Study leads to national strategy on child injury prevention

Associate Professor Rebecca Mitchell welcomes the new National Injury Prevention Strategy announced in the federal budget to reduce the risk of injury for Australian children. A/Professor Mitchell and a team of colleagues including researchers, clinicians and trauma specialists, had been calling for a national plan to be established, supported by the results of Mitchell et al’s decade-long study of preventable hospitalised injuries of children aged 16 or less published in Injury Prevention and a follow up report in Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health. Results of this important study attracted widespread interest and resulted in opportunities for A/Professor Mitchell to speak to government, media and interested bodies such as Women's & Children's Healthcare Australasia.

The NHMRC Partnership Centre in Health System Sustainability is now established after execution of contracts and agreements with funding
partners and participating universities late last year. Many research teams are already engaging with health service and system partners, consumer groups and other stakeholders, to shape the design of the next stage of their research. Two new senior members have joined the research team: A/Professor Yvonne Zurynski and Dr Trent Yeend. The entire PCHSS Investigation Team will come together again in May for a workshop to share learnings and strategise the next phase of the Centre’s research plans. For more information, contact: Ms Joanna Holt, PCHSS Coordinator.

**Children receive care in line with guidelines 60% of the time**

The Journal of the American Medical Association published results of AIHI’s CareTrack Kids investigation in March. This study on the standard of healthcare for children in Australia found children receive care within clinical practice guideline recommendations on average 60 percent of the time for 17 common medical conditions. Results of the study, the largest of its kind, received national media coverage including ABC’s The Health Report. Lead researcher Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite also provided notification of the study to all Australian health ministers and health departments and some overseas health bodies including the International Society for Quality in Health Care.

**AIHI presents at WHO conference**

Professors Jeffrey Braithwaite and Johanna Westbrook were honoured to be the only academics from Australia to present at the World Health Organization’s 3rd Global Ministerial Summit in Japan in April. Health ministers and policy makers from around the world attended the conference to discuss the latest on research leadership and political commitment for patient safety.

**AIHI PhD candidate**

Toby Hodgson, health informatics research PhD candidate at AIHI, has been awarded a paid six-month work placement at the Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA). Toby is enrolled in the Australasian College of Health Informatics (ACHI) Fellowship by Training Program, which is supported by the NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in Digital Health directed by Professor Enrico Coiera. Toby is working in the clinical governance division as a Digital Health Officer.

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The Australian Institute of Health Innovation (AIHI) at Macquarie University conducts world-class research with national and international research communities, governments, policymakers, providers of health services, managers, clinicians, patients and the community. Our work underpins health reforms and systems improvement, providing new tools, perspectives and evidence to help stakeholders who are interested in making the health system more effective, efficient and productive. Our overarching aim is to produce new, high quality research evidence to support change, prevention and improvement.

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