

Leading respiratory physician presented with Menzies Medallion

Professor Paul Torzillo has been awarded the prestigious Menzies Medallion for being a national leader in Aboriginal health care, research and policy.

Prof Torzillo was presented the award at Menzies School of Health Research in Darwin on Friday night, in recognition of his work to improve the health of Aboriginal people across urban, rural and remote Australia.

The Professor is also a Senior Respiratory and Intensive Care Physician at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney, and Medical Director of the Nganampa Health Council in South Australia.

Menzies Director, Professor Alan Cass, says Professor Torzillo has been a tireless campaigner for Aboriginal health in the Northern Territory, and across Australia, and has been a key and active collaborator with Menzies.

“Professor Torzillo has maintained his involvement with Menzies for many years particularly working in research collaboration on ear disease, vaccines and respiratory disease, said Professor Cass.

“His work in Aboriginal health care delivery, research and advocacy has demonstrated how best-practice, evidence-based care can be delivered in both community and hospital settings. He is someone who has generated evidence about what works, implemented it and effectively advocated for change in policy and practice. This has been a critical part of closing the gap between indigenous and non-indigenous health outcomes.”

Professor Torzillo was awarded an Order of Australia in 2005 for his contribution to Aboriginal Health.

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Menzies background

Menzies School of Health Research is one of Australia’s leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving Indigenous, global and tropical health. Menzies has a history of over 30 years of scientific discovery and public health achievement. Menzies works at the frontline, joining with partners across the Asia-Pacific as well as Indigenous communities across northern and central Australia. Menzies collaborates to create new knowledge, grow local skills and find enduring solutions to problems that matter.