

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

Meeting 5/2017

Wednesday 6 September 2017

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Board Room

Monash Rural Health

Latrobe Regional Hospital campus and via teleconference and videoconference

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome and Apologies

Community members:

Ms Carolyne Boothman, and Mr Bill Redmond.

Organisational representatives:

Ms Ruth Churchill, Ms Ellen-Jane Browne, Associate Professor Kate Moore and Mayor Kellie O’Callaghan.

Ex Officio:

Professor Michael Abramson (Principal Investigator – videoconference), Dr Jill Blackman (Senior Project Manager – teleconference), Mr Shaun Mallia (Communications and Engagement Adviser), and Professor Judi Walker (Principal Co-Investigator - teleconference).

Observers:

Ms Kylie Sawyer (Secretariat), and Dr Sue Yell (Community Wellbeing Stream lead - teleconference).

Apologies:

Dr Glenys Butler, Professor Charles Guest, Mr John Guy, Ms Marg Harty, Mr Ron Ipsen, Ms Tracie Lund (Chair), Dr Iain Nicolson, and Mr Shane Wilson.

In Tracie Lund’s absence, Carolyne Boothman agreed to act as Chair.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

2.1. Register

CAC members were asked to forward any changes to the Secretariat.

2.2. This Meeting

No member conflicts of interest were noted.

3. Confirmation of draft meeting notes from meeting held 5 July 2017

The meeting notes of Meeting 4/2017, held on 5 July 2017, were endorsed as a true and accurate record by those members who had been present.

Action: *Endorsed meeting notes to be uploaded to the Hazelwood Health Study website.*

4. Study Status Report

Dr Jill Blackman gave a verbal update on the status of the study’s research streams.

The ELF stream has now closed clinical data collection in Morwell with 263 children having participated. A report of the ELF survey data is expected to be released in November.

The Schools Study is undergoing the second round of data collection from students in years 5, 7 and 9, and a new cohort of year 3 students are now being recruited from participating schools.

Interviews have begun in Morwell for the Adult Psychological Impacts Study. Seventy participants were selected from the Adult Survey to be approached with the aim of interviewing 20-30 people.

The first volume of findings of the Adult Survey comparing Morwell to Sale had been released. It was noted that comparison by town was a rough proxy of high vs low exposure and that Volume Two of the findings will be based on the calculated exposure levels (marrying modelled exposure data from the CSIRO with 12-hourly location detail from the Adult Survey) to better understand the impacts of exposure to the smoke event.

The Hazelinks stream released the Emergency Presentations and Hospital Admissions report and the Baseline Cancer Incidence Analysis report will be released at end of September, analysing cancer data from the Latrobe Valley and surrounds.

The Respiratory and Cardiovascular Clinical streams have taken on new staff. The Respiratory stream is underway in Morwell with 500 randomly selected mailouts for lung function tests. Cardiovascular clinical assessments will begin in Sale in coming weeks. The streams will then swap locations with the assessments to be completed early in 2018.

The CAC members queried Adult Survey participants' reasons for declining to participate in respiratory clinical testing. Dr Jill Blackman agreed to investigate and report to the next meeting.

Action: Dr Jill Blackman to report on participants' reasons for declining to participate in respiratory clinical testing at next meeting.

5. Release of Reports

5.1. Adult Survey Comparison of Morwell and Sale

Report on the first round of analyses comparing Morwell and Sale participants in terms of their self-reported responses to the Adult Survey.

5.2. Emergency Presentations and Hospital Admissions

Changes in hospital emergency presentations and admissions following the fire, taking into consideration other factors such as seasonality. This analysis builds on the ambulance call out analysis released last year.

Mr Shaun Mallia and Professor Michael Abramson gave brief overviews of the release of reports. A media event was held on Friday, 1st September with Latrobe Valley Express, TRFM, ABC Gippsland, Nine News, and WIN News in attendance. The reports were shared on social media with a wide response from the community. Professor Abramson explained that with self-reported data there are a lot of variables to consider such as response rate and recall bias that can influence the findings. The findings from the Adult Survey showed an increase in self-reported respiratory and cardiovascular conditions and some evidence of increased psychological distress. The Hazelinks hospital data analysis confirmed the increase in respiratory outcomes but not cardiovascular outcomes, highlighting the importance of accessing hospital and other health records.

Discussion included the need for more information about the Hazelwood Health Study through community groups. Professor Judi Walker and Mr Mallia met recently with the Editor of the Latrobe Valley Express and agreed to hold a session with local journalists to discuss ways to ensure data findings are easily understood by the community.

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6. Community Wellbeing Stream

6.1. Media Analysis Video

Dr Sue Yell gave members a preview of the media analysis video, featuring herself and Dr Larissa Walker, on the preliminary research findings of social media use during the Hazelwood mine fire. The video will be made available to the community on the Hazelwood Health Study's website and through social media. CAC members requested links to the reports featured in the video.

Action: *Copy of the article 'How People Affected by Disaster Use the Internet' to be forwarded to CAC members.*

6.2. Future Morwell Exhibition

Dr Sue Yell gave a brief overview of the Community Wellbeing exhibition to be held at Switchback Gallery, Churchill during 13th to 24th November. It will include photographs taken from Morwell Neighbourhood House on the 24th of August featuring locals and chosen symbols representing Morwell's future. The intention is for the exhibit to be held at multiple sites in the valley and elsewhere. The CAC members suggested the exhibition could be taken to Sale and Melbourne and that information about the wider HHS research program could be made available at the exhibition.

7. Dates, Venues and program for Annual Community Briefings – Morwell and Sale

Mr Shaun Mallia updated members on the progress made by the two CAC sub-committees re plans for community engagement sessions in Morwell and Sale. The annual Community Engagement session in Morwell will be on Monday 9th October at Morwell Bowling Club and Sale's event will be held on Tuesday 10th October at Bond Street Event Centre. The events have been planned as engagement sessions with the community led by a Facilitator. A draft event format and agenda proposal has been provided to the members for feedback. It was suggested that hard copies of research summaries be provided for the events. Mr Mallia encouraged CAC members to attend both events.

8. Communications and Engagement

In addition to the media activity relating to the release of study findings, Mr Shaun Mallia outlined the other media releases on lung function tests and 'Our hopes for the future of Morwell' exhibition. The HHS Facebook has been well received and it was noted that the old Twitter account has been deactivated and the new Twitter account supersedes it. Members were encouraged to provide feedback on the social media pages and to share HHS posts. Discussion included the need to engage Sale media and the Gippsland leadership program.

9. Timetable for Dissemination of Findings

Mr Shaun Mallia briefed the members on the timetable. The CAC members discussed the release of reports and expressed concern about the potential for research data being misinterpreted by media, community and other reports.

Actions: *Members to email any questions about the Timetable to Professor Judi Walker
A copy of the Dust Study report by UTAS to be forwarded to CAC members when available.*

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10. Other business

10.1. Cancer analysis

An overview of the cancer analysis and impact to cancer patients relating to the HHS to be added to the next meeting agenda.

11. Date next meeting: Wednesday 6 September 2017 5-7pm

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 1 November 2017 at 5:00 – 7:00 pm.

Meeting closed at 7:15 pm

Hazelwood Health Study Community Advisory Committee Action Items – 2017

8 Feb 2017	1	<i>Minutes of CAC Meeting 4/2016 to be uploaded to the website. Update Action Items.</i>	KS	Completed
8 Feb 2017	2	<i>EOI Flyer to be circulated to Health Assembly membership via DHHS.</i>	JW	Completed
8 Feb 2017	3	<i>Amend Terms of Reference and forward to Project Steering Committee for endorsement.</i>	JW	Completed
8 March 2017	4	<i>Exposure assessment animations to be uploaded to the HHS website.</i>	MC	Completed
8 March 2017	5	<i>Circulate Latrobe Health Assembly's Terms of Reference.</i>	KS	Completed
8 March 2017	6	<i>Roof cavity dust study report to be circulated to CAC members when completed.</i>	KS	Completed
8 March 2017	7	<i>Copy of the CoRRC report on the Morwell Neighbourhood House to be forwarded to CAC members.</i>	KS	Completed
3 May 2017	8	<i>Communication in future disaster events: best practice policy for older people PowerPoint slides to be circulated to CAC members upon request.</i>	KS	Completed
3 May 2017	9	<i>Members to provide feedback on Clinical Stream information pack.</i>	All	Completed

3 May 2017	10	<i>Members to forward on suggestions for administration staff for clinical assessments during June to December.</i>	All	Completed
5 July 2017	11	<i>Circulate Explanatory Statements for the Cardiovascular and Respiratory clinical assessments.</i>	MC	Completed
5 July 2017	12	<i>Register to be updated.</i>	KS	Completed
5 July 2017	13	<i>Endorsed meeting notes to be uploaded to the Hazelwood Health Study website.</i>	KS	Completed
5 July 2017	14	<i>A working group to be established to progress plans for the Annual Community Briefings.</i>	SM	Completed
5 July 2017	15	<i>Members to provide feedback on Explanatory Statements for the Cardiovascular and Respiratory clinical assessments.</i>	All	Completed
6 September 2017	16	<i>Endorsed meeting notes to be uploaded to the Hazelwood Health Study website.</i>	KS	
6 September 2017	17	<i>Dr Jill Blackman to report on participants' reasons for declining to participate in respiratory clinical testing at next meeting.</i>	JB	
6 September 2017	18	<i>Copy of the article 'How People Affected by Disaster Use the Internet' to be forwarded to CAC members.</i>	KS	
6 September 2017	19	<i>Members to email any questions about the Timetable to Professor Judi Walker.</i>	All	
6 September 2017	20	<i>Copy of Dust Study report by UTAS to be forwarded to CAC members when available.</i>	SM	