Biennial Activities report 2017

Research Highlights
• The Centre for Population Ageing Research has been granted extended funding from the Australian Research Council to continue research into the economic and social challenges of population ageing. http://www.cepar.edu.au/media/167273/cepar-ii-funding_final_7916.pdf
• NARI formed the Melbourne Ageing Research Collaboration, (MARC) a partnership between hospitals, aged care, academia and advocacy groups to enable more rapid research translation into policy and practice. The themes are falls prevention, end of life, dementia and healthy ageing
• RDNS Institute inaugural research showcase - Thursday 29 September 2016 featured sessions on medication management, health economics, community mental health, healthy ageing, dementia and inclusive healthcare.
• Australian Community of Practice in Research in Dementia. Colette Browning, Di Goeman, Julie Byles. This NHMRC funded project involves multi-disciplinary research to enable better care for people with dementia.

Our focus on work, health and retirement
Research projects include:
• Attitudes to Ageing in Australia (Hallmark Institute)
• The Role of Cultural Institutions in Facilitating an Age-Integrated Society (Hallmark Institute)
• Design for Building an Engaged, Inclusive and Resilient Residential Aged Care Workforce (Hallmark Institute)

Work, Retirement and Health: A brief directory of Australian research. December 2015

Our focus on housing
• New member – City of Unley WHO Global Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities.
• Wellbeing at The Landings - activity based wellbeing program developed in partnership with the residents of The Landings retirement community.
• Reframing stroke rehabilitation spaces: The role of learning in recovery and its implications for design evaluation (Hallmark Institute)
• Intergenerational co-housing: Perceptions among older adults (Hallmark Institute)
• Liveable communities (RCGHA) – to develop a housing decision checklist for older adults.

HOUSE AND HOME: BUILT ENVIRONMENTS FOR AGEING WELL - SYMPOSIA - IFA 2016

AAG Webinar “You can't have home care if you don't have a home” looked at the intersection between housing and aged care.

CEPAR Seminar Friday 17 June 2016 “Shaping the future, planning for homes in an Ageing World”. Keynote speakers were Professor Chris Phillipson and Dr Tine Buffel from the United Kingdom.

Our focus on diversity
• The Federation of Ethnic Communities’ Councils of Australia (FECCA) and the National Ageing Research Institute (NARI) held a national Roundtable in Canberra in March 2016 to develop a strategy to address gaps in research into ageing and aged care for older culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) Australians.
• Promoting Healthy Ageing in Vietnam Veterans (Hallmark Institute)
• The role of masculinity in the suicidality of men aged 80 or more (Hallmark Institute)
• Frailty in community-dwelling older people (Benetas) Funded by Dept. of Health, Aged Care Service Improvement and Healthy Ageing - to develop a simple self-completed tool that can accurately identify frailty.
• A focus on older women (Susan Feldman, Monash University) examining social and economic disadvantages and vulnerabilities confronting women as they grow older.
Advocacy

- Hal Kendig is on a Research Reference Group formed in support of the Benevolent Society Campaign Against Ageism, which also includes the Age Discrimination Commissioner.
- Submission to the Australian Human Rights Commission’s Willing to Work Inquiry – Inquiry into discrimination against older workers and people with a disability, December 2015. (Hallmark Institute)

Elder abuse

- NARI hosted a roundtable into elder abuse, in conjunction with Seniors’ Rights Victoria. The meeting highlighted the need for a prevalence study in Australia. See: http://www.nari.net.au/news-and-events/news-from-nari/elder-abuse-roundtable
  Joosten M, Vrantsidis F & Dow B
- NARI made a submission on elder abuse to the Victorian Governments Royal Commission into Family Violence
- NARI and AAG made a submission to the ALRC elder abuse review
- NARI's made a submission to the Victorian Governments gender equality strategy

Malta, S., Dow, B., Tackling elder abuse in residential care requires systemic culture change. Australian Ageing Agenda, 3 February 2016

Featured event

Australian Association of Gerontology Conference 2-4 November, Canberra 2016

More than 500 delegates attended this year’s Australian Association of Gerontology National Conference. The theme of the conference was "re-imagining our future" and focused on the resources and opportunities presented by an ageing society. Other AAG events can be found here:


Policy

- Introducing AAG Senior Policy Officer, Tonye Segbedzi. Appointed March 2016
- NARI presented an Annual Seminar on 7th October 2016 marking 40 years of gerontology research in Australia “Translating age research into policy and practice, 40 years and beyond”
- The 2016 COTA National Policy Forum focused on reframing primary healthcare for older Australians.
  http://thecornerstone.com/dont-just-blame-older-australians-for-increased-hospital-demand-62622

- The 2017 COTA National Policy Forum focused on housing for older Australians

COTA BUDGET ALERTS 2016 and 2017


- Members of the Hallmark Ageing Research Initiative, and other ILC-Australia members attended roundtable discussions on the Adequacy of the Age Pension in Australia, cohosted by The Benevolent Society and Per Capita.
- Helen Barrie provided a New report for the Office for the Ageing SA on ‘Retirement Villages’, including responses from 2,000+ retirement village households and 250+ village managers/owners. This report has created baseline data on satisfaction levels, costs and fees, understanding of contracts and legislation and housing mobility in light of new Legislation being introduced in 2018.
- Helen Barrie is part of the ‘Aged Care Diversity Framework’ working group, a ministerial appointed group working with the Federal Department of Health. The Diversity Framework is intended to address the systemic barriers to accessing aged care services faced by diverse groups.
- The Australian Institute for Primary Care and Ageing at La Trobe University has recently completed a project for the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency (AACQA) to develop and pilot a set of core questions on the quality of care and services in aged care homes.
- Julie Byles joined other expert advisors and country representatives in Manila in July 2017 for a three day meeting on ageing and health convened by WHO Western Pacific Regional Office.

Training

- The University of Melbourne offers a Master of Ageing
- The University of Newcastle runs a course on Public Health Implications of Population Ageing

PHD graduations (selected)

- Judy Lewis ‘Australian Baby Boomer Women and Work’
- Beth Keough ‘Social Wellbeing, Locality and Ageing’
- Tazeen Majeed ‘Workforce participation patterns over the life course and the association with chronic diseases - a gendered approach'
• Xiaoyue Xu. ‘Dietary intake, dietary quality, dietary pattern and non-communicable diseases among older Chinese population’
• Richard Morrison. ‘Experiences of men in regional Australia who retire early: A life course study’
• Robyn Kenbaugh. ‘Taking Time to Listen: A Qualitative Study on Older Widowed and Married Women’

Publications (selected)

NEW BOOK
• Ageing in Australia: Challenges and Opportunities. Edited by Kate O’Loughlin, Colette Browning and Hal Kendig examines the many facets of Australia’s ageing population and how society has, could and should respond to the many challenges and opportunities. http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9781493964642

BOOK CHAPTERS

REPORTS
• Comparative country studies on health system responses to population ageing and noncommunicable diseases in Asia - prepared for the Asia Pacific Observatory - edited by V. Yiengprugsawan, Judith Healy and Hal Kendig. http://www.wpro.who.int/asia_pacific_observatory/country_comparative_studies/health-system-responses-ageing-ncd/en/
• Cooking for One or Two Program Development of additional masterclasses. Final report to Department of Veterans’ Affairs. August 2016.

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES
• Harris ML, Dolja-Gore X, Kendig H, Byles JE. End of life hospitalisations differ for older Australian women according to death trajectory: a longitudinal data linkage study. BMC Health Serv Res, 2016; 16: 484.
• Hubbard I, Vo K, Forder P, Byles J. Stroke, physical function and death over a 15-year period in older Australian


• Kennaugh R, Byles J, Tavener M. Beyond widowhood: Do prior discovered themes that describe the experiences of older Australian widowed women persist over time? Women and Health, 2016; 56(7): 827-42. doi:10.1080/03630242.2015.1118731


• Leigh L, Byles JE, Mishra GD. Change in physical function among women as they age: Findings from the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health. Quality of Life Research. 2017; 26(4): 981-991.


