
The Public Health Branch of the department funded the following communicable disease prevention and control projects in 2005/06:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chief investigators</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Funding awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safely first: Issues affecting the uptake of the Health Guidelines for Personal care and Body Art Industries</td>
<td>Dr Meredith Temple-Smith, Dr Stephen McNally, Professor Marian Pitts, Dr Penny Weller</td>
<td>La Trobe University</td>
<td>$78,915 (excluding GST)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pivotal, peripheral or positional: Understanding sex on premises venues for intervention</td>
<td>Dr Jeffrey Grierson, Professor Anthony Smith</td>
<td>La Trobe University</td>
<td>$99,750 (excluding GST)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving access to hepatitis C treatment services for disadvantaged groups: A two study project: Lessons from a ethno-specific community liver clinic &amp; recognising and responding to hepatitis C in indigenous communities in Victoria</td>
<td>Dr Stephen McNally, Dr Meredith Temple-Smith, Professor Sandra Gifford, Ms Jill Gallagher, Dr Anouk Dev, Ms Jacqui Richmond, Dr Priscilla Pyett</td>
<td>La Trobe University</td>
<td>$98,649 (excluding GST)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development and testing of a tool to identify youth at risk of sexually transmitted infections in primary care</td>
<td>Dr Lena Sanci, Dr Marcus Chen, Professor Susan Sawyer, Assoc Professor Danielle Mazza, Dr Jane Hocking, Ms Michelle Wills, Ms Dot Henning</td>
<td>The University of Melbourne</td>
<td>$83,295 (excluding GST)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health needs and sexual health knowledge in the unregulated sector of the Victorian sex Industry</td>
<td>Professor Christopher Fairley, Professor Basil Donovan, Dr Christine Harcourt, Dr Sepehr Tabrizi, Professor Suzanne Garland, Dr Elizabeth Hoban, Dr Kay Cook</td>
<td>The University of Melbourne</td>
<td>$97,032 (excluding GST)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
14. Reports and publications

Peer review journals


Public health bulletins


Conference presentations

Madin S, Fielding JE. Effectiveness of the Meningococcal C Immunisation Program in Victoria 2003 to 2005. 10th National Immunisation Conference/2nd Public Health Association of Australia Asia Pacific Vaccine Preventable Diseases Conference; July 30–1 August 2006; Sydney, Australia.


Moran R. Bird flu – difficult waste (hypothetical panel). Enviro 06 Conference & Exhibition; May 2006; Melbourne, Australia.

Moran R. Influenza pandemic planning. Association of Hospital Supply and Purchasing Officers 18th Annual Conference; 18–20 October; Beechworth, Australia.

Moran R. Influenza pandemic planning and preparedness. Australian Funeral Directors Association (Victorian Country Division) State Conference; April 2006; Ballarat, Australia

Moran R. Preparing your business for pandemic influenza. Risk Management Institute Australia Annual Conference; November 2006; Melbourne, Australia

Moran R. Victoria: two years on is it still the “Place to Be?” Mosquito Control Association of Australia 7th National Conference; August 2006; Queensland, Australia.

**Communicable diseases training programs/workshops**

*Diagnosis, treatment and control of Mycobacterium ulcerans infection conference*

Forty-six delegates with experience in the management of *Mycobacterium ulcerans* infection attended a 1-day conference in Melbourne on 10 February 2006, with the aim of developing a consensus approach to the diagnosis, treatment and control of *Mycobacterium ulcerans* infection. The department sponsored and contributed to the conference. An initial draft document was extended and improved during a facilitated round table discussion.

*Gastroenteritis investigation training for environmental health officers*

As part of preparations for the Commonwealth Games in March, staff of OzFoodNet and the Communicable Disease Control Unit conducted a series of outbreak investigation training sessions for environmental health officers (EHOs) in municipalities where Commonwealth Games events were scheduled. The training covered general outbreak investigation processes, specific information on procedures to be followed during the Commonwealth Games and a practical exercise on a food-borne outbreak investigation.

Staff of OzFoodNet and the CDCU were also involved in organising, promoting and conducting two two-day investigation of gastrointestinal illness training courses for EHOs and public health staff. Gastroenteritis investigation training for EHOs was funded by OzFoodNet, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

*Infection prevention and control education*

Education was provided to various groups including aged care staff, hospitals staff, environmental health officers and business owners.

*Mosquito identification and control training course*

Twenty-two delegates from across Victoria and South Australia attended the mosquito identification and control training course held in Swan Hill in November 2006. The course aimed to provide the necessary skills and expertise for personnel to investigate and control local mosquito problems through practical based training across the following key areas: public health and mosquitoes; monitoring of breeding sites; species identification; biological and chemical control and control equipment; environmental management/ modification; occupational health and safety and; education strategies.
15. Resources

Infectious Diseases Epidemiology & Surveillance (IDEAS)
Aimed at health professionals, the IDEAS website provides information on the prevention and control of infectious diseases, regulations and guidelines, surveillance of infectious diseases and notification procedures. Information about immunisation is available at www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation

Better Health Channel
http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au
The Better Health Channel provides the community with access to online health related information which is quality assured, reliable, up-to-date and locally relevant.

Health Translations Directory
http://www.healthtranslations.vic.gov.au
The Health Translations Directory provides access to translated health information available online.

Clinicians Health Channel
Provides access to critical knowledge bases for clinicians in the public health care sector in metropolitan, regional and rural Victoria. This includes the electronic dissemination of information and access to various electronic resources such as citation databases, drug and prescribing information and clinical guidelines.