

## MEDIA ALERT

### Leaders to address health inequities at Public Forum

The Social Determinants of Health Alliance (SDOHA) – in conjunction with the Southgate Institute for Health, Society & Equity at Flinders University – is bringing together some of the best research and policy minds in the country to address health inequities in Australia. The Public Forum on “*Achieving health equity through action on social determinants*” will bring together some of Australia’s great thinkers to discuss the big challenges and opportunities in Australian health policy.

“We are privileged to have Professor Fran Baum and the team from the Southgate Institute coming to Canberra to present the findings of an Australian Research Council project on the social determinants of health and equity in Australian health policy,” said Michael Moore, Chair of SDOHA.

“The Southgate team will present key messages from the research for health policy makers, policy makers in general, and all those interested in promoting effective action by governments to address the social determinants of health,” explained Professor Fran Baum, Director of the Southgate Institute.

Speakers and topics to be discussed include:

- Professor Fran Baum, Director, Southgate Institute – *intro to the research and its policy implications*
- Dr Matt Fisher, Senior Research Fellow – *key messages for health policy makers and advocates*
- Professor Dennis McDermott – *the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013-2023 as a case study of good practice in policy development addressing the social determinants of health*
- Ms Clare Philips – *Social determinants of health in Australian government’s policies on child health*

Speaker presentations will be followed by a Panel Discussion on how to develop health policy that addresses social determinants of health and health equity, facilitated by Professor Colin MacDougall. Panellists include:

- Prof Tom Calma AO - National Coordinator, Tackling Indigenous Smoking; Co-Chair, Reconciliation Australia; and Chancellor, University of Canberra
- Mr Stephen Jones MP - Shadow Assistant Minister for Health
- Mr Tony Carmichael – Executive Director of Strategic Planning, Environment and Planning Directorate, ACT Government

Following the panel session, Associate Professor Toni Schofield PhD from the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Sydney will also be speaking about her new book, entitled *A Sociological Approach to Health Determinants*.

**WHAT: Public Forum: Achieving health equity through action on social determinants**  
**WHERE: The Brassey Hotel, Belmore Gardens & Macquarie Street, Barton, ACT**  
**WHEN: Thursday 7 May 2015**  
**TIME: 9:30am – 12.30pm**

**For media comment/interviews:**

Michael Moore, Chair, Social Determinants of Health Alliance  
Professor Fran Baum, Director, Southgate Institute

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