

**Mary Ellen Harrod**

Chief Executive Officer

NSW Users and AIDS Association

---

**Employment highlights:****January 2015 – Current**

**NSW Users and AIDS Association**, Chief Executive Officer

*Responsibilities:*

- Management and strategic direction of NUAA (Drug User Organisation)
- Public representation and advocacy of people who use drugs in NSW in high-level forums
- Development and leadership of collaborative initiatives

*Key achievements:*

Since commencing my appointment as CEO in 2015, peer work and peer volunteers have become entrenched in guidelines (music festivals) and system improvement initiatives across hepatitis C prevention and treatment. At the same time, NUAA as an organisation has grown with our revenues increasing by 75% and organisational reserves tripling in this same period. Our work has expanded in multiple areas and the voice of peers in system improvement has never been stronger.

**2010 – January 2015**

**Kirby Institute, University of New South Wales**, Clinical Project Leader, REACCH (Research Excellence in Aboriginal Community Controlled Health), NHMRC funded Centre for Clinical Research Excellence in Aboriginal Health

*Responsibilities:*

- Mentor and develop capacity of a team of researchers located within Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHS) through targeted, culturally and service relevant projects and quality improvement initiatives

*Key achievements:*

- Development of innovative collaborative governance structures, policy and contractual documents
- Development of research capacity in Aboriginal community
- Established and maintained unique patient-level automated data extraction that has supported quality improvement, publications and has influenced policy

*Other work history:*

Tutor, Masters of Public Health, University of Sydney, 2009-2015

Site Activation Specialist, Covance PL, 2008-2010

Senior Research Officer, Sydney Health Projects Group, 2007-2008

- Clinical Trials.

**2005 - 2007**

**University of New South Wales, National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research**, Clinical trial coordinator and project leader

*Responsibilities:*

- Responsible for coordination of two international multi-centre clinical trials

- Leadership of evaluation for antiretroviral therapy for pandemic influenza
- Monitored patient and trial regulatory records at study centres
- Liaised with study sites to assist with maintaining data quality and regulatory compliance
- Training of site study coordinators

*Key achievements:*

- Full development of clinical evaluation including working with steering committee to develop trial protocol, CRF design and development, ethics submission

**2003-2005**

**University of Sydney NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre, Clinical Trial Coordinator**

*Responsibilities:*

- Developed a multi-site clinical trial from a study protocol and informed consent including development of all study documentations, case report forms, database
- Organisation of clinical trial documentation and filing systems to conform with regulatory guidelines
- Preparation of ethics and funding submissions
- Design of study materials in accordance with protocol requirements

*Key achievements:*

- Worked with study staff and principal investigators to open 22 study sites in Australia and New Zealand
- Design of electronic CRF

**2001-2003**

**Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick, Nursing Practice Development Unit, Nursing Research Officer**

*Responsibilities:*

- Develop research capacities of SCH nursing staff utilising group and one-on-one teaching strategies
- Developed clinical practice research at Sydney Children's Hospital
- Advised clinicians on best methods for utilising evidence based techniques in their clinical practice
- Provided technical advice on research utilisation in policy development
- Prepared manuscripts for internal reporting, conferences and peer-reviewed publications

*Key Achievements:*

- Worked with several diverse teams of researchers to produce quantifiable outcomes including developing a project that was a finalist for a NSW Health Baxter Award,
- obtained funding for research projects that employed two nurse researchers

**1995-1999**

**University of Sydney, Department of Psychology , Course Coordinator – Human Performance and Organisational Psychology, Statistics Advisor, Honours and Masters Students, Tutor, various**

*Responsibilities:*

- Designing and delivering course materials
- Supervision of tutorial and lecturing staff
- Administrative duties including organising student exemptions and assessments

- Ensuring course compliance with departmental and university guidelines

### Education

- **PhD, University of Sydney**, “Physiological and behavioural correlates of behavioural activation and inhibition”
- **MPrelim, University of Sydney** Equivalent to First Class Honours
- **Grad Dip (Psychology), University of Sydney** WAM: 82.3
- **BA, Cornell University** Majoring in Comparative Literature degree awarded with distinction

### Publications

1. S Bajis, J Grebely, B Hajarizadeh, T Applegate, AD Marshall (2020) Hepatitis C virus testing, liver disease assessment and treatment uptake among people who inject drugs pre-and post-universal access to direct-acting antiviral treatment, *Journal of Viral Hepatitis* 27 (3), 281-29.
2. N Lintzeris, LA Monds, M Bravo, P Read, ME Harrod, R Gilliver, W Wood, (2020) Designing, implementing and evaluating the overdose response with take-home naloxone model of care: An evaluation of client outcomes and perspectives. *Drug and Alcohol Review* 39 (1), 55-65
3. B Quinn, R Pearson, J Cutts, C Seed, N Scott, V Hoad, P Dietze, D Wilson, ME Harrod. (2020) Blood donation amongst people who inject drugs in Australia: research supporting policy change. *Vox Sanguinis* 115 (3), 162-170
4. The role of repeat training in participants undertaking take home naloxone interventions. (2020) M Bravo, LA Monds, L Mills, P Read, ME Harrod, S Nielsen, M Jauncey, ... medRxiv.
5. Bajis S, Grebely J, Hajarizadeh B, Applegate T, Marshall AD, Harrod ME, Byrne J, Bath N, Read P, Edwards M, Gorton C, Hayllar J, Cock V, Peterson S, Thomson C, Weltman M, Jefferies M, Wood W, Haber P, Ezard N, Martinello M, Maher L, Dore GJ; LiveRLife Study Group.(2019) Hepatitis C virus testing, liver disease assessment and treatment uptake among people who inject drugs pre- and post-universal access to direct-acting antiviral treatment in Australia: The LiveRLife study. *Journal of Viral Hepatitis*.
6. Caris S, Cutts J, Farrell M, **Harrod ME**, Hellard ME, Kotsiou G, Maher L, Pearson R, Pink J, Quinn B, Scott N, Seed C, Thompson A, Wilson DP. A systematic review of interventions used to increase blood donor compliance with deferral criteria. *DRUGPO* (submitted)
7. Bryant J, Brener L, Pepolim L, **Harrod ME**. Care, agency and criminality: Making sense of authorised extended distribution in the accounts of key stakeholders. *Int J Drug Policy*. 2019 Jun 18;71:56-61
8. Read P, Chronister KJ, Kostovski C, **Harrod ME**, Salmon A, Perceptions of people who inject drugs towards HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis in Australia. *Sex Health*. 2019 Jun 17
9. **Harrod ME**, Bryant J, Cama E, Brener L, Pepolim L. Patterns of Peer Distribution of Injecting Equipment at an Authorized Distribution Site in Sydney, Australia. *Substance Use and Misuse* 2018
10. Coles T, Simpson P, Saulo D, Kaldor J, Richards A, Levy M, Wake C, Siddall DA, **Harrod ME**, Kariminia A, Butler T. Trends in hepatitis B prevalence and associated risk factors among Indigenous and non-Indigenous prison entrants in Australia, 2004 to 2013. *Aust N Z J Public Health*. 2019 Jun;43(3):236-240

11. Brener L, Bryant J, Cama E, Pepolin L, **Harrod ME**. Patterns of Peer Distribution of Injecting Equipment at an Authorized Distribution Site in Sydney, Australia. *Subst Use Misuse*. 2018 Dec 6;53(14):2405-2412
12. **Harrod ME**, Couzos S, Ward J, Saunders M, Donovan B, Hammond B, Delaney-Thiele D, Belfrage M, Williams S, Smith LW, Kaldor JM. Gonorrhoea testing and positivity in non-remote Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services. *Sex Health*. 2017 Aug;14(4):320-32
13. Cutts J, Quinn B, Seed C, Kotsiou G, Pearson R, Scott N, Wilson DP, **Harrod M**, Maher L, Caris S, Thompson A, Farrell M, Pink J, Hellard M. (2017). A systematic review of interventions used to increase blood donor compliance with deferral criteria. *International Journal of Drug Policy*. Oct; 48 (9-17)
14. Graham S, **Harrod ME**, Iversen J, Hocking JS, Prevalence of Hepatitis C Among Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People: A Systematic Review and Meta Analysis. *Hepatitis Monthly* 2016
15. **Harrod ME**, et al., *Markers of hepatitis B infection and immunity in patients attending Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services*. *Medical Journal of Australia*, Sep 15 2014.
16. **Harrod ME**, Ward J, Graham S, Butler T (2011) Australian prisons: the key to closing the gap 17 and ensuring HIV remains low in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. *HIV Australia*, 9(1), 17-20.
17. **Harrod ME**, Emery S, and Dwyer DE., *Antivirals in the management of an influenza pandemic*. *Med J Aust* 2006. **185**(10): p. S58-S61.
18. Morrill ML, **Harrod ME** et al., *Central venous catheter handwashing practices in intensive care units*. *Australian Critical Care.*, 2006. **19**(1): p. 15-21.
19. Goode M, **Harrod ME** et al., *Adherence in children with chronic illness: the role of nursing in the health care team*. *Australian Journal of Advanced Nursing*. , 2004. **21**(4): p. 27-33
20. Galway R, **Harrod ME** et al., *Caring for central venous access devices: variability in handwashing guidelines and practices*. *Paediatric Nursing*, 2003. **15**(10): p. 4-8.
21. Wales S and **Harrod ME**, *Adherence to Asthma Treatment: The nurses' role*. *Australian Nursing Journal*, 2001. **9**(1).
22. Beh HC and **Harrod ME**, *Physiological responses in high-P subjects during active and passive coping*. *International Journal of Psychophysiology*, 1998. **28**(3): p. 291-300.

#### **Policy and Advocacy – invited appearances**

- Global Cities After Dark
- Ice Inquiry
- Festival Roundtable
- Welfare Drug Testing
- Parliamentary Drug Summit hosted by the Parliamentary Group on Drug Policy and Law Reform, Canberra, Mary 2016 (panellist)
- Cross-Party Parliamentary Harm Minimisation Summit, Sydney, July 2016.
- RACGP Roundtable - Broad Principles of Harm Reduction and Reducing Stigma, Sydney, Feb 2016.

#### **Invited presentations:**

- Global Cities After Dark
- Harrod ME, Lessons for Working with hard to reach and vulnerable groups, NSW Health Promotion Forum. 2016, Sydney.
- Fernandes, L, **Harrod ME**, Perspectives from the Zombie Hordes, Tackling Methamphetamine Conference. 2015: Sydney.

- **Harrod ME**, How community can shift the status quo in peer-led research for people who use drugs. Consumer Led Research Forum, 2015: Sydney
- **Harrod ME**, Delaney-Thiele D, *REACCH: the use of health technology to enhance STI and BBV service delivery within an Aboriginal Community Controlled led research collaboration* Australasian Sexual Health Conference. 2014: Sydney (invited presentation)
- **Harrod ME** on Behalf of the REACCH Collaboration, *Service-driven quality improvement in STI and BBV testing*, in *NACCHO Healthy Futures Summit*. 2014: Melbourne.

#### Conference presentations, lead author:

- Harrod ME, Couzos S, Ward J, Saunders M, Donovan B, Hammond B, Delaney-Thiele D, Belfrage M, Williams S, Watchirs Smith L, Kaldor JM. Gonorrhoea Testing and Positivity in non-remote Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services. *Sexual Health* 2017
- **Harrod ME**, Couzos S, Donovan B, Kaldor J, Williams S, Hammond B, Gregson S, Delaney-Thiele D, Saunders M, Ward J: *Opportunistic testing for gonorrhoea in four Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services*. 2014: Australasian Sexual Health Conference, Sydney
- **Harrod ME**; Dore G, Gregson S; Belfrage M; Delaney-Thiele D, Hammond B, Williams S, Donovan B; Mooney-Somers J, Saunders M, Kaldor J; Ward J, *A Descriptive Analysis of Routine HCV Testing Data from Four Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services: Testing, Positivity, Follow Up and Context of Testing*. World Indigenous People's Conference on Viral Hepatitis. 2014: Alice Springs.
- **Harrod ME** on behalf of the REACCH Collaboration, The use of routinely collected clinical data to illuminate gaps in current research into STI and BBV infections in the urban Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, in *UNSW School of Public Health and Community Medicine Annual Research Symposium*. 2014: Kensington.
- **Harrod ME**, Kaldor J, Couzos S, Donovan B, Dea Delaney-Thiele D, Saunders M, Fernando T, Hammond B, Nori A, Healey V, Tolhurst B, Gately J, Belfrage M, Gregson S, James Ward. Chlamydia testing and follow up in young people attending urban and regional Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services. 13th International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI) World Congress, Melbourne, October 2012
- **Harrod ME**, Thiele D, Dore G, Couzos S, Ward J, Saunders M, Tollhurst B, Gately J, Leedie F, Kaldor J on behalf of the REACCH Collaboration. Markers of hepatitis B infection and immunity in five Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services, 2009-2011. 12<sup>th</sup> Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference, Auckland, New Zealand, Sep 2012 (Accepted for oral presentation)
- **Harrod, ME**, Graham, S, Kaldor, J, Donovan, B, Ward, J. *Completeness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Status in Sexually Transmissible Infections (STI) and Blood-borne Virus (BBV) Notifications in Australia*. 3<sup>rd</sup> CRIAH Aboriginal Health Research Conference. Sydney 5-6 May 2011
- **Harrod ME**, Graham S, Wand H, Ward J. *Gaps in sexually transmissible and blood borne viral infection reporting: What are the implications for closing the gap?* Australasian Sexual Health Conference. Canberra 28-30 September 2011
- **Harrod M E**, Wilson D, Ward J, HIV in Aboriginal Australians: Prevention in prison settings should be a key focus. Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference. Canberra 26-28 September 2011
- **Harrod, ME**, Collins, G, Jacoby, S, Pett, SL, Courtney-Rodgers, D, Carey, C, Emery, S, Cooper, DA on behalf of the SILCAAT study group (2006). Achieving cd4+ t-cell goal and completeness of follow up in SILCAAT. Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Annual Conference, Melbourne, October 2006
- **Harrod, ME**, Thomsen, A, Wales, S, Barron V. (2002). *A Survey to measure treatment adherence in adolescents with chronic illness*. Paper presented to 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference for Paediatric and Child Health Nurses, Manly.
- **Harrod, ME** (2000). *Personality and emotional regulation*. Department of Psychology, University of Sydney Postgraduate Conference. Sydney, NSW.

- **Harrod, ME** (2000). *A brief investigation of autonomic arousal and harm avoidance*. International Conference for Psychophysiology. Sydney, NSW.
- **Harrod, ME**, Beh, H.C., Kho, S.Y., & Carroll, M.T.(1996). *Cardiac responses during an active-passive countdown procedure*, Australasian Society for Psychophysiology, Hobart, Tasmania.
- **Harrod, ME** (1996). *An examination of impulsive sensation seeking behaviour*. National Postgraduate Conference, Sydney.
- **Harrod, ME**, & Buckingham, R. (1995). *Temperament and physiological reactivity to affective stimuli*. Australasian Society for Psychophysiology, University of Wollongong
- **Harrod, ME** (1994). *Personality and physiological response during active and passive coping*. Australasian Society for Psychophysiology, University of Melbourne.

#### Conference presentations, contributing author (selection)

- Mooney-Somers J, Nori A, Hammond B, **Harrod, ME**, Kaldor, J. *Client Experiences of Undertaking HCV Treatment Through an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service: Insights from a Qualitative Evaluation* World Indigenous People's Conference on Viral Hepatitis. 2014: Alice Springs.
- Delaney-Thiele, Gillor G, Ford B, **Harrod ME**, D. Antenatal care and infectious disease risk at Aboriginal Medical Service Western Sydney, in UNSW School of Public Health and Community Medicine Annual Research Symposium. 2014: Kensington.
- Williams S, **Harrod ME**, Ford B, Leedie F, Dodd M, Saunders M, Kaldor J. Implementing and evaluating a sexual health quality improvement initiatives and a service-based model of care in a regional Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service, The Lowitja Institute 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference on Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care, Melbourne 2014
- Hammond B, Miller W, Pratt E, Duszynski A, Healy V, **Harrod ME**, Kaldor J. Developing an evidence based model of care for people at risk of or living with a blood borne viral illness in an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service The Lowitja Institute 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference on Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care, Melbourne 2014
- Delaney-Thiele D, Gillor G, **Harrod ME**, Culturally Appropriate Protocols (CAP) for research from an Aboriginal community perspective, Australasian Ethics Network Conference, Fremantle 2013.
- Delaney-Thiele D, Hure S, **Harrod ME**, Gillor G, Dorn C, Saunders M, Couzos S, Kaldor J, Antenatal STI and BBV testing at Aboriginal Medical Service Western Sydney Australasian Sexual Health Conference, Darwin 2014
- Gregson S, Dick K Belfrage M, **Harrod ME**, Waples-Crowe P, Couzos S, Saunders M, Ward J, Kaldor J, Hepatitis B Management and Clinical Quality Improvement at Victorian Aboriginal Health Service Australasian Sexual Health Conference, Darwin 2014
- Tebbutt N, GebSKI V, Strickland A, Gibbs D, Walpole E, Ganju V, Goldstein D, Munro S, **Harrod ME**, Van Hazel G, Australasian GI Trials Group (2006). Randomised phase II study evaluating weekly docetaxel in combination with cisplatin and 5FU or capecitabine in metastatic oesophago-gastric cancer *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 2006 ASCO Annual Meeting Proceedings (Post-Meeting Edition). Vol 24, No 18S (June 20 Supplement), 4067
- Galway, R., **Harrod, ME**, Crisp, J. (2002). *Caring for central venous catheters: Variability in handwashing practice in general paediatric wards in Australia and New Zealand*. Paper presented to 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference for Paediatric and Child Health Nurses, Manly.
- Ward, P, Mattick, RP, **Harrod, ME** (2000). *Health care utilization under the Commonwealth Medicare Benefits Scheme by methadone patients*. APSAD/National Methadone Conference. Melbourne, Victoria.

**Reviewer:**

- Australian Journal of Primary Health
- Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene
- Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health
- Sexual Health
- International Harm Reduction Journal

**Selected Committee and Board Membership (selected)**

- NSW Ministry of Health Hepatitis B and C Strategy Implementation Committee (regular member)
- NSW Ministry of Health HIV Strategy Implementation Committee (occasional member)
- NSW Ministry of Health Quality in Treatment Committee