Impact Report: April 2024

A highlight during April was our #CroakeyLIVE webinar on oral healthcare inequities, which sent a clear message about the need for national leadership to drive much-needed reforms, as well as profiling leadership by Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations. We also investigated how misinformation and disinformation are affecting public health, including at the local government level.

The Croakey Conference News Service was prolific during April. Dr Amy Coopes reported from the Doctors for the Environment Australia conference, where the Great Debate topic was “Top down or bottom up – what’s going to get Australia to net-zero fastest?” Alison Barrett reported from two events in Adelaide, on Kaurna Country, featuring Professor Ilona Kickbusch on the digital determinants of health. Marie McInerney previewed the Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMIRT) conference, and we were also delighted to publish a 56-page report compiling our coverage from the Third World Indigenous Cancer Conference, in Naarm/Melbourne.

Dr Donna Ah Chee put a strong focus on the political determinants of health in her Douglas Gordon Oration at the Preventive Health Conference, and we also brought news from the World Health Summit Regional Meeting in Naarm/Melbourne, the People’s Health Assembly in Argentina, Global Public Health Week, and the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York. We continued our strong focus on global health, reporting the World Medical Association’s calls for a sustainable ceasefire in Gaza.

For the four Croakey News bulletins sent during April 2024, subscriber open rates ranged from 27-40 percent. Each week, between 122 and 260 MPs/their staffers opened the bulletin, or between 19 and 40 percent of the MPs receiving the bulletin, across federal, state and territory jurisdictions.

One of our lead stories during April, Where is the equity lens on the cost of living crisis? by Marie McInerney, generated widespread interest among MP readers and/or their staffer across several jurisdictions. Another story by Marie McInerney, Building Australia’s literacy in truth-telling, some ways forward, also generated strong interest among MPs in the Queensland, South Australian and Tasmanian Parliaments, in particular.

Croakey Health Media issued a media statement urging the Albanese Government to revisit the News Media Bargaining Code: “The Albanese Government should urgently commission an independent investigation of the News Media Bargaining Code, with a focus on its effects on media diversity and sustainability as well as efforts to tackle misinformation and disinformation.”

It’s a reminder that media policy is public health policy.

Social Media Impressions

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

This month: 358,672 impressions | This year: 1,146,046 impressions
Top down AND bottom up

**Week ending 11 April:** Warm thanks to speakers, participants and sponsors of our recent #CroakeyLIVE – the large, engaged audience demonstrates the urgency of action to tackle oral health inequities.

Our bulletin leads with a [wrap](https://www.croakey.org/impact-and-readership/) of the webinar’s wide-ranging discussions, showcasing innovation in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health sector, and delivering a clear message: **national leadership is required**.

Dr Amy Coopes [reports from](https://www.croakey.org/impact-and-readership/) the recent Doctors for the Environment Australia conference, where the Great Debate topic – ‘Top down or bottom up – what’s going to get Australia to net-zero fastest’? - was prescient, given the Prime Minister’s announcement today of a green industry reform agenda.

The ICYMI column [celebrates](https://www.croakey.org/impact-and-readership/) two wins for environmental health that Al Gore has called “powerful reminders that the antidote to despair about the state of climate and environmental justice is action!”

It’s Global Public Health Week, which has a focus on the importance of peace for health. An open letter by senior paediatricians and child health experts [urges](https://www.croakey.org/impact-and-readership/) the Australian Government to do everything in its power to stop the war on children in Gaza.

New research [featured](https://www.croakey.org/impact-and-readership/) in this week’s bulletin highlights the benefits of tailoring health promotion interventions to support people reduce or quit smoking or vaping.

The [commercial determinants of health](https://www.croakey.org/impact-and-readership/) are in the spotlight, with some timely warnings and advice on the power of algorithms.

Meanwhile, public health researcher Clare Walter [proposes](https://www.croakey.org/impact-and-readership/) some strategies to reduce the health impacts from vehicle emissions.

The [Health Wrap](https://www.croakey.org/impact-and-readership/) examines reproductive rights, pandemic treaty discussions and the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide.

And [The Zap](https://www.croakey.org/impact-and-readership/) brings us the latest on the Aged Care Act, Urgent Care Clinics and primary health insurance.
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.
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.

Traffic-related air pollution is known to cause asthma onset in children, lung cancer, ischaemic heart disease, chronic obstructive lung disease, stroke, diabetes & adverse birth outcomes (premature birth and low birth weights) The list keeps expanding.”

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.

Mindgardens Neuroscience Network @mindgardensau
Our Executive Director @julie_currieAU on the successful results of the Keep Quitting in Mind smoking cessation program, run alongside @SEastSydHealth.

One in nine participants quit the habit and many more reduced their daily smoking rates by half.

A/Prof Robyn Schofield @RobynSchofield3 · Apr 12
Wake up and smell the exhaust fumes – they’re making us sick!
From croakey.org

Mitchell Ward @mitchellward
A new featured video is up at croakey.org – @WFPFA_FMASP – Global Public Health Week 2024 presentation @CroakeyNews @MelissaSweetDr

ICYMI: taking a stand on World Health Day, long COVID updates, wins and losses for global health – and research of note croakey.org/ICYMI-taking-a...

#MyLongCovidAdvocacy #LongCovid

ICYMIm: taking a stand on World Health Day, long COVID updates, wins and losses for glo...
Croakey Conference News Service

Dr Amy Coopes live-tweeted the Doctors for the Environment Australia conference, #IDEA24. An article was compiled for Croakey readers from @WePublicHealth retweets from the conference.

Other activities

On 9 April, Croakey's Dr Melissa Sweet posted an X/Twitter thread from the launch of the 2023 report of the MJA-Lancet Countdown on health and climate change.
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.

News from Croakey

Please see our statement from 4 April, Albanese Government urged to revisit the News Media Bargaining Code:

“The Albanese Government should urgently commission an independent investigation of the News Media Bargaining Code, with a focus on its effects on media diversity and sustainability as well as efforts to tackle misinformation and disinformation, according to independent media publisher, Croakey Health Media.”
Tackling misinformation and disinformation

Week ending 18 April: The Federal Government is planning tough action to tackle the spread of misinformation and disinformation by digital platforms, Communications Minister Michelle Rowland said today.

It’s not before time, as the tragic events of the past week in Sydney have reminded us.

This week our bulletin has a strong focus on misinformation and disinformation, and the importance of a whole-of-society response involving all levels of government.

We preview discussions at a timely panel discussion on ‘misinformationitis’ during the World Health Summit Regional Meeting in Naarm/Melbourne next week.

We also report on health reform priorities, and the latest issues paper from the national Scope of Practice Review – you can expect more on that in the forthcoming edition of The Zap.

Meanwhile, the latest edition of the Zap launches a new feature, in response to reader feedback: a list of consultations that we hope you will find helpful. Please keep us updated of any new ones to add.

After surviving sepsis, medical student Liv Dumville has a newfound appreciation of the need to address the global health threat of antimicrobial resistance.

The ICYMI column examines what Australia and other countries can learn from Thailand about funding public health, and also links readers into news from the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-led initiatives to reduce alcohol harms are profiled in a new book that privileges, prioritises and amplifies First Nations voices.

And the development of a First Nations Clean Energy Strategy is highlighting many opportunities for improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, provided solutions are community-led.

With the federal budget just over three weeks away, researcher Chelsea Hunnisett has some pointed questions for the Albanese Government, including: what happened to plans for a wellbeing economy?
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.
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.

Save Antibiotics @saveantibiotics

"Although its impact may seem invisible, make no mistake: #antimicrobial resistance undoubtedly affects everybody in the community," @UniMelb's Liv Dumville writes.

Niranjan Konduri @N_Konduri · Apr 28

Prof Mervyn Singer’s masterclass on #Sepsis in #ESCMIIDGlobal was profound.

Sepsis and antibiotic stewardship are two sides of the same coin.

Highest burden in sub-Saharan Africa and SE Asia.

Check out a survivor’s patient story by Liv Dumville

Quotable

“Dear FaceBook/Meta, you are ripping off my fellow Australians by allowing these DeepFake ads of me, to continue promoting worthless "wellness" products. When this was reported to you, you said it was fine. What will you do to fix this?”

Dr Karl Kruszelnicki

Source

Quotable

“A handful of powerful countries are sabotaging the best chance to translate the lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic into legally binding commitments that will protect us all.”

An editorial in The Lancet

Source

https://www.croakey.org/impact-and-readership/
News from Croakey

The Croakey Health Media board meet on 18 April. We thank and acknowledge our directors for their leadership and generous probono contributions to supporting independent media.

As well as his research and academic roles, CHM Director James Blackwell is a columnist in his local newspaper, in rural NSW.

My column this week in the @BoorowaNews is clear about the threat of feral horses in our Alpine regions, and the ridiculous antics of some of the pro-feral horse lobby.

The only sustainable number of feral horses for our Alpine national parks is zero. Culling achieves that.

---

Reclaim Kosci and 2 others
11:46 AM · Apr 18, 2024 from Boorowa, New South Wales · 231 Views
Global and local

Week ending 25 April: We bring a strong focus on global health this week, as the World Medical Association joins calls for a sustainable ceasefire in Gaza.

Don’t miss the news from the World Health Summit Regional Meeting in Naarm/Melbourne, the People’s Health Assembly in Argentina, and Global Public Health Week.

As the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues wraps up in New York, we link readers into related reports and resources, with a warning that the transition to a green economy must not continue “historical injustices, marginalisation, discrimination and dispossession”.

The importance of truth-telling is an urgent theme running through many articles; see Marie McInerney’s story with plenty of timely and practical strategies for building Australia’s literacy in truth-telling.

We continue our determined focus on strategies for tackling misinformation and disinformation, and hear from a Mayor about the important role of local government in this space.

Read about how young people are speaking up against vaping. The wellbeing of young people is also in focus in Alison Barrett’s reports from Professor Ilona Kickbusch’s recent presentations in Adelaide.

As always, The Health Wrap, The Zap and ICYMI columns bring wide-ranging issues to your attention.
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.

Penelope Joy @LopeyPen

The excellent webinar #Decolonisation & #PublicHealth made the cut! @IndigenousWPHA @LanmLarn @kelyan13 @KasangThinle - along with so many other excellent things to read & watch. Check it out!

Croakey News @CroakeyNews · Apr 24

A stack of resources from Global Public Health Week croakey.org/a-stack-of-ress... #publichealth

11:24 PM · Apr 25, 2024 · 153 Views

Frances Baum @baumfran

I've just been at the 5th People's Health Assembly in Argentina what an inspiring event - read some highlights here @PHIMglobal @CroakeyNews

10:02 PM · Apr 24, 2024 · 1,346 Views

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.

https://www.croakey.org/impact-and-readership/
Croakey Conference News Service

Alison Barrett reported from two events in Adelaide, on Kaurna Country, featuring Professor Ilona Kickbusch.

I had the pleasure of hearing Professor @IlonaKickbusch speak at the @WorldHealthSmt Regional Meeting this week. This article nicely summarises many of the themes discussed at the meeting.

Creating healthier societies in a time of polypharmacy, what does it take? croakey.org/creating-health... #publichealth

Some thoughts linked to the final panel just now @WorldHealthSmt #WHSMelbourne2024

Regulators urged to address concerns about the digital transformation harming children.
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.

During her keynote presentation at the Navigating the Societal Digital Transformation Forum last week, Professor Ilona Kickbusch provided a stimulating talk about the impacts (both positive and negative) of social media and digital connectivity, and the unknown future effects of these societal changes. Professor Kickbusch ended with a powerful statement: that we have reached a ‘tipping point’ regarding the digital world, and our society needs to act promptly to protect citizens and communities against the detrimental impacts of technology.

**Allison Barrett** from Croakey Health Media wrote a compelling article about the forum that expanded on this theme and the major takeaways of the session, such as the call for legislative and regulatory changes (especially those in relation to younger people) regarding the use of social media, smartphones, and technology. We need to create supportive environments that protect promote health and wellbeing.

Click here to read the article: [https://lnkd.in/gKh2zP9Q](https://lnkd.in/gKh2zP9Q).

A call to action has been made. How will you respond?

**Preventive Health SA, Adelaide School of Public Health, Carmel Williams, Tracy Merlin, Yonatal Tefera, Mija Coad**

Regulators urged to address concerns about the digital transformation harming children and young people.

**Paul Belcher FRCP MFPH**

#SocialMedia: Call for tougher regulation on #DigitalDeterminantsOfHealth to protect health of children and young people

“Absolutely shocking and irresponsible how little regulation we have in this area”

@IlonaKickbusch #WHSMelbourne2024
croakey.org/regulators-urg... @CroakeyNews

Regulators urged to address concerns about the digital transformation harming children.

The Centre for Health in All Policies Research Translation was delighted to have Allison from Croakey in the room to document and share the challenging and insightful ideas presented by Professor Ilona Kickbusch on the Digital Determinants of Health and to hear a Panel of South Australian leaders discuss the impacts and opportunities for South Australians. Adelaide has benefited from Ilona’s wisdom again - now is the time to act on Digital Determinants of Health. Thanks to our great panel members: Brenton Catlin, Emily Jenke, Dr Natasha Schranz, Rebecca Tooher, Matthew McConnell, Adriana Milazzo, Mija Coad, Yonatal Tefera

Croakey Health Media
1,446 followers
56 · Edited

Croakey editor **Allison Barrett** reported from the ‘Navigating the Societal Digital Transformation’ forum yesterday for Croakey News Conference Service.

With a keynote presentation by Professor Ilona Kickbusch and a panel of South Australian senior decision makers, it was an engaging discussion on the impacts of digitisation on societies.

See #DigitalDeterminants24 on X/Twitter to follow the discussion, and stay tuned for an in-depth wrap to come.

Hosted by School of Public Health, University of Adelaide, in collaboration with Preventive Health SA (formerly known as Wellbeing SA) and the Centre for Health in All Policies Research Translation.

Allison will be reporting from a lecture by Prof Kickbusch tonight (Thu 18 Apr) at 5.30pm ACST. Follow #HealthierSocieties on X/Twitter if you’re unable to attend.

For more details: [https://lnkd.in/gp5SwdrFr](https://lnkd.in/gp5SwdrFr)
Acting upstream

*** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that this bulletin contains images and details of people who have passed ***

Week ending 2 May: The solutions to many health problems – whether local, national or global – lie upstream.

Our bulletin this week reminds us that action on the upstream determinants of health and health inequities is more likely to bring wide-ranging benefits, beyond any single issue of concern.

Often this means strong advocacy to influence the political determinants of health, as Dr Donna Ah Chee outlined powerfully in her Douglas Gordon Oration at the Preventive Health Conference today.

Her article and others also highlight how governments themselves contribute to so much harm, whether by their inaction or their actions.

As Marie McInerney reports, the death in custody of Heather Calgaret, a proud Yamatji, Noongar, Wongi and Pitjantjatjara woman, underscores the importance of addressing all forms of violence against women, and especially the structural violence experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.

This is also important context for our lead story this week, which examines whether focusing on the ‘inequality crisis’ in the lead-up to the Federal Budget on 14 May would deliver better outcomes than focusing on the ‘cost of living crisis’.

Meanwhile, Alison Barrett covers Médecins Sans Frontières reports documenting the devastating mental and physical toll of sustained conflict in Gaza, including for healthcare workers risking their own lives to care for others.

We also share a moving ode to healthcare workers from Dr Kathryn Daley, who has a story of “gratitude and guilt” about the life-saving care provided to her young daughter, Kate.

The Croakey Conference News Service brings a preview of the Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMIRT) conference, which will be held for the first time on Larrakia Country next week.

We are also delighted to publish a 56-page report compiling our coverage from the Third World Indigenous Cancer Conference, held recently in Naarm/Melbourne.

As always, don’t miss our regular columns: The Zap and ICYMI.
Lucy Westerman @lwest - 7h
ICYMI - One of the highlights and most provoking contributions to @_PHAA, #Prevention2024 - some progress but still a long way to go, and still a lot more listening, learning & coding power to do. A worthy read.

Melissa Sweet @MelissaSweetDr - 7h
The politics of prevention: Aboriginal community controlled health services from self-determination to post-referendum
croakey.org/the-politics-o...
Read presentation by Dr Donna Ah Chee to #Prevention2024

Prevention Centre @TAPPCentre
@CroakeyNews is essential reading for anyone in the #prevention
#publichealth space!
4:04 PM - May 6, 2024 - 39 Views

Warwick Stanley @stanleyward90 - 2h
"Francis Markham has estimated that remote Indigenous communities face 39 percent higher prices for basic goods (food and drink, transport, electricity, tobacco products and other goods and services) than those in major urban centres."

Melissa Sweet @MelissaSweetDr - May 6
The politics of prevention: Aboriginal community controlled health services from self-determination to post-referendum
croakey.org/the-politics-o...
Read presentation by Dr Donna Ah Chee to #Prevention2024

Peter Miller @peter_g_miller
A brilliant and compelling read from someone who is truly inspirational.
6:56 AM - May 9, 2024 - 8 Views

IMPACT REPORT
https://www.croakey.org/impact-and-readership/

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.
We wrapped up our coverage of the Third World Indigenous Cancer Conference with this comprehensive, 56-page report. Please download your free copy!