

VicHealth Public Health Research Symposium

The VicHealth Public Health Research Symposium will be a celebration of Public Health and Health Promotion Research in Victoria.

In the fifteen years since VicHealth was established the research landscape in Victoria has changed but the state's strong capacity to undertake leading-edge public health and health promotion research has not diminished. This symposium is an opportunity to reflect upon Victoria's significant achievements in public health and health promotion research over that period, identify some of the reasons for success, and analyse how we might apply the lessons learned to emerging areas of research.

We will examine why some major health issues have resulted in substantial changes in behaviour, environments and health outcomes.

We will question why other equally pressing issues have not yet seen outcomes as significant despite activity in the area.

A wide range of topics including causes of ill-health, health of population groups and research methods will be covered during the two days by researchers who are leading figures in their respective fields.

THIS SYMPOSIUM WILL:

- showcase significant public health research and its role in improving population health through case studies;
- demonstrate the breadth of public health and health promotion research, and how research has linked to policy;
- provide a forum for established and emerging leaders in the field of public health and health promotion research to come together and learn from each other's work;
- be a significant networking opportunity for researchers and students.

This symposium will be of interest to public health and health promotion researchers, students, policy makers and practitioners. We have offered a special rate for students to ensure the symposium is accessible to all.

DAY 1 – PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH – WHERE WE'VE BEEN

During day one the focus will be on 'Where we've been in Public Health Research'.

The plenary session features Professor John Funder discussing the historical and social context of medical research in Victoria from both a biomedical and public health perspective while Dr Melanie Wakefield will discuss policy relevant research in health promotion and public health.

Injury prevention, HIV/AIDS and tobacco control, all areas where Victorian research has led the world, will be highlighted as will work conducted within specific population groups such as adolescent health, child health and maternal health.

Presenters will give an overview of their area of research expertise, explain how their research area developed, how it was translated from research into practice, the links established between researchers and policy makers, and the subsequent impact of the research upon population health.

A closing debate will be titled "We don't need public health research – we only need biomedical research."

A symposium reception will follow the debate's conclusion.

DAY 2 – PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH – WHERE WE'RE GOING

On day two we will focus on 'Where we're going in Public Health Research'.

There will be discussion on the translation of research into improvements in population health. The topics chosen - cardiovascular disease, cervical cancer, asthma and diabetes - provide important case studies in the movement from high quality research into policy and practice to affect health outcomes.

Day two will also include two concurrent sessions:
– new approaches to research; and
– emerging issues and current concerns.

These concurrent sessions will be held in both the morning and the afternoon and will feature recent and ongoing research.

The final session of the symposium will be a discussion of emerging research issues such as life-course approaches, place and health and refugee health. These issues are characterised by a cross-disciplinary approach and the evolving sophistication in research will be showcased.

SYMPOSIUM SESSIONS

DAY 1: WHERE WE'VE BEEN

WEDNESDAY 26 MARCH 2003

8.45 – 9.15	Opening, Indigenous Welcome, Welcoming address
9.15 – 10.15	Plenary session: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professor John Funder• Dr Melanie Wakefield
10.45 – 12.30	Leading the World In Prevention Presentations on research into: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Injury• HIV / AIDS• Tobacco
1.30 – 3.15	Focus on Population Groups: Research in Population Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adolescent Health• Child Health (immunisation)• Maternal Health
3.45 – 4.30	Specific Research <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oral Health• Eye Health
4.30 – 6.00	Debate: "We don't need public health research – we only need biomedical research"
6.00	Symposium Reception Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre

DAY 2: WHERE WE'RE GOING

THURSDAY 27 MARCH 2003

9.00 – 10.30	Translating Research into Practice <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cardiovascular Disease• Cervical Cancer• Asthma• Diabetes
11.00 – 12.40	Concurrent Sessions (morning): <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. New Approaches to Research: Genetic Epidemiology, Social Epidemiology, Policy Research, Social Research2. Emerging Issues / Current Concerns: Obesity, Koori Health, Sexual & Reproductive Health, Community Interventions
1.40 – 2.40	Concurrent Sessions (afternoon): <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. New Approaches to Research: Presentations on major Victorian Cohort Studies.2. Emerging Issues / Current Concerns: Drugs, International Health, Breast Cancer, Health Economics
3.20 – 5.00	The way ahead: Emerging Issues and Thinking in Research <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lifecourse Approaches• Place and Health• Refugee Health
5.00	Closing remarks Dr Rob Moodie, CEO VicHealth

— Line denotes breaks for morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea

Highlights

At the symposium you will hear:

- Over 40 speakers;
- Plenary presentations by Professor John Funder and Dr Melanie Wakefield;
- Leading researchers present work in their field;
- Over 30 individual disciplines discussed;
- Reflections on lessons learnt by past activity;
- An examination of emerging issues;
- A debate by a panel of researchers and entertainers.

PLENARY SESSIONS

SPEAKER ONE: PROFESSOR JOHN FUNDER

The historical and social context of medical research in Victoria from both a biomedical and public health perspective.

For a significant period issues have been distinguished on the basis of biomedical research or public health research. More recently it has been recognised that both biomedical and public health research is necessary. Over the next decade we should move to an appreciation of the synergies to be found across the spectrum of activities subsumed under the present exclusive classifications.

SPEAKER TWO: DR MELANIE WAKEFIELD

Policy relevant research in health promotion and public health

Policy relevant research is not only capable of paying huge dividends it also allows bridges to be built between theoretical and basic research, and policy and practice. Dr Wakefield will focus on the area of cancer control including tobacco.

DEBATE

'We don't need public health research – we only need biomedical research'

Sure to be hotly contested, and both fun and informative, this debate will see individuals from a variety of backgrounds line up to present their case.

Registration Form

Please photocopy this registration form and return to VicHealth at the address below or fax.

VICTORIAN HEALTH PROMOTION FOUNDATION (VICHEALTH)

PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

(Upon receipt of payment this will be deemed a tax invoice
ABN No. 20 734 406 352)

Applicant's Family Name: _____

Other Names (First Name): _____

Title (Mr, Miss, Mrs, Ms, Dr): _____

Male Female

Postal Address: _____

City: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Facsimile: _____

Email Address: _____

Please find cheque (payable to VicHealth enclosed for)

- | | |
|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Symposium | \$132 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day one only | \$77 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day two only | \$55 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concession/Student Full Symposium | \$55 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concession/Student Day one only | \$33 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concession/Student Day two only | \$22 |

(All prices include GST)

- Yes, I will be attending the reception
 No, I won't be attending the reception

Payment to be made:

- Cheque or money order (payable to VicHealth)
 Visa Bankcard Mastercard

Card number: _____

Expiry Date: _____

Card Holder: _____

Please send registration details to:

Michele Agustin-Guarino
Learning Strategy Support Officer
VicHealth
PO Box 154
CARLTON SOUTH VIC AUSTRALIA 3053
Telephone: (03) 9667 1343 Fax: (03) 9667 1375
Email address: magustin@vichealth.vic.gov.au
Website: www.vichealth.vic.gov.au

Cancellation Terms

A cancellation fee of \$20 will apply up to and including Friday March 14. There will be no refunds on cancellation after this date, however a substitute delegate is welcome.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

SYMPOSIUM VENUE

Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre
Cnr Bell St and St Georges Rd Preston,
Melbourne, Australia

COST

Full Symposium	\$132
Day one only	\$77
Day two only	\$55
Concession/Student Full Symposium	\$55
Concession/Students Day one only	\$33
Concession/Students Day two only	\$22

Registration includes morning and afternoon tea and lunch and reception on day one.

To be eligible for the Concession/Student rate a photocopy of the student or concession card must be presented with registration form and payment.

BOOKINGS AND CONFIRMATION

Bookings can be made by returning the registration form to VicHealth by fax or mail (details left). To secure your place full payment must be received with your registration.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Further information about topics and presenters will be available on the VicHealth website
www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/seminars or you can contact Michele Agustin-Guarino on (03) 9667 1343.

CANCELLATION TERMS

A cancellation fee of \$20 will apply up to and including Friday March 14. There will be no refunds on cancellation after this date, however a substitute delegate is welcome.

PARKING

Free parking is available on site.

* Special dietary requirements contact
Michele Agustin-Guarino Ph: (03) 9667 1343

PLENARY SPEAKERS

Professor John Funder

John Funder is the VicHealth Chairman. He was Director of the Baker Institute (1990-2001) working in the areas of endocrinology and cardiovascular disease. He is currently involved in research in Melbourne, Sydney and overseas, and in addition serves as a consultant to major pharmaceutical companies and philanthropic foundations.

Dr Melanie Wakefield

Dr Melanie Wakefield is the Director: Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer, Cancer Council of Victoria. She took up a VicHealth Senior Research Fellowship in 2000 following her role as a visiting research scientist at the Health and Research Policy Centers, University of Illinois. She is senior editor of *Tobacco Control: An International Journal*.