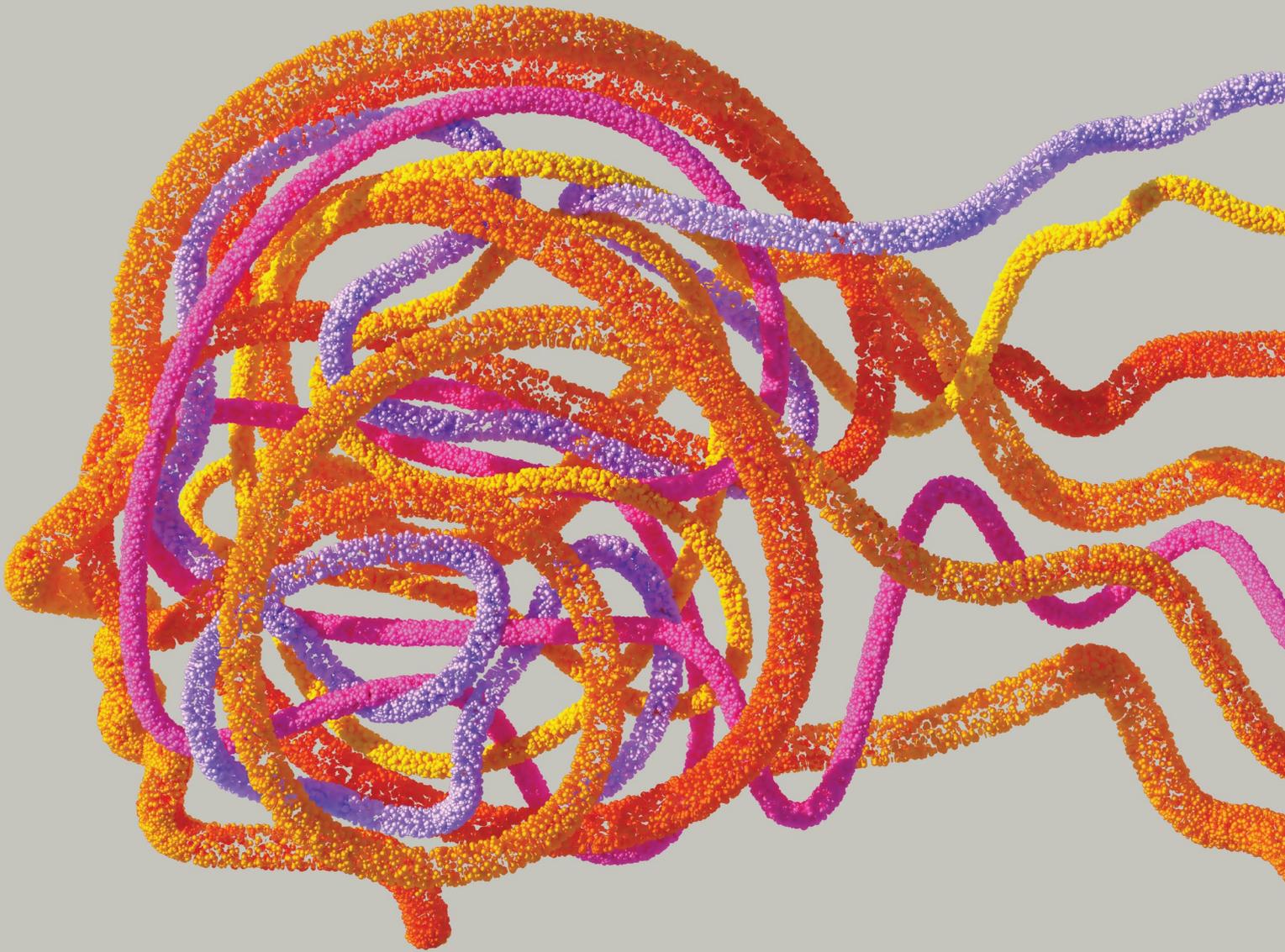




LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY



centre for alcohol
policy research



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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ABOUT US

The Centre for Alcohol Policy Research (CAPR) is a world-class academic unit at the forefront of alcohol research.

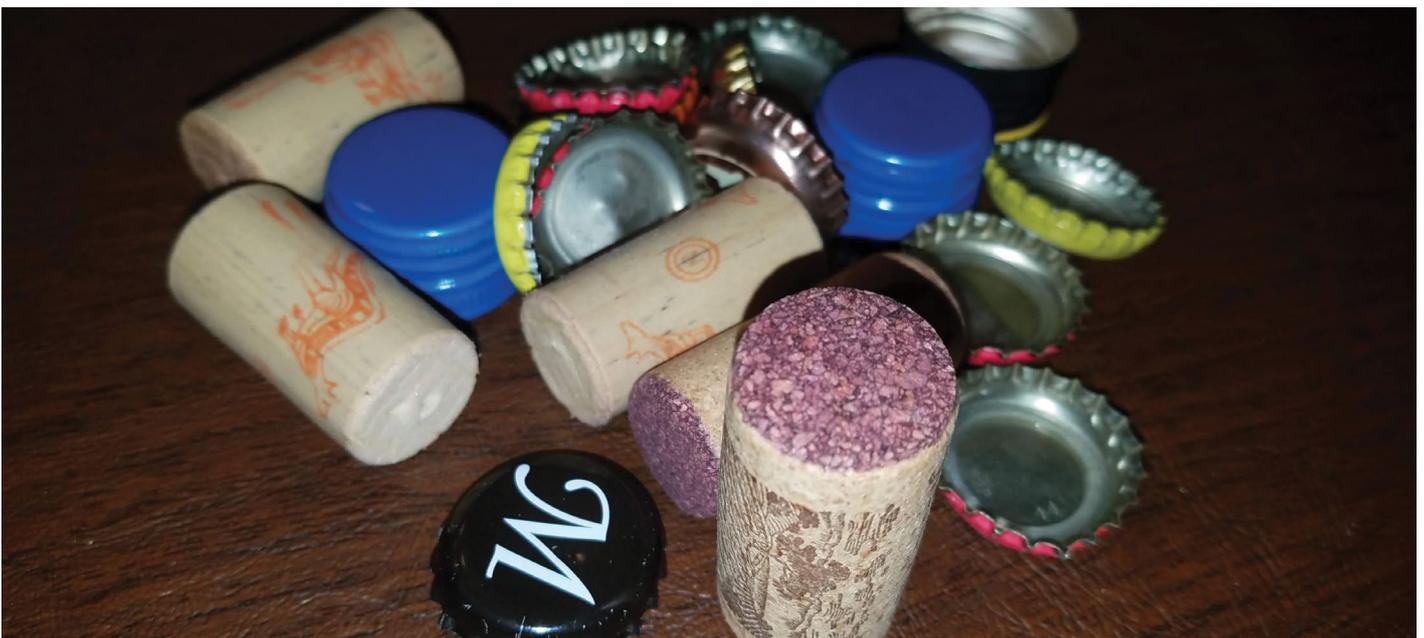
Alcohol misuse results in a range of health and social harms. The World Health Organization (WHO) recognises alcohol as a causal factor in more than 60 major types of disease and injury, including liver cirrhosis, diabetes, cancer, road traffic accidents, violence and foetal alcohol spectrum disorders. In Australia, alcohol misuse is a leading preventable cause of death, illness and injury.

OUR AIM

We aim to conduct world-leading alcohol research to build and disseminate the evidence needed for effective public health-oriented alcohol policies.

To achieve this aim, we focus our attention on five streams of research:

- **Measurement and monitoring:** examining trends and patterns in consumption, purchasing and harm, as well as contexts of consumption and predictors of harmful drinking.
- **Intersections of drinking cultures:** health outcomes, social determinants of health and policy contexts.
- **Alcohol-related harm:** harm from others' drinking, family violence, child abuse and neglect.
- **Alcohol policies and social responses:** taxation, trade agreements, liquor outlets and policy changes.
- **Media and emerging technologies:** alcohol exposure in social media and artificial intelligence.



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

One year ago, when contemplating CAPR's strengths but also the diverse challenges we faced in 2020 and 2021, I considered CAPR as an 'antifragile system'. This is a system that improves under pressure, that is not only capable to overcome challenges but also to use them as growth opportunities. In 2022, this vision became true with all the achievements you can read about in this *Annual Report*.

Instead of highlighting our international scope and networks, our publication track record, and our funding success, I would like to focus on our dedication to train the next generation of experts in alcohol research and policy. In fact, in 2022, CAPR had the largest PhD cohort and PhD completions in its 17-year history with 14 PhD students enrolled, and Geoff Leggat, Kelly van Egmond, Megan Cook and Melvin Marzan successfully submitting their thesis and now working in the respective sectors: government, industry and university as postdoctoral researchers. I am very grateful for their contributions to alcohol research and the Centre, and I wish them all the best for their future careers.

This cohort was inspiring in many ways. For example, Kelly was the first PhD student I supervised at La Trobe and has done exceptionally well. After having won the 3-minutes thesis competition at the school-level in 2021, Kelly received the Nancy Millis Award (given to the top 5 per cent PhD thesis of the year). Gabriel Caluzzi received three prestigious early career awards in 2022, including one from the main international society in our field, one year after finishing his PhD thesis at CAPR. All these achievements showcase great dedication and hard work but also the ability to inspire and support – which is true for the entire team and makes CAPR such a great place to be.

One year ago, I also wrote about staff leaving CAPR, for example, Koen Smit who, after having lived through the severe COVID-19 lockdowns in Melbourne, decided to return home to the Netherlands. To my great pleasure, he decided in 2022 to return and work at CAPR. I like to think he missed our collegiality and research culture too much.

Thus, after challenging years, CAPR is growing again. Based on our outstanding funding success in 2022, we were able to advertise for two new research officer positions and four new PhD positions. All these developments would not have been possible without the faith and investment, not only from each team member, but also from the school and the University. Enormously thankful, I look forward to another exciting year working with such a fantastic team of colleagues at CAPR and La Trobe.

PROFESSOR EMMANUEL KUNTSCHKE

Director, CAPR, School of Psychology and Public Health, La Trobe University



What a party: Kelly van Egmond at her graduation ceremony in December 2022 with her main supervisor, Emmanuel Kuntschke.

MESSAGES FROM KEY STAKEHOLDERS

It gives me a great sense of satisfaction to read CAPR's *Annual Report 2022* and reflect on the Centre's many achievements.

Research excellence is a core value at La Trobe, and I am thrilled that two of CAPR's researchers were duly recognised at the 2022 La Trobe University Staff Awards ceremony in December at the Agora Theatre in the Melbourne (Bundoora) Campus. Gabriel Caluzzi was awarded the inaugural Graduate Excellence award under the Vice Chancellor's Strategic Priority Awards, Graduate Excellence category. This award recognised the exceptional impact and contribution Gabriel, a graduate of La Trobe and now working at the University, has made to CAPR, the University, and more broadly as he has developed expertise in understanding young people's alcohol consumption. Gabriel has published 19 peer-reviewed articles, one book chapter and his research has been cited more than 150 times, ensuring a far-reaching impact of his work, while also building CAPR and La Trobe's research reputation.

The Vice-Chancellor's Research Excellence Awards celebrate the achievements of La Trobe's researchers. Benjamin Riordan's application of innovative technologies (e.g. transdermal alcohol monitors) and novel methodologies, as well as his commitment to use his research to transform and improve health outcomes, contributed to him achieving the Highly Commended Award. The attributes Benjamin has displayed are examples of La Trobe's cultural qualities of innovation and developing solutions for the issues facing our society. I congratulate Gabriel and Benjamin on their achievements and wish them every success.

At a more strategic level, CAPR embraces La Trobe's research priority areas identified in our *Research 2030* strategic plan which are linked to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, as well as our commitment to digital innovation to uncover and address complex social and health issues. CAPR's expertise in using artificial intelligence to determine alcohol references on social media platforms is a good case in point. This research capitalises on the expertise across multiple departments and disciplines at La Trobe and internationally, as researchers from Haifa University in Israel are co-investigators. This continues CAPR's long and successful history of collaborating with researchers from across the globe to better understand and offer solutions to minimise the harm from one of the world's most accessible and harmful commodities – alcohol. I am confident that CAPR will serve as a vital source of expertise and innovation for many years to come.

PROFESSOR SUSAN DODDS

Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Industry Engagement), La Trobe University



CAPR emerged from the COVID-19 years as a slightly smaller team, but it continued to deliver high-quality research with real-world impact. The Centre's success is a credit to Director Emmanuel Kuntsche – his genuine care for the team and scholarly acumen is commendable.

In 2022, CAPR published an impressive 143 journal articles – the majority of which had international co-authors, including researchers from northern Europe, north America and eastern Asia, and it is continuing to build stronger internal relationships across La Trobe.

Some notable good news stories include CAPR's grant success: Anne-Marie Laslett was awarded a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Emerging Leader (Level 2) grant; Benjamin Riordan received an Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Early Career Researcher Award; and Emmanuel and Amy Pennay both received ARC Discovery Project grants. All these grants are highly competitive, carry significant prestige in the academic community, and in two cases guarantee the salary of the Chief Investigator for several years. This was a fantastic result for CAPR and the school. Emmanuel and Amy also led successful applications for the competitive 2022 VicHealth Alcohol Policy and Practice Commissioned Research Request. These outcomes were announced in late-December and provided positive news to end a very successful year.

I also congratulate all the CAPR staff who received individual awards: Anne-Marie (Veski Victorian Near-miss Award; Kettil Bruun Society 2022 Award for Advancement of International Research Collaboration); Gabriel Caluzzi (La Trobe's Vice-Chancellor's Strategic Priority Award for Graduate Excellence; Kettil Bruun Society's Ole-Jørgen Skog Award for Early Career Scientist); Benjamin Riordan (Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs Early Career Award; La Trobe's Vice-Chancellor's Research Excellence Award for Excellence in Research, Early Career, Highly commended); and Kelly van Egmond (La Trobe's Nancy Millis Award). The collective and individual achievements are impressive and I am confident that CAPR will continue its upward trajectory.

PROFESSOR STEPHEN KENT

Dean and Head of School, Psychology and Public Health, La Trobe University



CAPR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Guided by La Trobe University's Research Centre Strategic Framework, CAPR's advisory committee of stakeholders oversees CAPR's activities and gives independent guidance and support to help the Centre meet its aims. CAPR is grateful to the members for their time and dedication.

CHAIR

Professor Rob Moodie

Deputy Head of School and Professor in Public Health, School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

Professor Stephen Kent

Dean and Head of School, Psychology and Public Health

Professor Suzanne Fraser

Director, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society

Dr Adam Bourne

(standing in for Professor Fraser)

Acting Director, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society

Stephen May

Chief Advancement Officer, Alumni and Advancement Officer

Professor Richard Gray

Theme Lead, Healthy People, Families and Communities

EXTERNAL EXPERT

Professor Alison Ritter

Director, Drug Policy Modelling Program at the Social Policy Research Centre at the University of New South Wales

Professor Nadine Ezard

Director, National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of New South Wales; Clinical Director, Alcohol and Drug Services, St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

CAPR

Professor Emmanuel Kuntsche

Director

Professor Robin Room

Founding Director



Above: CAPR's PhD graduate Kelly van Egmond accepting her PhD certificate

STAFF & STUDENTS

PROFESSOR AND DIRECTOR

Emmanuel Kuntsche

Bachelor of Arts (Psychology), Bachelor of Arts (Sociology), Master of Science in Psychology, University of Jena, Germany; PhD, Maastricht University, the Netherlands; Habilitation, University of Bamberg, Germany

Emmanuel has been trained in psychology, sociology, public health and statistics. He is recognised as a world-leading scholar in alcohol-related cognitions (expectancies and motives) among young people including pre-school children. He has pioneered the use of mobile phones and artificial intelligence in alcohol research.

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR AND FOUNDING DIRECTOR

Robin Room

Bachelor of Arts, Princeton, United States; Master of Arts (English), Master of Arts (Sociology), PhD (Sociology), University of California, Berkeley, United States

Robin has a PhD in sociology and is among the most respected and cited alcohol researchers in the field. His areas of expertise include: social epidemiology of alcohol, drugs, gambling; policy impact studies (impact of alcohol, drugs, gambling controls); legalisation and control of legal markets for attractive but problematic commodities; and social and cultural studies of alcohol. He also studies other addictive and problematic commodities – gambling, cannabis, tobacco and other drugs, including the interplay in terms of behaviour and policies on them with alcohol. He has a broad involvement in multinational studies of drinking and harm, including alcohol's harm to others, and in the analysis and governance of alcohol in an international perspective, including a long-term role as an advisor to the WHO.

Below: CAPR's PhD graduates Kelly van Egmond and Rakhi Vashishtha (Rakhi submitted her PhD in 2021).



SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

Sarah Callinan

Bachelor of Arts, Monash University; Psychology (Honours), University of Tasmania; PhD, Swinburne

Sarah has a PhD in educational psychology and specialises in survey research. Her statistical expertise in analysing complex datasets is critical to measuring and understanding alcohol consumption trends and related harms in Australia and internationally. Her recent work has focused on alcohol consumption in the home. She provides scholarly leadership on topics such as survey research methods, alcohol pricing, trends in consumption and alcohol's harm to others.

Sarah leads CAPR's measurement and monitoring research stream.

Heng (Jason) Jiang

Master of Finance and Economics, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University; PhD, Deakin University

Heng has a PhD in applied economics. He is highly skilled in quantitative analysis, and his areas of expertise include health economic analyses of alcohol and tobacco use, risky behaviours, and non-communicable diseases and injuries. He is driving CAPR research on estimating impacts of policy or program interventions on alcohol, tobacco and drug use, and related social and health issues.

Heng leads CAPR's structural measures research stream, which covers taxation, trade agreements, liquor outlets and policy changes.

Sandra Kuntsche

Bachelor of Psychology, Master of Psychology, University of Jena, Germany; PhD, Maastricht University, the Netherlands

With almost two decades of experience in quantitative alcohol research, Sandra is one of the world's leading researchers on gender and cultural differences in the impact of social roles, i.e., being a partner, parent or an employee, on alcohol use. A central topic of her recent work is the role alcohol plays in the work-life balance of parents. She has also evaluated multiple health promotion and prevention programs and is currently developing an alcohol harm prevention program for middle-aged women in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT).

Anne-Marie Laslett

Bachelor of Dental Science, Master of Dental Science, University of Melbourne; Master of Public Health, Monash University; PhD, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne

Anne-Marie has worked in public health on alcohol and drug epidemiology for over two decades and was awarded her PhD in population and global health. She leads a program of international and national research on alcohol's harm to others, including family violence and child maltreatment. She applies her expertise to analysing surveys and response agency data on harm from others' drinking in the workplace, at home and in public. New projects include an evaluation of wraparound services for women, men and children affected by family violence and substance use, and a study of outcomes of young people in out of home care. In 2022 she was awarded a prestigious NHMRC Emerging Leader Fellowship.

Anne-Marie leads CAPR's alcohol-related harm research stream.

Amy Pennay

Bachelor of Arts (Honours), University of Melbourne; PhD, Curtin University of Technology

Amy is a mixed methods researcher with strength in qualitative research. Her research sits at the nexus of sociology and public health, investigating how social and cultural factors influence drinking practices, policy implementation and success, and health outcomes. Her recent work has focused on youth drinking practices, (sub) cultures of drinking, and intersections of drinking and policy with social determinants such as gender, class, place and sexuality.

Amy leads CAPR's intersections of drinking cultures, health and policy research stream.

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWS AND RESEARCHERS

Benjamin Riordan

Bachelor of Arts, Master of Science, PhD, University of Otago, Aotearoa, New Zealand

Benjamin has a PhD in psychology and specialises in using new and emerging technologies to understand and intervene those who drink. His most recent work focuses on how alcohol and other drugs are presented in the media, what impact exposure to alcohol-related media content is, and how we can use media for intervention or prevention. To answer these questions, he uses new and emerging methods and technology like breathalysers, transdermal monitors, ecological momentary assessments and artificial intelligence.

Benjamin leads CAPR's alcohol, media and emerging technologies research stream.

Gabriel Caluzzi

Bachelor of Arts (Honours), University of Melbourne; PhD, La Trobe University

Gabriel is a qualitative researcher. His research draws on the sociology of health and the sociology of youth to understand how drug and alcohol practices among young people are informed by sociocultural context. His recent work has focused on the needs of young people engaged with drug and alcohol services, shifts in youth drinking culture and drinking practices among midlife women.

Koen Smit

Bachelor of Education, HAN (Hogeschool van Arnhem en Nijmegen in Dutch) University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands; Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, PhD, Radboud University, the Netherlands

Koen is a quantitative researcher focusing on psychology and public health research. Koen completed his PhD in the Netherlands where he focused on parenting and alcohol use. After, he studied a range of topics, including drinking motives among students, alcohol-related cognitions among children and young adolescents, alcohol and gambling, adolescent eating behaviour, and adolescent's sexual wellbeing and education.

RESEARCH OFFICERS

Lamia Khandker (until March 2022)

Bree Willoughby

PHD STUDENTS

Dan Anderson-Luxford*

Abraham Albert Bonela

Christopher Cheers

Megan Cook*

Filip Djordjevic

Rowan Dowling*

Cassandra Hopkins*

Geoff Leggat*

Melvin Marzan

Yvette Mojica-Perez*

Maree Patsouras*

Amany Sabry Basaly Tanyos

Alexandra Torney*

Kelly van Egmond*

*Also held a research officer position with CAPR.

Below: Filip Djordjevic at CAPR's end of year gathering (Photo taken by Albert Bonela).



CENTRE ADMINISTRATION AND PROJECT COORDINATOR

Janette Mugavin

ASSOCIATE RESEARCH FELLOWS

Sarah MacLean

Associate Professor, Social Work and Social Policy, School of Allied Health, Human Services and Sport, La Trobe University

Robyn Dwyer

Lecturer, Department of Public Health, School of Psychology and Public Health, La Trobe University

Mary Walker

Lecturer, Department of Politics, Media, and Philosophy, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, La Trobe University



Above: CAPR's PhD graduate Rakhi Vashishtha accepting her PhD certificate

HONORARY RESEARCH FELLOWS

Harindra Jayasekara

Senior Research Fellow, Cancer Epidemiology Division, Cancer Council Victoria; Honorary Fellow, Centre for Epidemiology and Biostatistics Research, University of Melbourne

Florian Labhart

Head of Project, Addiction Switzerland

Kylie Lee

Associate Professor, Faculty of Medicine and Health, University of Sydney and Deputy Director of the Centre of Research Excellence, Indigenous Health and Alcohol

Michael Livingston

Associate Professor, Alcohol Policy and Strategies, Curtin University

Roisin O'Connor

Professor, Department of Psychology; Director, Young Adult and Alcohol Research Lab; Core Member, Centre for Clinical Research in Health at Concordia University, Canada

Jonas Raninen

Researcher, Swedish Council for Information on Alcohol and Other Drugs; Affiliated Researcher, Department of Clinical Neuroscience, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden; Affiliated Researcher, School of Social Sciences, Södertörn University, Sweden

Johannes Thru

Assistant Professor, Department of Mental Health, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, United States of America

Claire Wilkinson

Senior Research Fellow, Drug Policy Modelling Program, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales and NHMRC Early Career Research Fellow

Cassandra Wright

Research Fellow, Menzies School of Health Research and NHMRC Early Career Research Fellow

SNAPSHOT OF RESEARCH OUTPUTS

PUBLICATIONS = 153^A

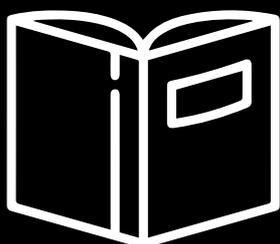
143

Peer reviewed journal articles
(includes online early view articles)



3

Book chapters



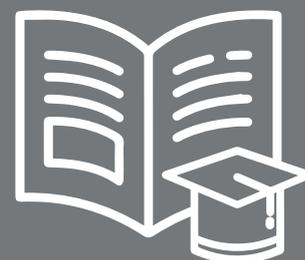
3

Reports



4

PhD dissertations



PEOPLE = 27

13

Staff



14

PhD students



^ASee supplementary report for details www.latrobe.edu.au/research/centres/health/capr/about

MEDIA = 47^A

(excluding Twitter followers)

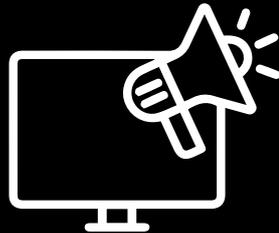
28

Media releases
and stories



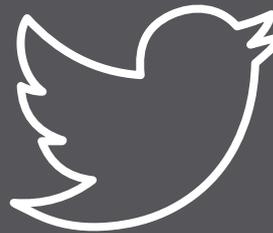
8

Media
appearances



1,561

New and existing
Twitter followers



11

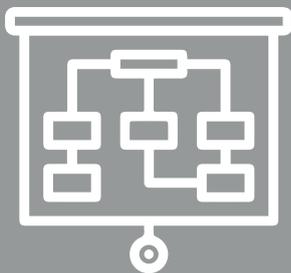
Non peer-reviewed
articles and blogs



PRESENTATIONS = 54^A

31

Presentations at
seminars and meetings



18

Conference
presentations



5

Workshops and
other activities



^ASee supplementary report for details www.latrobe.edu.au/research/centres/health/capr/about

SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND COLLABORATIONS = 108^A

22

Editorial
appointments



27

National collaborators

(count is for institutions,
not individuals)



59

International collaborators

(count is for institutions,
not individuals)



^ASee supplementary report for details www.latrobe.edu.au/research/centres/health/capr/about

MEASUREMENT & MONITORING RESEARCH STREAM

STRATEGIC LEAD: SARAH CALLINAN

This research stream broadly aims to monitor and analyse quantitative trends in alcohol consumption and harm. We use a range of data sources to examine trends and patterns in consumption, purchasing and harm as well as contexts of consumption and predictors of harmful drinking.

All of this work is dependent on valid and reliable measurement of alcohol consumption, harms and all other related variables. As such we also focus on the accurate measurement of alcohol-related variables.

SELECTED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Establishing the need for a new screening tool for harmful alcohol use

National Health and Medical Research Council Ideas Grant Inspiration Hub Pitching Award. La Trobe University, Healthy People, Families and Communities Theme 2022

Investigator: Sarah Callinan

High risk drinking, context, drink choice and harm: an international study

Australian Research Council Discovery Project
2020–2022

Investigators: Sarah Callinan, Heng (Jason) Jiang, Robin Room

Wider team: Yvette Mojica-Perez, Alexandra Torney

Investigating attitudes towards drug checking services using National Drug Strategy Household Survey data

La Trobe School of Psychology and Public Health Internal Grant Scheme
2022

Investigators: Gabriel Caluzzi, Sarah Callinan

Policy reform: online sale and delivery of alcohol

Deakin University
2022

Investigator: Sarah Callinan



PHD STUDENTS AND PROJECTS

Alcohol over the life course (completed in 2022)

Geoff Leggat, supervised by Sarah Callinan, Michael Livingston (Curtin University), Sandra Kuntsche

Attitude towards non-drinkers in Australia and the relationship to problematic alcohol use

Christopher Cheers, supervised by Sarah Callinan, Amy Pennay, Xochitl de la Piedad Garcia (Australian Catholic University)

The role of low-cost alcoholic beverages on drinking trends in Australia

Alexandra Torney, supervised by Sarah Callinan, Robin Room

Understanding the short- and long-term impacts of COVID-19 on alcohol consumption

Yvette Mojica-Perez, supervised by Sarah Callinan, Amy Pennay, Michael Livingston (Curtin University)

RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

SELECTED ACADEMIC ARTICLES

Callinan, S., & Livingston, M. (2022). Commentary on Brummer et al: When using screening tools it is important to be aware of what you are screening for. *Addiction*. (Only early view 3 November 2022). <https://doi.org/10.1111/add.16070>.

SECTION SOURCED FROM ADDICTION

“Brummer et al.’s [1] work has demonstrated the importance of ensuring that when we use the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) and its subscales that we are clear on what it is we are testing for and that we are using the appropriate measure for a given outcome.”

Using a large, representative Danish sample, Brummer et al. have found that the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test-Concise (AUDIT-C) (three survey items assessing consumption) is better at predicting future alcohol-related hospitalisations than the full AUDIT (10 items assessing consumption, dependence and harmful drinking). The authors concluded that this may indicate that the shorter AUDIT-C is equally as useful as the AUDIT as a screening tool, especially in circumstances when time is

limited. However, as the authors point out, an association between a scale measuring heavy drinking and alcohol-related harms is not especially surprising. More specifically, the majority of International Statistical Classification of Diseases codes (20/24) used in this study were harms caused by alcohol consumption over time, so a scale that measures consumption is almost self-evidently going to be strongly related to these outcomes when compared with other AUDIT measures capturing more social impacts or short-term harmful drinking patterns. When considered in this light, it is therefore not surprising that the AUDIT-C, a measure of consumption, was better at directly assessing the possibility of future hospitalisation than a longer measure that also included subscales on dependence and harmful drinking.



Callinan, S., Livingston, M., Dietze, P., Gmel, G., & Room, R. (2022). Age-based differences in quantity and frequency of consumption when screening for harmful alcohol use. *Addiction*, 117(9), 2431-2437. <https://doi.org/10.1111/add.15904>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM ADDICTION

Background and aims: Survey questions on usual quantity and frequency of alcohol consumption are regularly used in screening tools to identify drinkers requiring intervention. The aim of this study was to measure age-based differences in quantity and frequency of alcohol consumption on the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) and how this relates to the prediction of harmful or dependent drinking. **Design:** Cross-sectional survey. **Setting:** Australia. **Participants:** Data were taken from 17 399 respondents who reported any alcohol consumption in the last year and were aged 18 and over from the 2016 National Drug Strategy Household Survey, a broadly representative cross-sectional survey on substance use. **Measurement:** Respondents were asked about their frequency of consumption, usual quantity per occasion and the other items of the AUDIT. **Findings:** In older drinkers, quantity per occasion [$\beta = 0.53$, 95% confidence interval (CI) = 0.43, 0.64 in 43–47-year-olds as an example] was a stronger predictor of dependence than frequency per occasion ($\beta = 0.24$, 95%

CI = 0.17, 0.31). In younger drinkers the reverse was true, with frequency a stronger predictor ($\beta = 0.54$, 95% CI = 0.39, 0.69 in 23–27-year-olds) than quantity ($\beta = 0.26$, 95% CI = 0.18, 0.34 in 23–27-year-olds). Frequency of consumption was not a significant predictor of dependence in respondents aged 73 years and over ($\beta = -0.03$, 95% CI = -0.08, 0.02). Similar patterns were found when predicting harmful drinking. Despite this, as frequency of consumption increased steadily with age, the question on frequency was responsible for at least 65% of AUDIT scores in drinkers aged 53 years and over. **Conclusions:** In younger drinkers, frequent drinking is more strongly linked to dependence and harmful drinking subscale scores on the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) than quantity per occasion, yet quantity per occasion has a stronger influence on the overall AUDIT score in this group. In older drinkers, frequency of consumption is not always a significant predictor of the AUDIT dependence subscale and is a weak predictor of the harmful drinking subscale.

Casswell, S., Huckle, T., Parker, K., Romeo, J., Graydon-Guy, T., Leung, J., Byron, K., Callinan, S., Chaiyasong, S., Gordon, R., MacKintosh, A., Meier, P., Paraje, G., Parry, C., Pham, C., Petersen-Williams, P., Randerson, S., Schelleman-Offermans, K., Sengee, G., Torun, P., van Dalen, W., & Harkins, N. (2022). Benchmarking alcohol policy based on stringency and impact: The International Alcohol Control (IAC) Policy Index. *PLOS Global Health*, 2(4): e0000109. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0000109>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM PLOS GLOBAL HEALTH

This study developed a measurement tool to assess stringency and ‘on-the-ground’ impact of four key alcohol policy domains to create an alcohol policy index suitable for benchmarking alcohol policy and assessing change over time in middle- and high-income countries. It involved a collaboration between researchers in 12 diverse countries: New Zealand; Australia; England; Scotland; Netherlands; Vietnam; Thailand; South Africa; Turkey; Chile; Saint Kitts and Nevis and Mongolia. Data on the four most effective alcohol policy domains (availability, pricing policy, alcohol marketing, drink driving) were used to create an alcohol policy index based on their association with alcohol per capita consumption (APC) of commercial (recorded) alcohol. An innovation was the inclusion of measures of impact along with the stringency of the legislation or regulation. The resulting International Alcohol Control (IAC) Policy Index showed a very high negative correlation (-0.91) with recorded APC. Greater affordability of alcohol, an impact

measure taking into account prices paid and countries’ Gross Domestic Product, was predictive of higher APC (-0.80). Countries in which more modes of alcohol marketing are legally allowed and used had higher APC. Legislation on outlet density and drink driving predicted APC whereas trading hours did not. While stringency and impact measures varied between domains in terms of relationship with APC, overall, there was a strong correlation between impact and stringency (0.77). The IAC Policy Index, which includes measures of policy stringency and ‘on-the-ground’ impacts in relation to four key policy areas, was found to be strongly associated with commercial alcohol consumed in a number of diverse country settings. It showed a larger relationship than previous indices that include more policy dimensions. The index provides a relatively simple tool for benchmarking and communication with policy makers to encourage a strong focus on uptake of these four most effective alcohol policies.

Leggat, G., Livingston, M., Kuntsche, S., & Callinan, S. (2022). Alcohol consumption trajectories over the Australian life course. *Addiction*, 117(7), 1931-1939. <https://doi.org/10.1111/add.15849>.

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM PLOS GLOBAL HEALTH

Background and Aims: Alcohol consumption changes markedly over the life course, with important implications for health and social development. Assessment of these patterns often relies on cross-sectional data, which cannot fully capture how individuals' drinking changes as they age. This study used data from 18 waves of a general population panel survey to measure drinking trajectories over the life course in Australia. **Design and Setting:** Longitudinal survey data from the Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) survey between 2001 and 2018. **Participants:** A total of 20 593 individuals ages 15 or above in two samples assessing quantity-frequency (n = 20 569, 52.0% female) and risky single occasion drinking (RSOD), respectively, (n = 17 340, 52.5% female), interviewed as part of HILDA. **Measurements:** Usual quantity of alcohol consumed per drinking occasion; frequency of drinking occasions per week; average daily consumption, calculated by combining reported usual quantity and frequency; and average reported frequency of RSOD

per week. **Findings:** Multilevel, mixed effects models run with fractional polynomial terms found similar male and female alcohol consumption trajectories for quantity-frequency and RSOD measures. Usual quantity of alcohol consumed per drinking occasion (5.4 drinks for men, 3.8 for women) and RSOD frequency (0.56 occasions/week for men, 0.38 for women) peaked in young adulthood, whereas frequency of drinking occasions (2.5 occasions/week for men, 1.7 for women) peaked in middle age. Middle-age drinkers had the highest average daily consumption of alcohol (1.4 drinks/day for 54-year-old men, 0.6 drinks for 57-year-old women) and engaged in RSOD slightly less than young adults. **Conclusions:** Alcohol consumption in Australia appears to vary substantially over the life course, with usual quantity per drinking occasion and frequency of risky single occasion drinking peaking during early adulthood and average daily consumption and frequency of consumption peaking in middle age.

honesty. 2.
undivided

legislation

noun 1. the act of
2. a law or a bod
process of m

Mojica-Perez, Y., Livingston, M., Pennay, A., & Callinan, S. (2022). Examining the relationship between alcohol consumption, psychological distress and COVID-19 related circumstances: An Australian longitudinal study in the first year of the pandemic. *Addictive Behaviors*, 135(107439). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2022.107439>.

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM ADDICTIVE BEHAVIORS

Objective: The aim of this study is to examine the relationship between alcohol consumption, psychological distress and COVID-19 related circumstances (being in lockdown, working from home, providing home-schooling and being furloughed) over the first eight months of the pandemic in Australia. **Method:** A longitudinal study with six survey waves over eight months with a convenience sample of 770 participants. Participants were aged 18 or over, lived in Australia and consumed alcohol at least monthly. Demographic data was obtained in the first wave. Data on alcohol consumption, psychological distress (Kessler 10), and COVID-19 related circumstances (being in lockdown, working from home, providing home-schooling and being furloughed) were obtained in each survey wave. **Results:** Results from the fixed-effect bivariate regression analyses show that participants reported greater alcohol consumption when they had

high psychological distress compared to when they had low psychological distress. Meanwhile, participants reported greater alcohol consumption when they worked from home compared to when they did not work from home. Participants also reported greater alcohol consumption when they provided home-schooling compared with when they did not provide home-schooling. The fixed-effect panel multivariable regression analyses indicated a longitudinal relationship between higher psychological distress and providing home-schooling on increased alcohol consumption. **Conclusion:** Broader drinking trends during the COVID-19 pandemic typically indicate increases and decreases in drinking among different members of the population. This study demonstrates that in Australia, it was those who experienced psychological distress and specific impacts of COVID-19 restrictions that were more likely to increase their drinking.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Callinan, S. (2022, 9-12 October). Similar drinking patterns in underage boys and girls is not evidence of women "catching up" to men. Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Drugs. Darwin, Australia
- Mojica-Perez, Y., Livingston, M., Pennay, A., & Callinan, S. (2022, 18 November). Examining the relationship between alcohol consumption, psychological distress and COVID-19 related circumstances: An Australian longitudinal study in the first year of the pandemic. Invited presentation to Victorian Substance Use Research Forum futures: Showcasing the work of emerging researchers working on alcohol and other drugs, gambling and other forms of consumption. Melbourne, Australia

INTERSECTIONS OF DRINKING CULTURES, HEALTH & POLICY RESEARCH STREAM

STRATEGIC LEAD: AMY PENNAY

This research stream broadly aims to understand how cultures of drinking intersect with health outcomes, social determinants of health and policy contexts.

We explore historical and contemporary shifts in cultures of drinking, investigate heavy and light drinking social worlds, and seek to understand the broader contexts (e.g., structural inequalities, generational factors) in which drinking and harms occur.

Not all policies affect individuals in the same way, and not all policies that work for one generation will work for another. This research stream recognises the need for nuance in policy making. We focus our attention on 'what works' for reducing drinking and harm in different groups, but also how policies may produce problems, or exacerbate social and health inequalities.

SELECTED RESEARCH PROJECTS

"Mommy, beer's not for you, it's a daddy thing!": Young children's alcohol-related cognitions in Australia

La Trobe School of Psychology and Public Health Internal Grant Scheme

2022

Investigator: Megan Cook

Mothers' little helper: The link between alcohol use and daily stressors in the specific risk group of working mothers

Australian Research Council Discovery Project
2021–2023

Investigators: Sandra Kuntsche, Emmanuel Kuntsche

Wider team: Gabriel Caluzzi, Cassandra Wright (Menzies School of Health Research)

Social change and youth drinking: A cross-cultural and temporal examination

Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Research Award

2019–2022

Investigator: Amy Pennay

Wider team: Gabriel Caluzzi, Kelly van Egmond, Megan Cook

Understanding heavy alcohol consumption cultures among nurses and lawyers and investigating frames for intervention

Australian Research Council Linkage Project (with partner funding from the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation)

2020–2024

Investigators: Robyn Dwyer, Amy Pennay, Michael Savic (Monash University), Sarah MacLean, Rowan Ogeil (Monash University), Dan Lubman (Monash University), Robin Room

Understanding the changing place of alcohol for young people in Australia, Sweden and the United Kingdom

La Trobe School of Psychology and Public Health Internal Grant Scheme

2022

Investigator: Amy Pennay





PHD STUDENTS AND PROJECTS

A comparative study of community influence on alcohol licencing in Australia and the United Kingdom

Filip Djordjevic, supervised by Robyn Dwyer, Claire Wilkinson (University of New South Wales), Joanne Reynolds (Sheffield Hallam University), Paul Hickman (Sheffield Hallam University)

Mother's little helper: Alcohol use in working mothers

Maree Patsouras, supervised by Sandra Kuntsche, Gabriel Caluzzi, Cassandra Wright (Menzies School of Health Research), Emmanuel Kuntsche

What do they know and how do they know it? An investigation of alcohol expectancies, norms and alcohol-related knowledge in childhood (completed in 2022)

Megan Cook, supervised by Sandra Kuntsche, Amy Pennay, Emmanuel Kuntsche

RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

SELECTED ACADEMIC ARTICLES

Caluzzi, G., Wright, C., Kuntsche, E., Stewart, S., & Kuntsche, S. (2022). Double shifts, double trouble: Alcohol as a problematic panacea for working mothers. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 104(June: 103699), 1–4. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2022.103699>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF DRUG POLICY

Alcohol consumption among midlife women has become an area of research focus.

We suggest it is important to examine the social roles that many midlife women take on – specifically working mothers. Working mothers balance both employment and the unequal burden of caring/domestic duties, leading to ‘double shifts’ of paid and unpaid labor. This creates unique stresses that may impact their drinking. This is particularly important as a growing number of mothers re-enter the workforce after childbirth.

In this commentary, we suggest that working mothers’ drinking tends to be overlooked or even endorsed as a means of managing the gendered stresses they face – stresses which have been exacerbated during the pandemic. We highlight the dearth of literature focusing on the drinking patterns, practices, and motives of working mothers and argue that gendered expectations placed on working mothers may be an increasingly important social determinant of health among this group.

Caluzzi, G., Livingston, M., Holmes, J., MacLean, S., Lubman, D., Dietze, P., Vashishtha, R., Herring, R., & Pennay, A. (2022). Declining drinking among adolescents: Are we seeing a denormalisation of drinking and a normalisation of nondrinking? *Addiction*, 117(5), 1204-1212. <https://doi.org/10.1111/add.15611>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM ADDICTION

Background: In the early 2000s, alcohol use among young people began to decline in many western countries, especially among adolescents (ages between 12–17 years old). These declines have continued steadily over the past two decades, against the backdrop of much smaller declines among the general population. Argument: Hypotheses examining individual factors fail adequately to provide the necessary 'big picture' thinking needed to understand declines in adolescent drinking. We use the normalisation thesis to argue that there is strong international evidence for both processes of denormalisation

of drinking and normalisation of non-drinking occurring for adolescents in many western countries. Conclusions: Research on declining adolescent drinking provides evidence of both denormalisation of alcohol consumption and normalisation of non-drinking. This has implications for enabling policy environments more amenable to regulation and increasing the acceptability of non-drinking in social contexts. Normalisation theory (and its various interpretations) provides a useful multi-dimensional tool for understanding declines in adolescent drinking.

Cook, M., Pennay, A., MacLean, S., Dwyer, R., Mugavin, J., & Callinan, S. (2022). Parents' management of alcohol in the context of discourses of 'competent' parenting: a qualitative analysis. *Sociology of Health and Illness*, 44(6), 1009-1026. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-9566.13475>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH AND ILLNESS

How parents manage potential tensions between normative discourses of 'competent parenting' and their desires to consume alcohol has received little attention. In this article, we explore the elements that encourage or constrain parents' drinking and investigate how parents consider and manage their alcohol use in the context of multiple social roles with sometimes conflicting demands and expectations around 'competent parenting'. Our analysis draws on 30 semi-structured interviews with Australian parents, conducted as part of a broader project which aimed to explore how home drinking is integrated into everyday life. While parents' accounts of drinking alcohol highlighted effects such as embodied experiences

of relaxation and facilitating shared adult moments, many participants described drinking less than they otherwise would if their children were not present. Participants discussed various social roles and routines which constrained consumption, with drinking bounded by responsibility. As such, drinking emerged as something needing to be actively negotiated, particularly in light of discourses that frame expectations of what constitutes 'competent parenting'. When considering parents' alcohol consumption in the future, we argue that it is important to destigmatise their consumption by acknowledging the importance of adults' pleasure and wellbeing, alongside children's needs for safety and modelling of safer alcohol consumption.



Pennay, A., Törrönen, J., Herold, M., Fenton, L., MacLean, S., Caluzzi, G., Fairbrother, H., Frank, V., Samuelsson, E., & Holmes, J. (2022). "There's a lot of stereotypes going on": A cross-national qualitative analysis of the place of gender in declining youth drinking. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 108 (103827). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2022.103827>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF DRUG POLICY

Introduction: Significant declines in drinking among young people have been recorded in many high-income countries over the past 20 years. This analysis explored the role of gender – which we interpret as socially constructed and relational – to provide insight into whether and how gender might be implicated in declining youth drinking. **Methods:** Interview data from four independent qualitative studies from Australia, Denmark, Sweden and the UK (n=194; participants aged 15–19 years) were analysed by researchers in each country following agreement about analytical focus. Findings were collated by the lead author in a process of 'qualitative synthesis' which involved successive rounds of data synthesis and feedback from the broader research team. **Findings:** Our analysis raised two notable points in relation to the role of gender in declining youth drinking.

The first concerned the consistency and vehemence across three of the countries at which drinkers and states of intoxication were pejoratively described in gendered terms (e.g., bitchy, sleazy). The second related to the opportunities non- and light-drinking offered for expressing alternate and desirable configurations of femininities and masculinities. **Conclusions:** We identified an intolerance towards regressive constructions of gender that emphasise weakness for women and strength for men and a valorisation of gendered expressions of maturity through controlled drinking. Though subtle differences in gendered drinking practices between and within countries were observed, our findings offer insight into how young people's enactments of gender are embedded in, and evolve alongside, these large declines in youth drinking.

Wright, C., Miller, M., Kuntsche, E., & Kuntsche, S. (2022). 'What makes up wine o'clock?' Understanding social practices involved in alcohol use among women aged 40–65 years. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 101(March: 103560). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2021.103560>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF DRUG POLICY

Background: In the context of global declines in alcohol consumption, studies have recently shown that middle-aged women's alcohol use has increased in the past decade. Limited research has focused on this demographic group. We aimed to understand the perspectives of women aged 40–65 years on the role of alcohol in their lives and their motivations for consuming alcohol. We used social practice theory to identify distinctive assemblages of meanings, materials, competences and temporalities relating to alcohol use. **Methods:** We used qualitative methods incorporating Human Centred-Design principles into activity-based workshops. We conducted ten 3-hour workshops with a total of 39 women aged 40–65 years. We coded the transcribed data using the three original components of social practice theory – meanings, materials, competences as well as the fourth component of temporality. **Results:** Women described their alcohol use as nuanced, with different meanings across contexts and settings. 'Wine o'clock' was the term used by many women to describe the

practice of consuming wine as soon as they finished their day's duties. Women appeared conscious of representing their drinking as rational, measured and safe, particularly when discussing weekday use, and drinking alone. Women described it as an act of relaxation, and rationalised it as earned. Alcohol consumption on weekends was strongly tied to social connection. Alcohol was explicitly described as the means to see people socially and was also implicitly present in social gatherings such as lunches, barbecues and dinners on weekends. Although women rejected the notion of experiencing social pressures to consume alcohol, they also described needing excuses for not consuming alcohol, such as partaking in temporary abstinence periods such as Dry July. **Conclusions:** Our study describes how midlife women use alcohol to demarcate between duty and pleasure and for social connection. Prevention efforts which focus on social connection, relaxation and changing the discourse on alcohol's role in women's social lives may be beneficial for reducing women's alcohol consumption.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Caluzzi, G., Fenton, L., & Törrönen, J. (2022, 2 June). Examining the intersections of communications technologies and drinking practices: A cross-national qualitative analysis. Annual Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society. Warsaw, Poland
- Cook, M. (2022, 9-12 October). The association between exposure to mother's and father's alcohol use and children's normative perceptions. Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs. Darwin, Australia
- Pennay, A. (2022, 25 October). Gender and youth drinking practices. World Health Organization Webinar Programme on 'Women, men and alcohol: Why is gender important in alcohol control policies?' Online international webinar
- Pennay, A. (2022, August). Understanding the changing cultural status of alcohol for young people. National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre Webinar Series. Sydney, Australia



ALCOHOL-RELATED HARM RESEARCH STREAM

STRATEGIC LEAD: ANNE-MARIE LASLETT

This research stream focuses on the health and social harms related to alcohol use, including harm from others' drinking, family violence, child abuse and neglect. Our key objectives are to build state-of-the-art national estimates of alcohol's harm to others (AHTO), to better understand and address precipitants of AHTO, and to compare findings with those in other countries in Asia, Europe and the Americas. Synthesising these findings and considering the national contexts and policies affecting AHTO, including national and international service response systems (emergency rooms, police, family violence services etc.), this stream of research informs local and global alcohol policies and service development.

SELECTED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Adult drinking and child maltreatment in families, communities and societies protection

Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Research Award

2019–2022

Investigator: Anne-Marie Laslett

Wider team: Koen Smit, Benjamin Riordan, Cassandra Hopkins

Alcohol's Harms to Others: patterns, costs, disparities and precipitants

Australian Research Council Linkage Project (with partner funding from Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education and Australian Rechabite Foundation)

2021–2024

Investigators: Anne-Marie Laslett, Robin Room, Sandra Kuntsche, Heng (Jason) Jiang, Robyn Dwyer, Chris Doran (Central Queensland University), Diana Edgerton-Warburton (Monash Health)

Wider team: Dan Anderson-Luxford, Bree Willoughby, Koen Smit, Amany Tanyos, Cassandra Hopkins

Exploring the relationship between alcohol use and gambling participation and their impact on associated harms

Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation

2022–2023

Investigators: Anne-Marie Laslett, Heng (Jason) Jiang, Robyn Dwyer, Sarah MacLean, Robin Room

Wider team: Koen Smit (Project Director)

Researching an all-of-family program in family violence and substance misuse

Australian Research Council Linkage Project

2021–2024

Investigators: Cathy Humphreys (The University of Melbourne), Anne-Marie Laslett, Margaret Kertesz (The University of Melbourne), Menka Tsantefski (Griffith University), Sarah Gruner (Department of Families, Fairness and Housing), Nicole Artico (Kids First Australia), Stefan Gruenert (Odyssey House, Victoria), Katreena Scott (University of Western Ontario, Canada)

The alcohol's harm to others paradigm

The Victorian Endowment for Science, Knowledge and Innovation (VESKI)

2022–2023

Investigator: Anne-Marie Laslett



PHD STUDENTS AND PROJECTS

Alcohol and intimate partner violence in Australia: its extent, change over time and cost

Amany Tanyos, supervised by Anne-Marie Laslett, Heng Jiang, Rebecca Jenkinson (Australian Institute of Family Studies)

Alcohol's harm to children and families in Australia: A mixed methods approach

Cassandra Hopkins, supervised by Anne-Marie Laslett, Robyn Dwyer, Sandra Kuntsche

RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

SELECTED ACADEMIC ARTICLES

Jiang, H., Doran, C. M., Room, R., Chikritzhs, T., Ferris, J., & Laslett, A.-M. (2022). Beyond the drinker: Alcohol's hidden costs in 2016 in Australia. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, 83(4), 512-524. <https://doi.org/10.15288/jsad.2022.83.512>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM THE *JOURNAL OF STUDIES ON ALCOHOL AND DRUGS*

Objective: Drawing on a study of the range and magnitude of harms that alcohol caused to specific others in Australia, and on social and health agency statistics for collective costs, this article produces an analysis of the economic cost of alcohol's harm to others (AHTO) in Australia. **Method:** This study used a general population survey and routinely collected social response agencies' data to quantify different costs of AHTO, using methods consistent with International Guidelines for Estimating the Costs of Substance Abuse. This approach estimates costs for health care and social services, crime costs, costs of productivity loss, quality of life-year loss and other expenses, including both tangible costs (direct and indirect) and intangible costs of loss of quality of life (respondents' self-reported loss of health-related quality of

life). **Results:** The cost of AHTO in Australia was AUD\$19.81 billion (95% CI [11.99, 28.34]), with tangible costs accounting for 58% of total costs (\$11.45 billion, which is 0.68% of gross domestic product in 2016) and intangible costs of \$8.36 billion. The costs to private individuals or households (\$18.1 billion and 89% of total costs of AHTO) are greater than the costs to the government or society because of others' drinking in Australia. **Conclusions:** This study presents an estimation of the economic cost of harm from others' drinking. The economic costs from others' drinking are large and of much the same magnitude as the costs that drinkers impose on themselves, as found in previous studies. Preventing harm to others from drinking is important as a public health goal for both economic and humane reasons.

Lam, T., Laslett, A.-M., Salom, C., Ogeil, R., Lubman, D., Aiken, A., Mattick, R., Gilmore, W., & Allsop, S. (2022). Disclosures of harming others during their most recent drinking session: Findings from a large national study of heavy-drinking adolescents. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 41(1), 197-207. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dar.13336>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM *DRUG AND ALCOHOL REVIEW*

Introduction: The extant Alcohol's Harms to Others (AHTO) literature is largely comprised of reports from victims. We investigated AHTO from perpetrators' perspectives, including how harms were associated with individual characteristics, and alcohol quantities consumed during the perpetration incident. **Methods:** Participants (N = 2932) were 14-19 years old, recruited primarily through social media and screened as risky drinkers. They completed face-to-face (n = 594) or self-administered (n = 2338) surveys. They self-reported whether during their last risky drinking session (LRDS) they had perpetrated any verbal abuse, physical abuse or property damage. A multinomial logistic regression examined whether nine factors were associated with perpetrating zero, one or 2+ categories of AHTO. **Results:** Eleven percent (n = 323) reported perpetrating at least one form of AHTO (7.5% verbal, 1.9% physical and 4.6%

property). Perpetration of AHTO at LRDS was uniquely associated with: younger age, male gender, experiences of childhood physical punishment, greater perpetration incident-specific drinking, concurrent illicit drug use, and less frequent use of safety strategies while drinking in the past 12 months. Controlling for the other variables, an increase of six Australian standard drinks (60 g of alcohol) increased the odds of perpetration by 15% [95% confidence interval (CI) adjusted odds ratio (AOR) 1.08, 1.23], and an increase of 15 Australian standard drinks increased the odds by 42% (95% CI AOR 1.20, 1.69). **Discussion and Conclusions:** Individual characteristics, larger quantities of alcohol consumed, and a disinclination to practice harm reduction amplified risk of AHTO perpetration. This has implications for health promotion and risk prevention/reduction strategies.



Laslett, A.-M., Edwards, N., Allsop, S., Ponicki, W., & Chikritzhs, T. (2022). Community level alcohol availability and child maltreatment: A state-wide panel analysis over 13 years. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, 83(6), 849–856. <https://doi.org/10.15288/jsad.20-00400>.

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM THE *JOURNAL OF STUDIES ON ALCOHOL AND DRUGS*

Objective: Parental or caregiver alcohol use, particularly heavy regular or episodic use, can increase the risk of child maltreatment within individual families. At the national level, higher per capita alcohol consumption has been associated with increased child injury mortality in Australia. This study aimed to investigate whether an association exists between substantiated child maltreatment cases, numbers of licensed outlets, and average alcohol sales volumes at the community level (local government area [LGA]) over a 13-year period across Western Australia (WA). **Method:** Annual panel data were obtained for 132 WA LGAs over the period 2001–2013. Bayesian conditional autoregressive Poisson regression was applied to test associations between numbers of substantiated child maltreatment cases and per-population densities and mean sales volumes of off-trade and on-trade alcohol outlets. Associations were adjusted for the presence of local alcohol restrictions and

mandatory reporting; density of on-trade outlets; and their sales, demographic, and socioeconomic variables. **Results:** Comprehensive area-level alcohol bans and policies restricting alcohol sales reduced child maltreatment by 9.6% and 38.5%, whereas mandatory reporting of child maltreatment increased substantiations by 15.3%. Counterintuitively, for each additional 1,000 L of ethanol sold per off-premise outlet, there was a 3.7% decline in child maltreatment. **Conclusions:** Local government alcohol restrictions predicted reduced child abuse and neglect. Findings that increases in off-trade outlets predicted a decreased risk of child maltreatment at a local level are seemingly at odds with these findings, but outlet density may be acting as a measure of less disorganization. Alcohol policy that affects alcohol availability can reduce child maltreatment in at-risk areas. Local area alcohol bans and interventions reducing hours of sale should be further evaluated to confirm these findings.

Laslett, A-M, Kuntsche, S., Wilson, I. M., Taft, A., Fulu, E., Jewkes, R., & Graham, K. (2022). The relationship between fathers' heavy episodic drinking and fathering involvement in five Asia-Pacific countries: An individual participant data meta-analysis. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, 46, 2137-2148. <https://doi.org/10.1111/acer.14955>.

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM ALCOHOLISM: CLINICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH

Background: This study aims to increase understanding of the relationship between heavy episodic drinking (HED) and fathers' involvement in parenting in five countries. The potential moderating effect of fathers' experiences of childhood trauma is also studied, controlling for the possible confounding of the effect of HED by father's age and father's education. **Method:** United Nations Multi-Country Study on Men and Violence (UNMCS) survey data from 4562 fathers aged 18-49 years from Cambodia, China, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Sri Lanka were used to assess the relationship between fathering involvement (e.g., helping children with their homework) and self-reported HED of 6+ drinks in one occasion vs. non-HED and abstaining. Moderating effects of a 13-item fathers' childhood trauma (FCT) scale were tested and analyses were adjusted for gender-inequitable attitudes

using the Gender-Equitable Men scale score. Bivariate and adjusted individual participant meta-analyses were used to determine effect estimates for each site and across all sites. **Results:** Fathers' HED was associated with less positive parental involvement after adjusting for gender-equitable attitudes, FCT, age and education. No overall interaction between HED and FCT was identified. Gender equitable attitudes were associated with fathering involvement in some countries but not overall ($p = 0.07$). **Conclusions:** Heavy episodic drinking was associated with reduced positive fathering involvement. These findings suggest that interventions to increase fathers' involvement in parenting should include targeting reductions in fathers' HED. Structural barriers to fathers' involvement should be considered alongside HED in future studies of fathers' engagement with their children.

Room, R., Miller, M., Waleewong, O., Assanangkornchai, S., Beccaria, F., Benegal, V., Borges, G., Gmel, G., Graham, K., Hao, W., Mäkelä, P., Morojele, N., Hanh, H. T. M., Obot, I. O'Brien, P., Pinsky, I., Sornpaisarn B., Stockwell, T., & Laslett, A.-M. (2022). Research agendas for alcohol policymaking in the wider world. *International Journal of Alcohol and Drug Research* 10(1), 34-44. <https://doi.org/10.7895/ijadr.353>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG RESEARCH

From comparisons of World Health Organization statistics, it is clear that people in lower-income countries experience more harms per litre of alcohol and different types of harms compared to those from higher-income countries. Yet studies in higher-income countries dominate research on policies to prevent alcohol problems. The paper reports on results of collaborative work to map priority areas for research relevant to low- and middle-income countries. Research focus areas were identified and discussed among potential coauthors from diverse fields with relevant knowledge, with agreement reached on an initial list of seven research priority areas. Areas identified include: (1) the effects of

choices (e.g., national vs. local, monopoly vs. licensing system) in organising the alcohol market; (2) involvement/separation of alcohol industry interests in decisions on public health regulation; (3) options and effectiveness of global agreements on alcohol governance; (4) choices and experience in controlling unrecorded alcohol; (5) means of decreasing harm from men's drinking to family members; (6) strategies for reducing the effects of poverty on drinking's role in harms; and (7) measuring and addressing key alcohol-induced low- and middle-income country (LMIC) health harms: infectious diseases, injuries, digestive diseases. Paths ahead for such research are briefly outlined.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Laslett, A.-M. (2022, 16 November). Substance misuse by birth parents: outcomes for children placed in out-of-home care – Roundtable on permanency and wellbeing outcomes. NSW Family and Community Services. Australia. Online
- Laslett, A.-M. (2022, 30 November). Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment and Harms to Others from Alcohol (for medical officers). National Institute for Mental Health and Neurosciences. Bengaluru, India
- Laslett, A.-M., Room, R., Jiang, H., Anderson-Luxford, D., Willoughby, B., Kuntsche, S., Tanyos, A., Egerton-Warburton, D., & Doran, C. (2022, 9-12 October). Alcohol's harm to others: Effects upon our social scaffolding/ harm from the drinking of people we know. Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs. Darwin, Australia
- Laslett, A.-M., Room, R. Kuntsche, S., Jiang, H., Anderson-Luxford, D., Willoughby, B., Doran, C., & Egerton-Warburton, E. (2022, 31 May). Alcohol's harm to others in covid times. Annual Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society. Warsaw, Poland



ALCOHOL POLICIES AND SOCIAL RESPONSES

STRATEGIC LEAD: HENG (JASON) JIANG

This research stream focuses on using sophisticated analyses to provide scenarios of pricing policy and alcohol outlet changes on consumption, health, social inequality, as well as responses to alcohol-related harm.

To restrict the physical, economic and social availability of alcohol is an important function of alcohol policy, and policy change in these areas requires evidence-based recommendations.

Moreover, when a policy or intervention or prevention program aimed at reducing alcohol consumption or alcohol-related harm is implemented, it is important to demonstrate the impact and efficiency of said action.

SELECTED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Alcohol, tobacco and gambling expenditure and their associations with socio-economic inequalities

Australian Research Council

2020–2023

Investigators: Heng (Jason) Jiang, Robin Room, Anne-Marie Laslett

Wider team: Rowan Dowling, Lamia Khandker

Examining associations between alcohol outlet density and domestic and non-domestic assault in NSW (Association of liquor outlet density with domestic violence and assault in NSW)

NSW Government, Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority

2022–2023

Investigators: Heng (Jason) Jiang, Michael Livingston (Curtin University), Robin Room, Anne-Marie Laslett

Wider team: Benjamin Riordan

Methodological guidelines for estimating alcohol pricing policies

Ministry of Public Health, Thailand

2022

Investigators: Heng (Jason) Jiang, Robin Room, Melvin Marzan

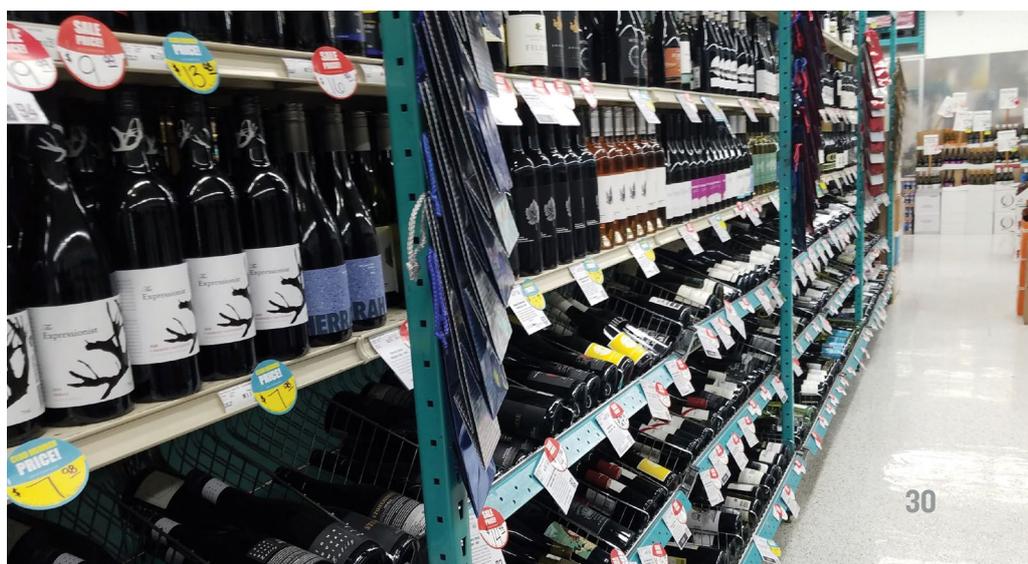
Socio-economic, health and economic outcomes for military families (CAPR subcontracted to examine differences relative to the general population through a series of rapid reviews)

Australian Government, Department of Defence

2022–2023

Investigators: Jennifer McIntosh, Anna Booth, Jessica Opie (Bouverie Centre, La Trobe University), Heng (Jason) Jiang

Wider team: Rowan Dowling





PHD STUDENTS AND PROJECTS

Associations of alcohol, tobacco, gambling expenditure with socioeconomic inequalities

Rowan Dowling, supervised by Heng (Jason) Jiang, Anne-Marie Laslett, Charles Livingstone (Monash University)

Estimating effects of alcohol pricing policy initiatives on social harms in Australia (completed in 2022)

Melvin Marzan, supervised by Heng (Jason) Jiang, Michael Livingstone (Curtin University), Sarah Callinan

RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

SELECTED ACADEMIC ARTICLES

Babor, T., Casswell, S., Graham, K., Huckle, T., Livingston, M., Rehm, J., Room, R., Rossow, I., & Sornpaisarn, B. (2022). Alcohol: No Ordinary Commodity – A summary of the third edition. *Addiction* 117(12), 3024–3026. <https://doi.org/10.1111/add.16003>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM ADDICTION

Background and Aims: This article summarizes the findings and conclusions of the third edition of *Alcohol: No Ordinary Commodity*. The latest revision of this book is part of a series of monographs designed to provide a critical review of the scientific evidence related to alcohol control policy from a public health perspective. **Design:** A narrative summary of the contents of the book according to five major issues. **Findings:** An extensive amount of epidemiological evidence shows that alcohol is a major contributor to the global burden of disease, disability and death in high-, middle- and low-income countries. Trends in alcohol products and marketing are described, indicating that a large part of the global industry has been consolidated into a small number of transnational corporations that are expanding their operations in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The main part of the book is devoted to a review of strategies and interventions designed to prevent or minimize alcohol-related harm.

Overall, the most effective strategies to protect public health are taxation that decreases affordability and restrictions on the physical availability of alcohol. A total ban on alcohol marketing is also an effective strategy to reduce consumption. In addition, drink-driving counter-measures, brief interventions with at-risk drinkers and treatment of drinkers with alcohol dependence are effective in preventing harm in high-risk contexts and groups of hazardous drinkers. **Conclusion:** Alcohol policy is often the product of competing interests, values and ideologies, with the evidence suggesting that the conflicting interests between profit and health mean that working in partnership with the alcohol industry is likely to lead to ineffective policy. Opportunities for implementation of evidence-based alcohol policies that better serve the public good are clearer than ever before as a result of accumulating knowledge on which strategies work best.

Hu, A., Jiang, H., Dowling, R., Guo, L., Zhao X., Hao, W., & Xiang, X. (2022). The transition of alcohol control in China 1990–2019: Impacts and recommendations. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 105(July: 103698), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2022.103698>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF DRUG POLICY

The harmful use of alcohol is a severe public health issue globally. Chinese per-capita alcohol consumption has increased sharply in recent decades, which has contributed to a rise in alcohol-related problems. In this article we present an analysis of Chinese alcohol policy, beginning with a characterization of alcohol consumption in China followed by an examination of how the nation's alcohol control policy

has evolved over the past 30 years, identifying shortcomings and obstacles to improvement. Finally, we present several recommendations informed by the Global Strategy to Reduce the Harmful Use of Alcohol and the SAFER Technical Package—Five Areas of Intervention at National and Subnational Levels (SAFER initiative), to the areas of taxation, alcohol availability, alcohol marketing regulation, and treatment.

Jiang, H., Dowling, R., Hameed, M., Painter, F., Vuong, A., Booth, A., Opie, J., Boh, J., McLean, N., & McIntosh, J. (2022). Comparison of social and economic stress in military and civilian families: A rapid review of the evidence. *Open Journal of Social Science*, 10(11), 320–347. <https://doi.org/10.4236/jss.2022.1011022>.

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM OPEN JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Although many military families demonstrate resilience and strength, research highlights that military service may impact the health and wellbeing of families. In comparison with civilian families, military families are embedded within a broader military context and culture which may influence many aspects of family life, including socioeconomic status and social participation. This rapid review utilised a systematic methodology to synthesise the evidence of comparing possible differences of the socioeconomic and social participation of military families with civilian families. Relevant online databases such as Medline, PsycINFO, CINAHL and ProQuest Central were searched for articles published between January 2000 and February 2022. After screening 3057

articles, five studies were included for analysis. The results highlight considerable income, education and employment gaps between current serving military and civilian spouses. An association was found between social, economic status and increased risk of violence or assaults in military families. Specifically, younger age and decline in health status were key predictors of domestic violence assaults in military families. This review highlights emerging evidence and recommends further Australian-based research with military families. Policy, research, and practice implications are discussed with consideration to preventative interventions tailored towards strengthening health, wellbeing, and socio-economic status of military families.

Marzan, M., Callinan, S., Livingston, M., Leggat, G., & Jiang, H. (2022). Systematic review and dose-response meta-analysis on the relationship between alcohol consumption and workplace or sickness absence. *Alcohol and Alcoholism*, 57(1), 47–57. <https://doi.org/10.1093/alcalc/agab008>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM ALCOHOL AND ALCOHOLISM

Aims: Alcohol consumption (AC) may cause workplace absence, but the findings of individual studies vary markedly. To date, no dose-response meta-analysis (DRMA) of the relationship between AC and sickness absence (SA) has been completed. This paper aims to estimate the dose-response relationship between AC and the risk of SA based on published observational studies. **Methods:** We used DRMA and modelling to investigate the effects of varying doses of AC (including heavy episodic drinking (HED)) on SA. **Results:** The meta-analysis included 21 studies (12 cohort studies and 9 cross-sectional). It showed that HED, risky (20–40 g of alcohol/day) and high-risk (>40 g of alcohol/day) drinkers had an elevated

risk of SA when compared with light-to-moderate drinkers for both sexes. Those who abstained from alcohol had a higher risk of SA than those who drink moderately. **Conclusions:** Our results indicate that risky, high-risk drinking and HED may increase the risk of absenteeism. The implementation of population-based strategies may be appropriate to address the burdens of alcohol-related SA. Additionally, economic evaluations of alcohol policies should incorporate their impacts on SA. However, the current literature has substantial limitations, relying on modestly designed studies from just a few settings and more studies are needed—especially those that measure abstinence in more nuanced ways.

Room, R., Cook, M., & Laslett, A.-M. (2022). Substance use and the Sustainable Development Goals: will development bring greater problems? *Drugs: Education, Prevention and Policy*. (Online early view 27 November). <https://doi.org/10.1080/09687637.2022.2150125>.

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM *DRUGS: EDUCATION, PREVENTION AND POLICY*

Purpose: The United Nations has adopted a set of 17 interlocking Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2015–2030. This commentary discusses how alcohol and other drugs have been dealt with and discussed in the context of the Goals, and issues raised by the relationship and history of how alcohol and other drug use and problems relate to development. **Material and methods:** A cross-section of discussions of alcohol and drugs in the context of the SDGs is considered, and evidence considered on the relationship and history of alcohol and drug use and problems to development. **Results:** While alcohol and narcotic drugs are mentioned in the SDG Targets, there has been little consideration of what effects attaining the goals may have on levels of alcohol and other drug consumption and problems. In cross-sectional comparisons, there are higher average levels of consumption of alcohol and controlled drugs in richer

societies, and among richer than poorer individuals. But the harm per unit of use tends to be lower for richer individuals, and in richer societies. We consider how these two contrary trends may apply with socioeconomic development, given that development has often brought increases in substance use, and societal responses to limit the harms are often delayed by a generation or more, often resulting in ‘long waves’ of consumption and associated harms. **Conclusions:** To take alcohol and other drugs coherently into account in the Sustainable Development Goals, along with recognising that they are marketable and sometimes useful products, and thus involved to some extent in economic development, there needs to be action at national and international levels which recognises their double-sided nature—including market controls on commercial products to channel and limit availability and minimise harm.



SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Anderson-Luxford, D., Jiang, H., Tanyos, A. S. B., Egerton-Warburton, D., Laslett, A. M. (2022, 4 November). Trends in alcohol-related assaults during COVID-19 in Victoria, Australia. Victorian Postgraduate Criminology Conference. Melbourne, Australia
- Jiang, H., Anderson-Luxford, D., Willoughby, B., Tanyos, A., Room, R., Laslett, A.-M. (2022, 9–12 October). Caring for drinkers and their dependents during 2021. Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Drugs. Darwin, Australia
- Room, R. (2022, 3 September). Government alcohol retail monopoly as an instrument for public health and welfare. THL seminar on alcohol policy at the National Institute for Health and Welfare. Helsinki, Finland

MEDIA & EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES RESEARCH STREAM

STRATEGIC LEADS: BENJAMIN RIORDAN AND EMMANUEL KUNTSCHKE

This research stream aims to understand how common alcohol is in popular media, how alcohol is depicted in popular media (e.g. positive/negative), what impact exposure to alcohol in popular media can have on alcohol use, and what avenues there are for policy changes and interventions. In this stream of work, we use new and emerging technologies like wearables (e.g. transdermal devices) and artificial intelligence techniques (e.g. machine learning).

SELECTED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Novel social media approach to #Identification and #Screening for hazardous drinking among diverse non-college young adults

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

2022–2024

Investigators: Jennifer Merrill (Brown University), Rose Marie Ward (University of Cincinnati), Benjamin Riordan

Out of sight out of mind? Co-design of a browser plugin to block online alcohol exposure

La Trobe School of Psychology and Public Health Internal Grant Scheme

2022

Investigators: Benjamin Riordan, Emmanuel Kuntsche, Megan Cook, Amy Pennay, Maree Patsouras

Using Artificial Intelligence to detect alcohol in real-life image

La Trobe School of Psychology and Public Health Internal Grant Scheme

2022

Investigators: Emmanuel Kuntsche, Benjamin Riordan

Using Artificial Intelligence to determine how much alcohol influencers from Australia and Israel post on social media (Part 1 of the La Trobe University and the University of Haifa Health bid project)

The Victorian Endowment for Science, Knowledge and Innovation (VESKI), International Research Partnerships grant 2021–2022

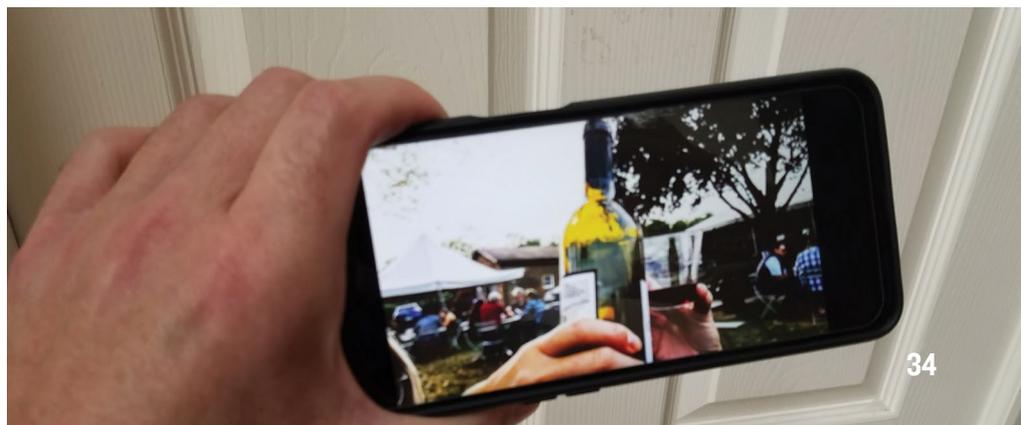
Investigators: Benjamin Riordan, Emmanuel Kuntsche, Zhen He (Computer Science and Information Technology, La Trobe University), Sharon Sznitman (Haifa University)

Using deep learning to prevent alcohol exposure and drinking temptations

National Health and Medical Research Council Ideas Grant Inspiration Hub Pitching Award, La Trobe University, Healthy People, Families and Communities Theme

2022

Investigator: Emmanuel Kuntsche



PHD STUDENTS AND PROJECTS

Test retest reliability and validity of wearable transdermal alcohol monitor (completed in 2022)

Kelly van Egmond, supervised by Emmanuel Kuntsche, Cassandra Wright (Menzies School of Health Research), Benjamin Riordan, Michael Livingston (Curtin University)

Capturing the ups and downs: Investigating women's alcohol consumption and mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia

Dan Anderson-Luxford, supervised by Benjamin Riordan, Emmanuel Kuntsche, Cassandra Wright (Menzies School of Health Research)

Application of artificial intelligence to identify and quantify alcoholic beverages and inebriation from audio-visual material

Abraham Albert Bonela, supervised by Emmanuel Kuntsche, Zhen He (Computer Science and Information Technology, La Trobe University)

RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

SELECTED ACADEMIC ARTICLES

Bonela, A. A., He, Z., Nibali, A., Norman, T., Miller, P. G., & Kuntsche, E. (2022). Audio-based Deep Learning Algorithm to Identify Alcohol Inebriation (ADLAIA). *Alcohol*. (Online early view 28 December). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.alcohol.2022.12.002>.

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM ALCOHOL

Background: Acute alcohol intoxication impairs cognitive and psychomotor abilities leading to various public health hazards such as road traffic accidents and alcohol-related violence. Intoxicated individuals are usually identified by measuring their blood alcohol concentration (BAC) using breathalyzers that are expensive and labor intensive. In this paper, we developed the Audio-based Deep Learning Algorithm to Identify Alcohol Inebriation (ADLAIA) that can instantly predict an individual's intoxication status based on a 12-s recording of their speech. Methods: ADLAIA was trained on a publicly available German Alcohol Language Corpus that comprises a total of 12,360 audio clips of inebriated and sober speakers (total of

162, aged 21–64, 47.7% female). ADLAIA's performance was determined by computing the unweighted average recall (UAR) and accuracy of inebriation prediction. Results: ADLAIA was able to identify inebriated speakers – with a BAC of 0.05% or higher – with an UAR of 68.09% and accuracy of 67.67%. ADLAIA had a higher performance (UAR of 75.7%) in identifying intoxicated speakers (BAC > 0.12%). Conclusion: Being able to identify intoxicated individuals solely based on their speech, ADLAIA could be integrated into mobile applications and used in environments (such as bars, sports stadiums) to get instantaneous results about inebriation status of individuals.

Bonela, A. A., He, Z., Norman, T., & Kuntsche, E. (2022). Development and Validation of the Alcoholic Beverage Identification Deep Learning Algorithm Version 2 (ABIDLA2) for quantifying alcohol exposure in electronic images. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research* 46(10), 1837-1845. <https://doi.org/10.1111/acer.14925>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM ALCOHOLISM: CLINICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH

Background: Seeing alcohol in media has been demonstrated to increase alcohol craving, impulsive decision-making, and hazardous drinking. Due to the exponential growth of (social) media use it is important to develop algorithms to quantify alcohol exposure efficiently in electronic images. In this article, we describe the development of an improved version of the Alcoholic Beverage Identification Deep Learning Algorithm (ABIDLA), called ABIDLA2. **Methods:** ABIDLA2 was trained on 191,286 images downloaded from Google Image Search results (based on search terms) and Bing Image Search results. In Task-1, ABIDLA2 identified images as containing one of eight beverage categories (beer/cider cup, beer/cider bottle, beer/cider can, wine, champagne, cocktails, whiskey/cognac/brandy, other images). In Task-2, ABIDLA2 made a binary classification between images containing an "alcoholic beverage" or "other". An ablation study was performed to determine which techniques improved algorithm performance. **Results:** ABIDLA2 was most accurate in identifying Whiskey/

Cognac/Brandy (88.1%) followed by Beer/Cider Can (80.5%), Beer/Cider Bottle (78.3%), and Wine (77.8%). Its overall accuracy was 77.0% (Task-1) and 87.7% (Task-2). Even the identification of the least accurate beverage category (Champagne, 64.5%) was more than five times higher than random chance (12.5% = 1/8 categories). The implementation of balanced data sampler to address class skewness and the use of self-training to make use of a large, secondary, weakly labeled dataset particularly improved overall algorithm performance. **Conclusion:** With extended capabilities and a higher accuracy, ABIDLA2 outperforms its predecessor and enables the screening of any kind of electronic media rapidly to estimate the quantity of alcohol exposure. Quantifying alcohol exposure automatically through algorithms like ABIDLA2 is important because viewing images of alcoholic beverages in media tends to increase alcohol consumption and related harms.

Kuntsche, E., Riordan, B., van Egmond, K., Labhart, F., Callinan, S., & Gmel, G. (2022). Comparing strengths and weaknesses of contemporary quantitative methods to collect data on alcohol consumption: An 'at-a-glance' overview. *Addiction Research and Theory*. (Online early view 11 November). <https://doi.org/10.1080/16066359.2022.2143495>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM ADDICTION RESEARCH AND THEORY

This paper aims to provide an overview of the contemporary quantitative methods to assess alcohol consumption. We identified and rated six data collection methods according to four typical aims (i.e. to assess: per capita consumption, drinking patterns, event-specific consumption, and consumption over time) and five desirable features (low cognitive bias, contextual information, low participant and researcher burden, low costs). The results are presented in an overview table, which reveals that questionnaire-based methods are easy and cost-efficient but often distorted by cognitive biases. These biases can be avoided by analyzing sales/production statistics and wastewater samples, but these methods are unable to provide information on individual drinking patterns. Breathalyzers or transdermal monitors

enable relatively precise measurement of individual consumption without any cognitive bias. However, the required devices are expensive and difficult to apply correctly, which makes data collection time, labor, and cost-intensive, particularly as sample sizes increase. Ecological momentary assessment (e.g. series of questionnaires within short timeframes completed in the participants' natural environments) reduces, but does not eliminate, cognitive biases and maximizes ecological validity. Unfortunately, this method also increases the response burden, potentially resulting in assessment reactivity and drop-out. Highlighting the combination of strengths and weaknesses of each method, this overview may serve as useful guidance for study planning and implementation.

Norman, T., Anderson-Luxford, D., O'Brien, P., & Room, R. (2022). Regulating alcohol advertising for public health and welfare in the age of digital marketing: Challenges and options. *Drugs: Education, Prevention and Policy*. (Online early view 12 December). <https://doi.org/10.1080/09687637.2022.2148518>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM *DRUGS: EDUCATION, PREVENTION AND POLICY*

Aims: This narrative review considers traditional strategies for regulating alcohol marketing and their applicability to digital media. **Method:** Drawing on international research, case studies, and reports, we examine the applicability of (1) comprehensive or partial bans; (2) placement restrictions; (3) content restrictions; and (4) counter-advertising. **Results:** Comprehensive bans on advertising are generally the most effective option. A partial ban applying to digital media would make some lesser contribution to reducing exposure, but will usually simply result in the promotional budget being shifted to whichever media remain less strictly regulated. Limits on the placement of marketing have more salience for traditional

media than for most digital media, which can be individualized and targeted. Content restrictions play a limited role in reducing exposure as they are not concerned with marketing volume, but with the way in which alcohol is represented. **Conclusions:** Although these traditional strategies have a role in regulating digital media and are applied in certain international jurisdictions, new regulatory approaches are needed. These may include the use of artificial intelligence for monitoring, transparency requirements, and privacy law rights and duties. Opportunities to regulate alcohol marketing online will need to be addressed and seized as they arise in the current volatile policy environment concerning the governance of social media.

Riordan, B. C., Merrill, J. E., Ward, R. M., & Raubenheimer, J. (2022). When are alcohol-related blackout Tweets written in the United States? *Addictive Behaviors*, 124(January: 107110). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2021.107110>

ABSTRACT SOURCED FROM *ADDICTIVE BEHAVIORS*

Background: Alcohol use varies throughout the year and often peaks on weekends or during celebrations (e.g., New Year's). There is not a perfect correlation between alcohol use and negative consequences, and the extent to which one particularly risky consequence—an alcohol-related blackout—is more common during certain times of the year is unknown. Identifying when blackouts occur may help identify which periods are associated with more risk and be critical in designing public health campaigns. Thus, we examined Twitter data to ascertain whether alcohol-related blackouts occur more during certain holidays/celebrations than typical weekends and whether they differed in timing from general alcohol-related Tweets. **Methods:** We used a Twitter-sponsored platform to access unique Tweets written in the United States referencing blackouts

(e.g., "blackout") and alcohol generally (e.g., "drunk"). **Results:** The final dataset included 3.5 million blackout Tweets and 591 million alcohol Tweets (written between 2009 and 2020). Both blackout and alcohol Tweets were written in the late evening, on weekends, and during certain holidays (New Years, St. Patrick's). However, relative to typical weekends, only blackout Tweets were more common during Thanksgiving and only general alcohol-related Tweets were more common during Cinco de Mayo. **Conclusion:** While blackout and alcohol-related Tweets were similar in time of day (peaking in the evening) and day of week (peaking on weekends), they differed during certain celebrations/holidays, suggesting that while alcohol use may be more common during some celebrations, others are more associated with serious harms.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Anderson-Luxford, D., Norman, T., Paterson, J., Room, R., O'Brien, P. (2022, 9–12 October). Forms and features of alcohol marketing in a digital era. Australian Professional Society for Alcohol and other Drugs. Darwin, Australia
- Kuntsche, E., Bonela, A. A., & Riordan, B. C. (2022, 1 December). Effects on drinking beyond marketing – Why alcohol exposure on digital media matters: a literature review and a conceptual model. VicHealth's Space Invaders Conference. Melbourne, Australia
- Kuntsche, E., Riordan, B. C., Anderson-Luxford, D., & O'Brien, P. (2022, 10 October). Exposure to alcohol in digital media: why it matters and what can be done. Australian Professional Society for Alcohol and Drugs. Darwin, Australia
- Riordan, B. C., Marriage, E., Bonela, A. A., He, Z., Sznitman, S., Curwen, D., & Kuntsche, E. (2022, 15 November). How can we measure online exposure and how much influencers post about alcohol? La Trobe – Haifa University Summit. Haifa, Israel



NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

Our strong reputation also comes from our ongoing collaborations with a broad range of both Australian and international researchers across countries such as the USA, Canada, Switzerland, Sweden, Denmark and the UK. CAPR staff both lead and provide input into a number of key projects around alcohol policy, alcohol-related behaviours and alcohol's harms to others.



AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Our researchers were recognised and celebrated on international, national and local stages. The awards received showcases the talent and commitment to the pursuit of research excellence among our staff and PhD students.

SCIENTIFIC AWARDS

1. Caluzzi, G. La Trobe University Strategic Priority Awards, Graduate Excellence. La Trobe University, Bundoora, 8 December, 2022.
2. Caluzzi, G. National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) Early Career Research Travel Award. NDARC, University of New South Wales, 18 – 21 September 2022.
3. Caluzzi, G. Ole-Jørgen Skog Award for Early Career Scientist. Awarded at the 47th Annual Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society, Warsaw, Poland, 30 May – 3 June 2022.
4. Kuntsche, E. NHMRC Ideas Grant Inspiration Hub Pitching Award, Pro Vice-Chancellor Research Capability, La Trobe University, Australia.
5. Laslett, A.-M. Veski Victorian Near-miss Award. Victorian Government and the Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes [AAMRI] as part of the Victorian Health and Medical Research Workforce Project. Amount: \$74,000. (2022-2023).
6. Laslett, A.-M. Kettil Bruun Society 2022 Award for Advancement of International Research Collaboration. Awarded at the 47th Annual Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society, Warsaw, Poland, 30 May – 3 June 2022.
7. Riordan, B. 2022 Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs (APSAD) Early Career Award. This award is for excellence in research relative to career opportunities. Amount \$1000 in prize money and a free APSAD membership. Presented at APSAD 2022: Darwin, Sunday October 9th-12th, 2022.
8. Riordan, B. 2022 Vice-Chancellor's Research Excellence Awards – Excellence in Research – Early Career: Highly commended.
9. Van Egmond, K. (2022). Nancy Millis Award, La Trobe University (given to the top 5% of PhD thesis of a given year)



SERVICE TO THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

Our staff provide research-based input and advice to the academic community via editorial and reviewing functions for scholarly journals, as well as supervisory responsibilities to PhD students studying at other universities. This is further recognition of the expertise within CAPR and the commitment to training the next generation of alcohol researchers.

EDITORIAL APPOINTMENTS

JOURNAL	APPOINTMENT
<i>Addiction</i>	Associate Editor: Emmanuel Kuntsche
<i>Addicta: The Turkish Journal on the Addictions</i>	Editorial Board Member: Anne-Marie Laslett
<i>Addiction Research and Theory</i>	Associate Editor: Amy Pennay
<i>Alcohol: Clinical and Experimental Research</i>	Field Editor: Anne-Marie Laslett
<i>BMC Public Health</i>	Deputy Editor and Special Issue Editor: Emmanuel Kuntsche; Editorial Board Member: Heng (Jason) Jiang
<i>Contemporary Drug Problems</i>	Editorial Board Member: Robyn Dwyer, Robin Room
<i>Drug and Alcohol Review</i>	Editor-in-Chief: Robin Room; Deputy Editor: Gabriel Caluzzi, Sarah Callinan, Sandra Kuntsche; Amy Pennay; Emmanuel Kuntsche
<i>Drugs: Education, Prevention and Policy</i>	Senior Editor: Amy Pennay
<i>European Addiction Research</i>	Editorial Board Member: Emmanuel Kuntsche
<i>Health Sociology Review</i>	Co-Editor-in-Chief: Sarah MacLean
<i>International Journal of Alcohol and Drug Research</i>	Co-Editor-in-Chief: Anne-Marie Laslett; Senior Editor: Sandra Kuntsche; Editorial Board Member: Sarah Callinan
<i>International Society for Addiction Journal Editors</i>	Elected Board Member: Anne-Marie Laslett
<i>Journal of Behavioural Addictions</i>	Editorial Board Member: Emmanuel Kuntsche
<i>Nordic Studies on Alcohol and Drugs</i>	Scientific Advisory Board: Robin Room

PHD STUDENT SUPERVISION BEYOND LA TROBE

Daniel Perkins

Thesis title: Ayahuasca as a therapeutic agent for psychiatric and substance use disorders: evidence from a cross sectional and longitudinal survey

Supervisors: Richard Chenhall and Robin Room (CAPR)

University: University of Melbourne

Commenced: 2021

Heng (Jason) Jiang

Thesis: Understanding temporal associations of alcohol and tobacco consumption with cancer mortality

Supervisors: Richard Chenhall, Dallas English, and Robin Room (CAPR)

University: University of Melbourne

Commenced: 2018

Marwa Mostafa

Thesis: Assessing and promoting oral health amongst young inmates in Australia

Supervisors: Rodrigo Marino, Mark Stooze, Felicity Crombie, and Anne-Marie Laslett (CAPR)

University: University of Melbourne

Commenced: 2018

Mia Miller

Thesis: The who, what and why of mid-life women's alcohol use in Australia

Supervisors: Cassandra Wright, Sandra Kuntsche (CAPR), and Sarah Callinan (CAPR)

University: Menzies University

Commenced: 2022

Ratih Eka Pertiwi

Thesis: The role and place of alcohol consumption amongst young people in Jayapura, Papua, Indonesia

Supervisors: Catherine Vaughan, Richard Chenhall, and Robin Room (CAPR)

University: University of Melbourne

Commenced: 2018

Van Nguyen

Thesis: A systemic approach to advancing cross-sector collaboration between domestic and family violence, and alcohol or other drugs services

Supervisors: Professor Cathy Humphries, Margaret Kertesz, Jennifer Davidson, and Anne-Marie Laslett (CAPR)

University: University of Melbourne

Commenced: 2021

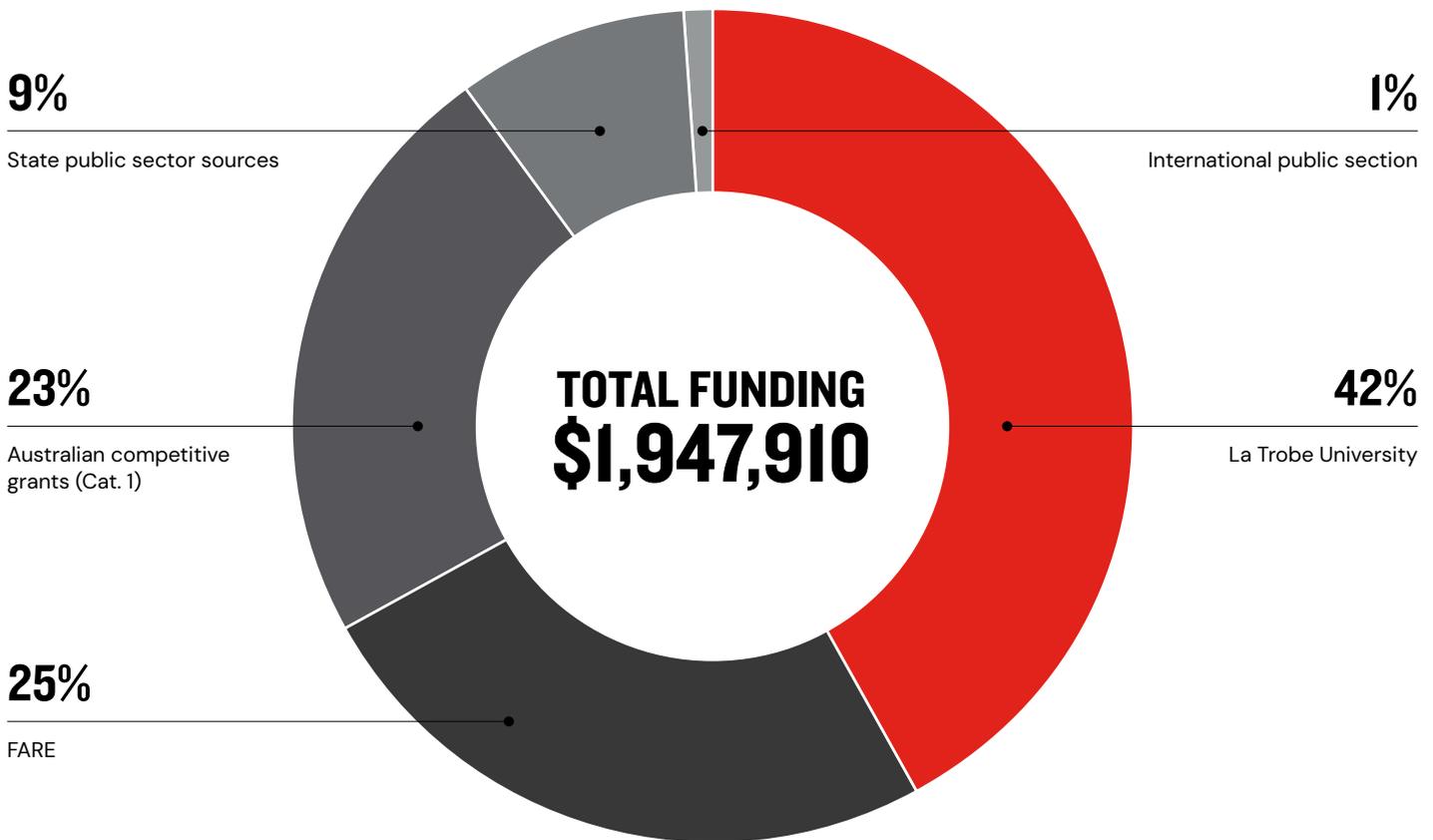
FUNDING DETAILS

Below is a breakdown of CAPR's key funding sources and where applicable, the major projects funded through these sources.

FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE SOURCES LISTED HERE TOTALED	1,947,910
AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL (ARC)	448,718
Alcohol's harm to others: Patterns, costs, disparities, and situational precipitants	178,781
Alcohol, tobacco, and gambling expenditure and socioeconomic inequalities	97,136
Mothers' little helper: The link between alcohol use and daily stressors in the specific risk group of working mothers	114,968
Researching an all-of-family program in family violence and substance use (via University of Melbourne)	11,169
Understanding heavy alcohol consumption cultures among nurses and lawyers and investigating frames for intervention	46,664
FOUNDATION FOR ALCOHOL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION (FARE)	481,245
Centre for Alcohol Policy Research core funding	446,245
Partner contribution for ARC Linkage - Alcohol's harm to others: Patterns, cost, disparities, and situation precipitants	35,000
OTHER PUBLIC SECTOR RESEARCH FUNDING	105,522
The Victorian Endowment for Science, Knowledge and Innovation (VESKI): The alcohol's harm to others paradigm	35,000
VESKI: La Trobe and the University of Haifa Health Bid (Part 1)	22,261
Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade, New South Wales Government: Association of liquor outlet density with domestic violence	48,261
NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS	46,316
Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation: Research on alcohol and gambling harm	8,578
Victorian Aboriginal Health Service: Staying strong	27,739
Australian Rechabite Foundation: Partner contribution for ARC Linkage - Alcohol's harm to others: Patterns, costs, disparities, and situational precipitants	10,000
AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES	23,182
University of New South Wales (UNSW): Alcohol and COVID-19 journal articles	20,000
Deakin University: Policy reform: Online sale and delivery of alcohol	3,182

INTERNATIONAL SECTOR	20,229
World Health Organization (WHO): Technical report on the harmful use of alcohol related to cross-border marketing	8,229
International Health Policy Program Foundations, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand: Methodological guidelines for estimating alcohol pricing policies	12,000
MISCELLANEOUS	4,421
Sundry revenue/Fee for service	4,421
LA TROBE UNIVERSITY	818,275
Research Centre support	742,238
La Trobe internal contribution (includes competitive grants)	76,037

SUMMARY OF FUNDING SOURCES





LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY



centre for alcohol
policy research

Centre for Alcohol Policy Research School of Psychology and Public Health La Trobe University Melbourne, AUSTRALIA



Email

alcoholpolicy@latrobe.edu.au



Visit us

latrobe.edu.au/capr

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