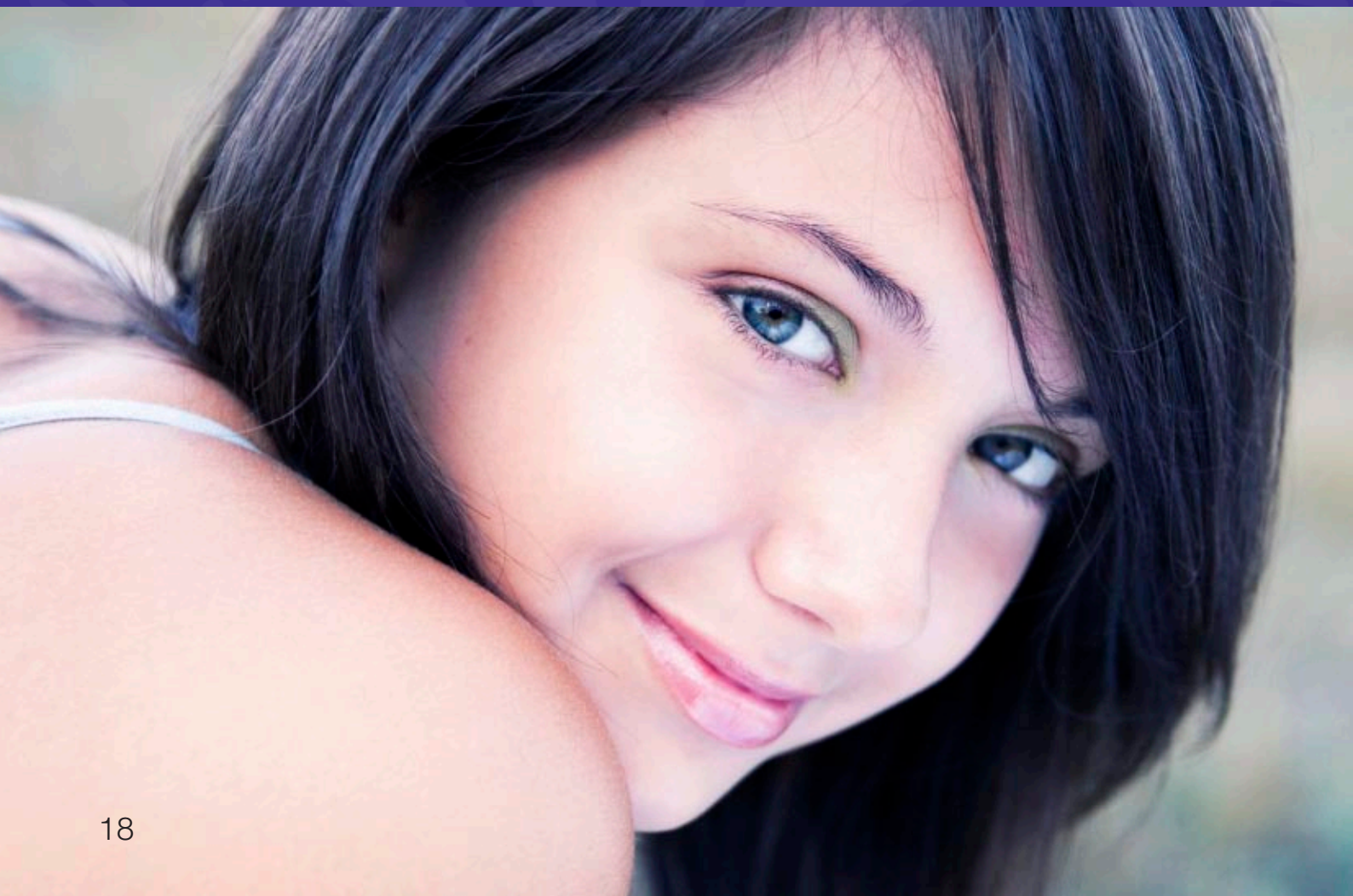
Knowledge

CYSAR undertakes a range of research projects that generate knowledge about the development, prevention, and treatment of youth substance misuse.

Engagement

CYSAR works to disseminate research findings through publications, conferences and presentations. CYSAR staff work to engage with professional associations and undertake activities which maintain their clinical skills and qualifications.

CYSAR has also established collaborative links with government, police, youth health services and other research centres and has developed a strong research profile dedicated to informing more effective and supportive approaches to youth at risk of substance-related harm.



CYSAR Research Projects

This section provides a snapshot of CYSAR research, including research completed in 2009, as well as new and ongoing projects. A full list of CYSAR projects is provided in Appendix 1.

Alcopops

The Alcopops project aims to examine whether the increase in the excise tax on 'ready to drink' alcoholic beverages (alcopops) in 2008/09 had an impact on the occurrence of alcohol-related injuries in young people. The national project will investigate trends over a six year period (2006 to 2012) of state linked accident and emergency department alcohol-related presentations and hospital admission, as well as alcohol-related ambulance attendances. This study is conducted in conjunction with Health LinQ (<http://www.uq.edu.au/health/index.html?page=108815>).

CYSAR staff: Angela White, Jason Connor and Lake-Hui Quek.

There is an association
between alcohol
consumption and price,
resulting in governments
applying taxation to reduce
alcohol consumption.

The alcopops tax debate

The tax on Ready to Drink (RTD) alcohol or 'alcopops' was introduced in April 2008 by the Federal Government as a measure to target escalation of binge drinking in teenagers. There is current debate as to the effectiveness of this measure. To date, little empirical data have been provided to assess if reductions in alcohol -related harms were associated with this policy.

Alcohol Trajectories in Adolescence

Alcohol trajectories in adolescence uses data from the Australia Temperament Study to identify harmful trajectories of alcohol use from early adolescence to young adulthood. This is a new collaboration involving the Australian Institute of Family Studies, Deakin University and The University of Queensland.

CYSAR staff: Rosa Alati, Peter Baker.

Alcohol Use and Mental Health Problems

Alcohol use and mental health problems is a new project involving collaborations with the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre and the University of Queensland. Using existing survey datasets, this project aims to explore the relationship between alcohol use and mental health in the Australian population

CYSAR staff: Rosa Alati, Jason Connor, Adrian Kelly, Angela White.

Alcohol Use in Pregnancy and Childhood Adversity

Alcohol use in pregnancy and childhood adversity is part of ongoing international collaborations between Rosa Alati and the Department of Social Medicine in Bristol and the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit (NPEU) at the University of Oxford. It draws on data from an established birth cohort study of a well characterised population-based pregnancy and birth cohort of over 14,000 mothers and their children from 1990 in the Avon area of England. This study aims to establish effects of low-to-moderate levels of alcohol use in pregnancy and a variety of neuro-developmental outcomes.

CYSAR staff: Rosa Alati.

Mobile Phone Applications for Tracking and Moderating Alcohol Use

Alcohol use and binge drinking by young people is of growing concern, both in relation to short-term risks and long-term impacts.

The 2007 Australian National Drug Strategy Household Survey found that 19% of teenagers aged 16-17 years admitted drinking at least weekly and young adults aged 20-29 years frequently drank in a way that put them at risk of alcohol-related harm. As a result of data such as these, moderation of alcohol use in young people has become a major priority for health promotion internationally.

The growing market penetration and the communication properties of mobile phones create opportunities for innovation in promoting health related self-management through support of lifestyle and behaviour modification. Mobile phones support various modes of communication and interaction, have fewer adoption barriers, and have high take up rates among young people. These facts are relevant to both developed and developing countries. Particularly in developing countries, the trajectory of growth in mobile phones is outstripping growth in computer access, offering wide opportunities for interventions using this technology.

Collaborating with Professor David Kavanagh's research team (QUT), this project has involved the development of a mobile phone application that has the potential for broadband connectivity and provides real-time alcohol use monitoring, personal feedback and brief, individualized and context-specific advice about alcohol use. This approach harnesses emerging mobile, wireless and broadband technology to overcome time and geographic constraints, so that monitoring, information and advice are available in the context where drinking decisions are being made.

Investigators: Angela White, Zachary Fitz-Walter, David Kavanagh, Dian Tjondronegoro, Jason Connor, Daniel Johnson, Ross Brown.



Communities That Care (CtC)

Communities That Care (CtC)- is a prevention-based program that establishes partnerships between the community, agencies, and organisations to promote healthy social and personal development and reduce risk factors related to certain behaviours. CtC is led nationally by Professor John Toumbourou (Deakin University and Victoria Health). As the CtC Queensland node, CYSAR is exploring ways in which the approach may be adapted to urban and remote communities in Queensland.

CYSAR staff: Jason Connor and Adrian Kelly.

Substance misuse during adolescence is a considerable public health concern, and accounts for a major proportion of morbidity and mortality among young people.

Youth substance misuse A public health perspective

The substantial role that alcohol and drugs play in accidents, unintentional injuries, homicide, suicide, and the spread of infectious disease is well recognised. The identification of substance abuse risk factors in young people at a population level has the potential to guide the development of early intervention programmes that target groups at increased average risk. Through the implementation of such programmes, the harms associated with early substance misuse in young people show potential to be reduced.

Provision of Strategies to Support Drug and Alcohol Online Activities

Provision of Strategies to Support Drug and Alcohol Online Activities is a collaborative multi-strand project led by Professor David Kavanagh (QUT) and funded by the Australian Department of Health and Ageing to investigate and collate evidence about online information and support services on alcohol and other drug use and misuse. The report outlining the key findings and recommendations from the project has been disseminated and provides an important platform to inform future funding, policy and service directions in this area.

CYSAR staff: Angela White, Jason Connor.

Queensland Schoolies Project

QLD Schoolies Project is an on-line survey of parents' concerns and attitudes in relation to this annual QLD event. The survey seeks to document areas that could be targeted in prevention programs to reduce alcohol-related harm. This is much needed, given the high prevalence of alcohol-related injuries, sexual and physical assault, poisoning, and motor vehicle accidents during this event.

CYSAR staff: Adrian Kelly, Jason Connor, Lake-Hui Quek, Angela White.

Around 90% of teenage "Schoolie" attendees consume alcohol during the primary week of this festival (November 22-30 each year), and 51-61% report intoxication during the week.

Schoolies and Substance Use

Between 5-9% of teenage attendees report riding in a car with an intoxicated driver, 10-14% reporting being injured, 5-16% coming to the attention of police, and 12% of females reporting sexual harassment. Adolescent use of other drugs (e.g., marijuana, amphetamine-like substances) during schoolies is largely unknown, but is likely to be considerably higher than prevalence rates found in community surveys [6-20% for marijuana use in the last month (increasing across high school years), and 4.3 % for amphetamines in the past year].



Project SHIELD

It is almost inevitable that young people will be exposed to risks associated with alcohol use during their teenage years.

The risks associated with heavy drinking are well-documented, including increased risk of physical assault, injury, getting into a car with an intoxicated driver, drowning, and experimentation with other drugs.

Funded by a grant from the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia (NHMRC), Project SHIELD investigates the efficacy of a parenting program aimed at empowering parents to minimise adolescent alcohol-related harm. Project Shield aims to assist parents of 13-16 year olds to develop clear and practical strategies for ensuring the safety and well-being of their children as they move into perhaps the highest risk period for alcohol misuse and alcohol-related trauma. The project is a collaboration with the University of Washington, United States, and is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia.

Project SHIELD has been developed on the basis of prior research indicating that parents and families can play an important protective role with respect to teenage alcohol use. While there is evidence to support the efficacy of preventative parenting programs, research also suggests that challenges may exist for parents in finding time to commit to programs involving attendance at a number of sessions. Consequently, Project SHIELD aims to evaluate whether a brief and practical program is effective in assisting parents to prevent alcohol related harm.

The program involves offering parents the opportunity to take part in a single consultation with a registered psychologist. Parents are offered either a home-visit or phone consultation, with follow up at 3 month, 6 month, 12 month and 24 months intervals. Offering phone consultations enable parents from rural and remote areas the opportunity to participate in the program. In addition to discussing practical strategies at the time of their consultation, participants are also provided with high quality educational materials designed to help parents manage the potentially risky teenage years. Project SHIELD is being conducted over a three-year period, from 2009-2012.

Investigators: Adrian Kelly, Robert McMahon, Annemaree Carroll, Michelle Haynes (project staff: Lauren Rose)

Risk Factors for Substance Misuse amongst Young People in Australia

Risk Factors for Substance Misuse amongst Young People in Australia involves secondary data analyses from the 2007 National Drug Strategy Household Survey. This research will examine patterns of tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drug use in young people aged 12-24 years, and their relationship with a number of key factors. These factors will include demographic data, personal drug and alcohol behaviour, perceptions of substance use and availability, attitudes toward substance use, motivations for substance use, methods of access to substances, experience of harm, and policy support factors.

CYSAR staff: Suzi George, Jason Connor, Rosa Alati, Adrian Kelly, Angela White.

QLD School's Project

QLD School's Project is a prospective study of 13-15 year-old school students that aims to identify key risk factors and develop predictive trajectories associated with alcohol consumption and alcohol-related problems in this vulnerable age group. Results of the study have revealed a number of key risk factors for alcohol misuse including personality dimensions, alcohol expectancies and drinking refusal self-efficacy skills, behavioural characteristics, peer factors and school factors. Findings from this longitudinal study suggest that risk for adolescent alcohol misuse is multidimensional, and prevention and treatment interventions should systematically target these factors for maximum effectiveness.

CYSAR staff: Jason Connor, Suzi George.

Social Ecologies of Youth Alcohol and Tobacco use

Social ecologies of youth alcohol and tobacco use arises from an exciting new collaboration between CYSAR and the Centre for Adolescent Health, Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Griffith University, the University of Washington, and The University of Queensland. The research collaboration draws on a range of large data sets of Australian young people, including the Healthy Neighbourhoods Study (led by Dr Jo Williams and Prof John Toumbourou) and the International Youth Development Study (lead by Prof John Toumbourou, Prof George Patton, & Prof Richard Catalano). The research examines variation across communities, schools and individuals with respect to youth drug use, and yields guidance to practitioners and other stakeholders in effective family and school-based prevention.

CYSAR staff: Adrian Kelly, Martin O'Flaherty, Jason Connor.



CYSAR'S 2009 Grants

In 2009, CYSAR was awarded competitive grant funding to undertake new projects related to youth substance misuse.

CYSAR GRANTS			
Project	Funding Source	Total Award	Investigators
A new approach to curbing risky trajectories of adolescent alcohol/tobacco use: A new tailored brief program for parents	National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) 2009- 11. Project Grant.	3 years, \$307,000	Kelly, McMahon, Carroll, Haynes
Critical changes in adolescent alcohol/tobacco use following small changes in peer and family contexts: A new cusp catastrophe model	Enabling grant: University of Queensland	1 year, 20,000	Kelly
Dynamic social systems and adolescent alcohol/tobacco use: A new cusp catastrophe model	Australian Research Council (ARC). Discovery grant 2010-2012	3 years, \$150,000	Kelly, Haynes, Young

CYSAR staff also collaborated with other agencies and these partnerships were awarded the following grants and tenders in 2009.

COLLABORATIVE GRANTS TENDERS			
Project	Funding Source	Total Award	Investigators
Attrition in longitudinal studies: advancing and evaluating statistical methods	Discovery Project 2009 - 11	\$350,000	Chief Investigators: Ware, Mamun, Alati
Development of Education/Training Package for Club Champions	Department of Health and Ageing, Australian Government Tender 2009-10	Value of Tender not released	Tender Consortium: , Shannon, Connolly, Stallman, Keating, White
Early origins, progression and aetiology of obesity, metabolic syndrome and diabetes: a 30 years follow-up study	NHMRC Project Grant 2010-13	\$1,151,675	Mamun, O'Callaghan, Najman, Alati, Williams, Clavarino, McIntyre
Evaluation of Internet-Based Treatments for Comorbidity of Alcohol Disorders and Depressive Mood	NHMRC Project Grant 2009-11	\$684, 000	Chief Investigators: Kavanagh, Klien, Austin, Proudfoot, Lambkin, Connor, Young; Associate Investigator: White
Provision of strategies to support drug and alcohol online activities	Department of Health and Ageing, Australian Government Tender 2009	Value of Tender not released	Tender Consortium: Kavanagh, Young, Drennan, Baker, Lambkin, Proudfoot, Klein, Connor; Project Manager: White
The Effects of Alcohol on Threat-Related Attentional Bias: Implications for Alcohol-Related Violence	Griffith Institute for Health and Medical Research 2009-10	\$14,000	Chief Investigators: Boschen, Neumann, Connor



Collaborations

A key component of CYSAR engagement is to work in collaboration with health services in a way that facilitates the translation of research into practice.

Through such collaboration, CYSAR can identify gaps in research where practice would benefit from a stronger evidence base.

Publications

The dissemination of research findings in peer-reviewed journals is an important aspect of CYSAR's work. The publication of research findings builds an evidence-base for youth substance use: these generate critical discussion, help to build and refine research agendas, and inform practitioners of best practice.

Presentations and Conferences

Forums such as presentations and conferences allow CYSAR staff to discuss research findings and implications with other researchers, practitioners and the community.

Professional Memberships and Activities

Many CYSAR staff have clinical backgrounds and actively participate in professional activities to maintain their qualifications and skills.

CYSAR'S 2009 Collaborations

Throughout 2009 CYSAR developed collaborative research programs with clinical service providers for youth substance abuse including the Queensland Health's Hot House and the Mater Hospital Adolescent Drug and Alcohol Withdrawal Service.

Engagement and collaboration with youth substance use services is a priority for CYSAR. In 2009, building partnerships has been a key element in facilitating a collaborative and responsive clinical research program.

Translating Research into Practice

Working with clinicians, the focus has been on integrating research as a tool to enhance quality service outcomes and inform clinical practice. This scientist-practitioner framework is central to CYSAR'S ethos of conducting and facilitating research that is relevant to the community. CYSAR has cultivated strong links with 'Hot House' (the Queensland Health youth substance use community outreach service) and ADAWS (Adolescent Drug and Alcohol Withdrawal Service, Mater Hospital) and has established a clinical research role within each of these services.

As a result of these efforts, CYSAR will be working across both services to drive the clinical research program. One of the first tasks will be to examine service utilisation from existing clinical data, with ongoing discussions with key stakeholders to shape future research directions.

The following section provides a list of publications by CYSAR staff. Affiliate, adjunct, honorary and partner staff publications who have co-authored with CYSAR staff are also listed.

Alati R, Najman JM, O'Callaghan M, Bor W, Williams GM, Clavarino A. (2009). Fetal growth and behaviour problems in early adolescence: findings from the Mater University Study of Pregnancy. *International Journal of Epidemiology* 38(5):1390-400.

Alati R, Gunnell D, Najman J, Williams G, Lawlor D. (2009). Is IQ in Childhood Associated with Suicidal Thoughts and Attempts? Findings from The Mater University Study of Pregnancy and Its Outcomes. *Suicide & Life Threatening Behaviour* 39(3):282-93.

Alati R, Maloney E, Hutchinson DM, Najman JM, Mattick RP, et al. [in press]. Do maternal parenting practices predict problematic patterns of adolescent alcohol consumption? *Addiction*.

Alati R, Van Dooren K, Najman JM, Williams GM, Clavarino A. (2009). Early weaning and alcohol disorders in offspring: biological effect, mediating factors or residual confounding? *Addiction*. 104(8):1324-32.

Atkinson J, Bobogare A, Vallely A, Boaz L, Kelly G, Basifiri W, Forsyth S, Baker P, Appleyard B, Toaliu H, Williams G. (2009). A cluster randomized controlled cross-over bed net acceptability and preference trial in Solomon Islands: community participation in shaping policy for malaria elimination. *Malaria Journal* 8(1): 298.

Clavarino AM, Mamun AA, O'Callaghan M, Aird R, Bor W, O'Callaghan F, Williams, Gail M, Marrington, S, Najman, JM, Alati, R. [Epub ahead of print]. Maternal Anxiety and Attention Problems in Children at 5 and 14 Years. *Journal of Attention Disorders*.

McGrath J, Welham J, Scott J, Varghese D, Denghardt L, Hayatbakhsh MR, Alati R, et al. [in press]. Sibling-pair analysis confirms an association between cannabis use and psychosis-related outcomes in a cohort of young adults. *Archives of General Psychiatry*.

Fitzgerald, J, Connor, JP & Mitchell, C. [in press]. Getting Started: Foundation Skills in Clinical Communication. In M Groves & J Fitzgerald (Eds). *Communication Skills in Medicine: Promoting*

Patient-Centred Care. IP Communications Pty Ltd., Australia.

Furlong, M, & Connor, JP. (2009). Quality of life and stress in wheelchair-users. In V.A. Preedy, R.R. Watson. *Handbook of Disease Burdens and Quality of Life Measures*. pp 4088-4098 .New York: Springer.

Gazis, N, Connor, JP, & Ho, R. [in press]. Cultural Identity and Peer Influence as Predictors of Substance Use among Culturally Diverse Australian Adolescents. *Journal of Early Adolescence*.

Early weaning and alcohol disorders in offspring Alati et al

This study explored associations between early weaning and alcohol use disorders in youth and mechanisms by which these associations may operate. The study used data from the Mater University Study of Pregnancy and its outcomes, an Australian birth cohort study based in Brisbane. Those who had been weaned within 2 weeks of being born and breastfed at regular intervals were at increased risk of meeting criteria for alcohol use disorders at age 21. This study confirmed a small but robust association between early weaning and increased risk of alcohol use disorders.

Hall WD and Alati R. [in press]. Gateway drugs. In: Levesque JR, editor. *Encyclopedia of Adolescence*. New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Kavanagh, DJ, Connolly, J, White, A, Kelly, A, & Parr, J. [in press]. Low-intensity Cognitive-Behavioural Therapies by Mail (M-CBT). In Bennett-Levy, J., Richards, D., Farrand, P., Christensen, H., Griffiths, K., Kavanagh, D. J., Klein, B., Lau, M., Proudfoot, J., Ritterband, L., White, J., Williams, C. (Eds.). *The Oxford Guide to low intensity CBT interventions*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Kavanagh, DJ, Connor, JP, & Young, R McD. [in press]. Substance Abuse Disorders In J. Thomas, & M. Hersen (Eds.) *Handbook of clinical psychology competencies. Volume 2: Intervention and treatment for adults*. New York: Springer.

Kavanagh, DJ, White, A, Klein, B, Proudfoot, J, Kay-Lambkin, F, Drennan, J, Connor, JP, Baker, A, & Young, R McD. (2009). Provision of Strategies to Support Drug and Alcohol Online Activities. Report to the Department of Health and Ageing.

CYSAR'S 2009 Publications (cont.)

Kelly, AB. [in press]. Adolescent alcohol-related harm reduction: Realities, innovations, and challenges. In G. Alan Marlatt, Mary E. Larimer, and Katie Witkiewitz (Eds.), *Harm Reduction: Pragmatic Strategies for Managing High-Risk Behaviors* (2nd Edition). Guilford Press.

Kelly, AB. (2009). Behavioral Couples Therapy in the treatment of alcohol problems (chapter 12). In P. Miller (Ed.), *Evidence-based Addiction Treatment*. pp. 233-247. Elsevier (Academic Press): Burlington, US.

Khatun M, Clavarino AM, Callaway L, Alati R, Najman JM, Williams G, et al. (2009). Common symptoms during pregnancy to predict depression and health status 14 years post partum. *International Journal of Gynecology & Obstetrics* 104(3):214-7.

Leung, R, Kennedy V, Kelly, AB, Toumbourou, J, Hutchinson, D. [in press]. The family's role in preventing alcohol harms in young people. *Alcohol and Drug Foundation Monograph*.

Luo, W, Gallagher, M, O'Kane, D, Connor, JP, Doo-
ris, M, Roberts, C, Mortimer, L, & Wiles, J. [in press]. Visualising a state-wide patient data collection: A case study to expand the audience for healthcare data. In *Health Informatics and Knowledge Management 2010*, Brisbane, Australia.

McGrath J, Welham J, Scott J, Varghese D, Degenhardt L, Hayatbakhsh MR, Alati R, et al. [in press]. Sibling-pair analysis confirms an association between cannabis use and psychosis-related outcomes in a cohort of young adults. *Archives of General Psychiatry*.

Moore E, Coffey C, Carlin J, Alati R, Patton G. (2009). Assessing alcohol guidelines in teenagers: results from a ten-year prospective study *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*. 33(2):154-59.

O'Callaghan FV, Al Mamun A, O'Callaghan M, Alati R, Najman JM, Williams GM, et al. (2009). Maternal smoking during pregnancy predicts nicotine disorder (dependence or withdrawal) in young adults - a birth cohort study. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*. 33(4):371-7.

Parr, J, Kavanagh, DJ, Young, R McD & Connor, JP. (2009). Development of Self-Efficacy and Expectancy Measures for Benzodiazepines. *Addictive Behaviors*, 34: 751-756.

Sayal K, Heron J, Golding J, Alati R, Davey-Smith G, Gray R, et al. (2009). Binge pattern of alcohol consumption during pregnancy and childhood men-

tal health outcomes: longitudinal population-based study. *Pediatrics* 123(2): e289-e96.

Steindl, S, & Connor, JP. [in press]. Facilitating Behavioural Change. In M. Groves & J. Fitzgerald (Eds) *Communication Skills in Medicine: Promoting Patient-Centred Care*. IP Communications Pty Ltd., Australia.

Thorberg, FA., Young, R McD., Sullivan, KA, Lyvers, M, Hurst, C, Connor, JP, & Feeney, GFX. [in press]. A Confirmatory Factor Analysis of the Toronto Alexithymia Scale (TAS-20) in an Alcohol Dependent Sample. *Psychiatry Research*.

Walters, D, Connor, JP, Feeney, GFX, & Young, R McD. (2009) The Cost Effectiveness of Naltrexone added to Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy (CBT) in the Treatment of Alcohol Dependence. *Journal of Addictive Diseases*, 28: 137.

CYSAR'S 2009 Presentations and Conferences

Alati, R. (2009). Invited speaker: A life course epidemiology of alcohol and other mental health disorders: findings from the Mater University Study of Pregnancy. The National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit, University of Oxford, Oxford. UK, 12 December 2009

Connor, JP, George, SM, Young, R McD. (2009). A prospective study of adolescent alcohol misuse risk. Symposia: Substance use and misuse among youth: Risk factors, mechanisms and behavioural change. 44th Australian Psychological Society Annual Conference, Darwin, NT, 30 September to 4 October 2009.

George, SM, Connor, JP, Young, R McD. (2009). A prospective study of risk factors for early adolescent alcohol misuse. Australian Winter School (National Alcohol and Drug Conference): Integration: Research – Policy – Practice 25 – 27 May 2009

Gullo, M, Connor, JP, Feeney, GFX, Young, R McD, Lonsdale, J. (2009). Development and initial validation of the Cannabis Expectancy Questionnaire. Australian Winter School (National Alcohol and Drug Conference): Integration: Research – Policy – Practice 25 – 27 May 2009

Kavanagh, D, White, A, Proudfoot, J, Drennan, J, Kay-Lambkin, F, Klein, B, Connor, J, Young, R. (2009). Symposium: Websites on Addictive Disorders. International e-Mental Health Summit, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Kelly, AB. (2009). Subtle intra-individual processes relating to substance use by young people. Symposium: Substance use and misuse among youth: Risk factors, mechanisms and behavioural change. 44th APS Annual Conference 30 September - 4 October 2009: Darwin Convention Centre, Northern Territory, Australia.

Kelly, AB. (2009). Invited Address: Multi-level and Modifiable Factors that Underlie Community Variation in Child Tobacco Use. Cancer Council Victoria. Melbourne, 1 December 2009.

Kelly, AB. (2009). Invited Address: Family strategies for the prevention of smoking amongst children. Cancer Council Queensland 4th Tobacco Control Symposium. Brisbane, 2 August 2009.

Kelly, AB. (2009). Invited panel discussant and presenter: Youth Mental Health Matters Supporting the mental health of young people. Public Forum. Education Centre, Royal Brisbane Hospital.

Thorberg, F A., Young, R McD, Sullivan, KA, Lyvers, M, Connor, JP & Feeney, GFX. (2009). Attachment and alexithymia in alcohol misusing outpatients. Presented at the College of Problems of Drug Dependence 71st Annual Scientific Meeting, Reno/ Sparks, USA, 20-25 June 2009.

White, A, Deane, F, Crowe, T, Marshall, S, Kavanagh, D. (2009). Family Connections' - A correspondence-based support program for family members caring for a person with psychosis. From Young Minds to Grey Matters: Advancing Mental Health in Wellbeing, Australasian Society for Psychiatric Research Conference, Canberra Australia.

CYSAR Staff Professional Associations and Committees

Associate Professor Rosa Alati

Member of ARIA (Association for Research between Italy and Australasia) - Queensland

Dr Peter Baker

International Biometric Society

International Society for Bayesian Analysis

Statistical Society of Australia Inc (Qld Branch Councillor and Web Manager)

Associate Professor Jason Connor

Australian Psychological Society

Australian Psychological Society College of Clinical Psychologists

Australian Psychological Society College of Health Psychologists (QLD Chair from 2004-2008)

Australian Association for Cognitive and Behavioural Therapy

Australian Association for Cognitive and Behavioural Therapy

American Association for Psychological Science

The Psychologist Board of Queensland (registered psychologist and accredited supervisor)

Professional Activities

Clinical Supervisor, Royal Australian College of Psychiatrists

Clinical Supervisor, UQ Psychology Clinic, The University of Queensland

Affiliate Associate Professor, School of Psychology, The University of Queensland

Convenor, Australian Psychological Society Course Approval Advisory Committee

Member, National Executive, Australian Psychological Society specialist Health College

Princess Alexandra Hospital Mental Health Services Clinical and Research Consultant

Member, Steering Committee, National Clinical Guidelines for the Management of Cannabis Use Disorder (Convenor, Screening and Assessment Guidelines)- 2008-2009

Dr Suzi George

Australian Psychological Society

Australian Psychological Society College of Clinical Psychologists

Australian Psychological Society College of Clinical Neuropsychologists

The Psychologists Board of Queensland (registered psychologist)

Professional Activities

Clinical Supervisor, UQ Psychology Clinic, The University of Queensland

Associate Professor Adrian Kelly

Australian Psychological Society

Australian Psychological Society College of Clinical Psychologists

The Psychologists Board of Queensland (registered psychologist)

Dr Lauren Rose

Member Australian Psychological Society

Australian Psychological Society

College Health Psychologists

The Psychologists Board of Queensland (registered psychologist)

Dr Angela White

Australian Association for Cognitive and Behavioural Therapy

Australian Psychological Society

Australian Psychological Society College of Clinical Psychologists

The Psychologists Board of Queensland (registered psychologist)

Professional Activities

Adjunct appointment, the Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation (IHBI), Queensland University of Technology

Clinical consultant/supervisor, Department of Psychology and Counselling, Queensland University of Technology

CYSAR Memberships

CYSAR, as a centre, is a member of the Alcohol, Other Drugs & Mental Health Collaborative, which has been established to advise on and support the development of services for individuals with co-occurring mental health and alcohol and/or other drug problems in Queensland. Its aim is to work towards a coordinated recovery-based approach to the provision of services ranging from health promotion, prevention and early intervention, treatment including relapse prevention, and rehabilitation.

Appendix 1: Full List of CYSAR Projects

CYSAR staff are the lead investigators for the following projects:

CYSAR LEAD PROJECTS			
Project	Funding Source	Total Award	Investigators
Alcohol-related Emergency Department admissions pre and post "Alcopops" legislation	Internal Funds Pilot data for 2010 NHMRC Project Grant Application	N/A	White, Connor, Quek, Kisely, Hall, Toumbourou
Intervention Strategies for Illicit Prescription Medication Abuse in Youth	Internal QLD Police Funding	N/A	Connor, White
Mobile Phone Applications for Tracking and Moderating Alcohol Use	Internal Funds - pilot study CYSAR/QUT Pilot data for 2010 ARC Grant Application	N/A	White, Fitz-Walter, Kavanagh, Tjondronegoro, Connor, Johnson, Brown
Progressing life course research in psychiatric epidemiology	NHMRC Career Development Award 2009 - 2011	4 years, 370,000	Alati
Alcohol use in pregnancy and childhood adversity			Alati
Alcohol use and mental health problems	Partly funded by CYSAR		Alati, with Connor, Kelly, White
Alcohol trajectories in adolescence	Partly funded by CYSAR		Alati, with Baker
Risk Factors for Substance Misuse amongst Young People in Australia	Internal Funds – public access dataset	N/A	George, Connor, Alati, Kelly, White
Qld Schoolies project	Internal Funds	N/A	Kelly, Connor, Quek
Qld Schools project	Early Career Research Grant (Connor)	\$29, 836	Connor, George

CYSAR staff are also involved as partners or co-investigators in a number of other projects:

CYSAR COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS			
Project	Funding Source	Total Award	Investigators
Beyond motherhood - the menopausal transition: A 27 year follow up of the mental health of mothers as they enter middle age	NHMRC Project	\$1,675,988	Clavarino, Williams, Alati, Mamun, Najman, Bor
Communities That Care (CtC) - Queensland	Research and linkage partners being established	N/A	Toumbourou, Connor, Kelly
Detecting and Understanding Dysfunctional Anomalies in Queensland Healthcare Databases	ARC linkage	\$137,700 (ARC) \$119,000	Gallagher, Connor, Wiles
Effects of prenatal alcohol consumption and alcohol metabolising genes on child growth and neurodevelopment in the ALSPAC study	2008-2010 Wellcome Trust, UK	£132,708.00	Gray, Golding, Lewis, Nutt, Davey-Smith, Alati, Draper, Barrow, Frazer
Progressing life course research in psychiatric epidemiology	NHMRC Career Development Award 2009 - 2011	4 years, 370,000	Alati
Evaluation of Strategies to Promote the Dissemination of Programs for People with Serious Mental Disorders and Comorbid Substance Use Disorders	Australian Rotary Health Research Fund 2007-2009	\$270,000	Kavanagh, Weller, King, Connor, White, Connolly, Ransome
Family Connections: A randomised controlled trial of correspondence-based support for families of individuals recently diagnosed with psychosis	Australian Rotary Health Research Fund	\$177,015	Deane, White, Crowe, Kavanagh
Investigating mortality among ex-prisoners in Queensland: A data linkage study.	NHMRC Project 2007-09	\$441,500	Kinner, Alati, Lennox, Jamrozik, Haswell-Elkins, Williams, Boyle
Passports to advantage: Health and capacity building as a basis for social integration.	NHMRC Strategic Award 2007-2011	\$1,445,000	Kinner, Alati, Lennox, Jamrozik, Haswell-Elkins, Williams, Boyle
Randomised Controlled Trial of a New Intervention for Alcohol Craving	NHMRC Project Grant 2007-2009	\$665,000	Kavanagh, Connor, Sitharthan, Young
Using Australia's Longitudinal Study Resources to Understand the Origins and Consequences of Child and Adolescent of Mental Disorders	Australian Health Management	\$500,000	Alati with Patton, Toumbourou, Sanson and others

CYSAR would like to thank the many individuals and organisations who contributed to our Centre throughout 2009.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the CYSAR community, please contact us and register your interest in taking an active role in research that makes a difference.

Contact Details

If you would like to find out more about CYSAR, including any of the projects listed here, please contact us at:

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