PARTY TRIAL UPDATE

The PARTY Team has had a really busy year as we completed the PARTY 1 data collection and rolled out Wave 1 of PARTY 2. PARTY 2 is making good progress with 34 of our original PARTY 1 practices making the decision to come on board. Given the high demands on general practice, it is very gratifying to see that practices are committing to research as well as improving health care access and outcomes for their young patients.

In PARTY 2, nearly all practices have completed the practice snapshot which provides us with information on how practices are staffed and operated. Twenty practices have started, or completed, their patient recruitment (14-24 yr old young people and parents of 14-24 yr old young people). We have moved to an in-practice, written survey for the young people rather than a telephone survey; observations, so far, suggest that our expectation of an enhanced response rate will be realised. As a result, the data which will be fed back to practices will be drawn from more representative samples and, thus, be more informative for the practices and better for our outcomes.

We are looking forward to a bumper 2012 as we continue the PARTY journey. As ever, we are very grateful to all the practices, their staff and patients for the role they play in our research as we try to systematically trial what really works in young people’s health. Wishing you all very best wishes for the coming festive season.

5th PARTY iPod WINNER!!!

Congratulations to a 22 year old female from an Eastern suburban practice who has won a brand new 8GB iPod Nano—our last winner for PARTY 1. She had completed telephone interviews at baseline, 3 months and 12 months. As in PARTY 1, all young people who complete a PARTY 2 survey will go into the draw for a 1/500 chance to win an iPod. Most young people are happy to take part in the PARTY project without an incentive, but when they find out they might win an iPod . . . well, let’s just say that seals the deal!
NEW DIRECTIONS: Sadly two of our PARTY staff will be leaving the project in December.

Brenda Grabsch has completed her time with the project after spending over six years with us. She is planning to take some well-deserved time off. Brenda has been responsible for co-ordinating the project from its very beginnings and has put in an extraordinary amount of time and hard work into setting the project up and making it work smoothly. We wish Brenda all the best for the future and thank her for all of her valuable contributions. PARTY would not be what it is without her dedication and hard work. Good luck Brenda!

Our qualitative researcher, Caroline Hart, is going on maternity leave in early December and expecting a new arrival in January 2012. Although PARTY will miss Caroline while she is away, we look forward to meeting the new member of her family very soon. Best wishes for a speedy delivery and a smooth transition into this exciting new life role for Caroline!

MEET OUR NEW STAFF MEMBER: While Caroline is away, Jenny Anderson, will take over the project coordinator reins. Jenny has 12 years worth of experience working on similar projects in health research and program evaluation. She has just finished up working on the QUIT in General Practice Project, another initiative at the Department of General Practice here at The University of Melbourne. In her spare time she is desperately trying to finish a PhD in psychology, working with cancer patients on a writing intervention. She looks forward to meeting with all of the practices involved in PARTY. Welcome Jenny!

SPEAKING OF PHDs: Janelle Seymour, our previous health economist, has left the project and set out on the long and winding road towards completing a PhD. She will be studying in the Centre for Health Economics at Monash University. We are delighted that Janelle will still be involved in contributing to the outcome papers for PARTY. Good luck Janelle with your new academic endeavours!

BACK TO WORK: How fast time goes by. Fan Yang has recently returned from maternity leave and is currently working part time on PARTY one day a week as Data Manager. The team is very happy to have her back, especially as we have a lot of data for her to analyse! We hope motherhood is being kind to you Fan and the juggling between family and work life not too difficult to adjust to. Welcome back Fan!
Over the course of its long life (Piloting, PARTY 1, PARTY 2), the PARTY Project has worked with more than 40 general practice clinics to collect a vast amount of data from the practices, their staff and their 14-24 year old patients and their parents. We are fully engrossed in analysing the data from PARTY 1 and a number of journal articles are in preparation. However, since 2005, when PARTY first started its youth health journey, many other research collaborations, presentations, invitations and student projects have arisen as a direct result of the ground-breaking work in young people’s health undertaken by the PARTY Chief Investigators headed up by Associate Professor Lena Sanci. The list below highlights some of the achievements along the way. If you would like further information about any of these activities, or a full publication list, please contact Assoc Prof Lena Sanci on 03 8344 6152 or l.sanchi@unimelb.edu.au.

**PARTY ACHIEVEMENTS**

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES: As a result of the PARTY project, 21 national and international peer-reviewed journal articles have been produced (submitted, in-press and published). Here is a highlighted selection of articles (in date order):

**Sanci L.** Clinical preventive services for adolescents: facing the challenge of proving ‘an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure’. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, in press 2011

**Sanci L, Lewis D, Patton G,** Detecting Emotional Disorder in Young People in Primary Care. *Current Opinion in Psychiatry* 2010; 23(4)318-23.


PARTY ACHIEVEMENTS

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS: Over the years, members of the PARTY team have presented findings from the project and related work at 31 national and international conference presentations. Here are some recent highlights (in date order):


Sanci L. (Keynote speaker) Youth friendly primary care: meeting the mental health needs of the community. The Rural Health Research Conference, Rural Health Academic Centre, Shepparton, November 2010.


RESEARCH STUDENTS: The PARTY project has supported many research students in the completion of their various degrees. So far 4 students have completed theses related to the PARTY project and 7 are currently working towards completion. Degrees span from the Honours to PhD level, and also include medical students studying for their MD. Here are a few examples:


Kemertzis M. Sexual health risks and young people – secondary analysis of PARTY 1 data (current).

Ambresin A-E. Clinician screening of young people’s mental health – secondary analysis of PARTY 1 data, Master of Epidemiology (current).
PARTY ACHIEVEMENTS

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER: PARTY has contributed to knowledge transfer in a variety of ways including 1 book chapter, 1 dvd training resource, 3 editorials for journals, and representation on 9 committees and advisory/reference groups. Here are a few selected highlights (in date order):


Committee Member (2010-current): headspace (National Youth Mental Health Foundation), Clinical & Research Committee.


And last but not least ...

GRANTS: Over the years PARTY has been awarded substantial funding in order to conduct and continue its worthwhile but complex work. We are very grateful for the generous support from funders. PARTY is also associated with other key national and state funding initiatives:


Everyone here at the PARTY project would like to wish you and yours a very peaceful and HAPPY CHRISTMAS. Hopefully it’s a time to relax and re-charge for 2012.

THANK YOU for all of your support during the last 12 months. We know many of you work in very busy practices and we really appreciate the time you have given to the project.

“Joyeux Noël”
“Chuc Mung Giang Sinh”
“Froehliche Weihnachten”
“Bon Natale”
“Nollaig Shona Dhuit”
“Kala Christouyenna”
“Sung Tan Chuk Ha”
“Bada Din Mubarak Ho”