Impact Report: **July 2021**

This report gives an overview of Croakey’s publishing during July 2021 and the range of individuals and organisations commenting on our articles and activities.

**Social Media Impressions**

We record our social media analytics using Buffer. The figures below are for total impressions across Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

1,936,643 impressions

See our latest readership figures [here](https://www.croakey.org/impact/).

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**1 July, 2021:** As the highly infectious Delta variant spreads rapidly across the globe, Australia’s pandemic response is fracturing at a critical time, with about half of the country’s population under lockdown and worrying outbreaks unfolding.

Several stories in our bulletin this week highlight the need for improved vaccination communications and strategies, with Aboriginal health leaders highlighting the challenges facing Northern Territory communities. We also flag the health sector’s concerns about changes to the regulation of charities, and put the spotlight on mental health. Make sure to download [our comprehensive report](https://www.croakey.org/impact/) covering the recent Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists Congress. As ever, don’t miss The Health Wrap, by Associate Professor Lesley Russell.

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We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the country where we live, work and travel upon, and to Elders, past, present and future.

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https://www.croakey.org/impact/
8 July, 2021: Heal Country is a powerful call for justice during NAIDOC Week. Its significance resonates through many of the stories in our bulletin this week, which take us from the devastating heatwaves in North America to a remote community in Western Australia, and to Aotearoa/New Zealand with a wrap of the latest news on climate and health.

As Sydney faces another week in lockdown, we look at the COVID-19 toll on children and young people, and how their issues were sidelined in the recent Intergenerational Report. Don’t miss the in-depth analysis of out-of-pocket costs from Jennifer Doggett and Associate Professor Lesley Russell, who urge governments, healthcare providers and funders to step into their responsibility and address this longstanding concern.

Private health insurance and inequitable Medicare Benefits Schedule rebates are also in the spotlight, as are calls to tackle the “existential threat” to public health from Big Tech. This week our featured video is: Finding Our Heart – A story about the Uluru Statement for young Australians.

As Sydney locks down for longer, and Melbourne is again on high alert, we look at issues for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Sydney hotspots, and also feature stories of personal hardship and heartache as our national borders stay closed.

Australia’s dismal record on climate and health sees us at the bottom of a global scorecard, and a new glossary of terms is launched to guide local climate and health conversations. We report on the welcome shelving of independent assessments in the National Disability Insurance Scheme, while our COVID-19 wrap focuses on the latest research in children and young people. As always, don’t miss Associate Professor Lesley Russell’s The Health Wrap. Also, please tune in on 15 July on Twitter at the hashtag #RCIADIC30Years to hear from Associate Professor Megan Williams on stopping Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths in custody.

If the Government’s ‘Arm Yourself’ campaign hasn’t inspired, then our featured video might at least get your toes tapping: COVID-19 vaccination campaign from the NHS.
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22 July, 2021: With COVID outbreaks stretching Australia’s health workforce, our bulletin this week profiles innovation in primary healthcare, with inspiration from the example of Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations.

In the area of knowledge translation, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and organisations are also setting benchmarks in ensuring that research addresses communities’ needs, according to the first article in a series sponsored by the Lowitja Institute. And don’t miss Dr Tess Ryan’s heartfelt calls for justice for prisoners’ health, and why there is such “steely determination for change”.

As a leading expert urges political leaders to stop bickering and get on with delivering a comprehensive public health response to COVID, the political blame-shifting continues. “The tragedy of this pandemic is that it could have been under control by now, if vaccines had been allocated more equitably,” says the World Health Organization’s Director-General, who has some thoughts on what it would take to end the pandemic by next year.
29 July, 2021: As many NSW residents face another four weeks of lockdown, Cate Carrigan investigates what this means for the ethnically diverse area of south-west and western Sydney, where community leaders are concerned about “lockdown fatigue”.

Meanwhile, Jennifer Doggett argues that governments need to stop politicising the pandemic response and do more to engage communities in decision-making and rebuild public trust.

Nicole MacKee shares some timely and visionary suggestions for preventing domestic, family, and sexual violence. We also hear from doctors about the distress of young people in the face of COVID misinformation and climate inaction. In The Health Wrap, Associate Professor Lesley Russell examines what the United States Government is doing to address COVID mis/disinformation. Former Greens leader Dr Richard Di Natale writes on primary healthcare reform, and other contributors focus on critical gaps in the forthcoming Census, and the links between drowning prevention, climate change and health equity.

This week, Australians are being urged to support the Uluru Statement and its call for a First Nations Voice to Parliament protected by the Constitution. Here’s how.
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