



AOD AWARDS 2019

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MEDIA RELEASE

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MENZIES SCHOOL OF HEALTH RESEARCH RECOGNISED WITH NATIONAL AWARD

The Menzies School of Health Research, Alcohol, Other Drugs, and Gambling (AODG) Team has won the Research Award at the 2019 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Excellence and Innovation Awards in Melbourne on Monday evening.

The prestigious awards, which were this year hosted by the Alcohol and Drug Foundation, recognise and celebrate the achievements of the incredible people and organisations doing exceptional work to prevent and reduce alcohol and other drug harms in Australia.

Nominations were reviewed and scored by an independent panel of 12 judges from across the country and from a range of sectors.

Menzies School of Health Research is a national and global leader in Indigenous health and tropical health.

Menzies School of Health Research says the Alcohol, Other Drugs, and Gambling (AODG) Team has focused its efforts on applied and collaborative research and evaluation projects that support policy and practice improvements at the local level.

“This is an amazing accolade for the hard-work of our research team. National recognition such as this is a testament to the impact we are having in the Alcohol, other Drugs and Gambling sector at both local and national levels,” said Head of the AODG Research Team at the Menzies School of Health Research, Professor James Smith.

“We look forward to using this award as means to continue important alcohol and gambling research, particularly that involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations and other vulnerable communities across Australia,” said Professor Smith.

Alcohol and Drug Foundation Chief Executive Officer, Dr Erin Lalor said the awards were a great opportunity to shine the spotlight on the hard work being done to reduce and prevent harms caused by alcohol and other drugs.

“There are tireless efforts being made right across the country to prevent and minimise harms from alcohol and other drugs,” Dr Lalor remarked.

“It’s important that we recognise the significant contribution that institutes like Menzies School of Health Research make in building a healthier and more informed Australia,” said Dr Lalor.

Please find below the list of categories in the 2019 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Excellence and Innovation Awards and the winners:



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- **Education Award** – Wodonga Council & Dutch Media, *Who's it Gonna Hurt?*
- **First Australians Award** – Craig Holloway, Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
- **Harm Reduction Award** – North Richmond Community Health, Medically Supervised Injecting Room (MSIR)
- **Media Award** – Uniting, Fair Treatment Campaign
- **Primary Prevention Award** – *Preventure Australia*, based at The Matilda Centre
- **Research Award** - Menzies School of Health Research - Alcohol, Other Drugs, and Gambling (AODG) Team
- **Treatment and Support Award** - Self Help Addiction Resource Centre (SHARC), Peer Support Program
- **National Honour Roll** – Geoffrey Munro, Alcohol and Drug Foundation

“Congratulations to all the winners and nominees for this year’s National Alcohol and Other Drugs Excellence and Innovation Awards,” Dr Lalor said.

For more information about the 2019 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Excellence and Innovation Awards please visit <https://adf.org.au/programs/2019-aod-awards/> or call the Alcohol and Drug Foundation’s media team on 0430 948 380.

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