

Lessons from the Healthy Skin Programs

Presenters: Thérèse Kearns (TK)
Roslyn Gundjirryirr



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Menzies Healthy Skin Programs

1997 – Scabies control program

2000 – Scabies Drug Resistance

2004 – East Arnhem Healthy Skin Program

2009 – Skin Sore Trial

2010 – Ivermectin MDA for scabies and strongyloidiasis

2015 – 5 year follow-up of scabies and strongyloidiasis

EAHSP 2004-2007

- ecological study of skin health in 5 communities
- over 2000 children seen aged 0-15 years

MDA 2010-2012

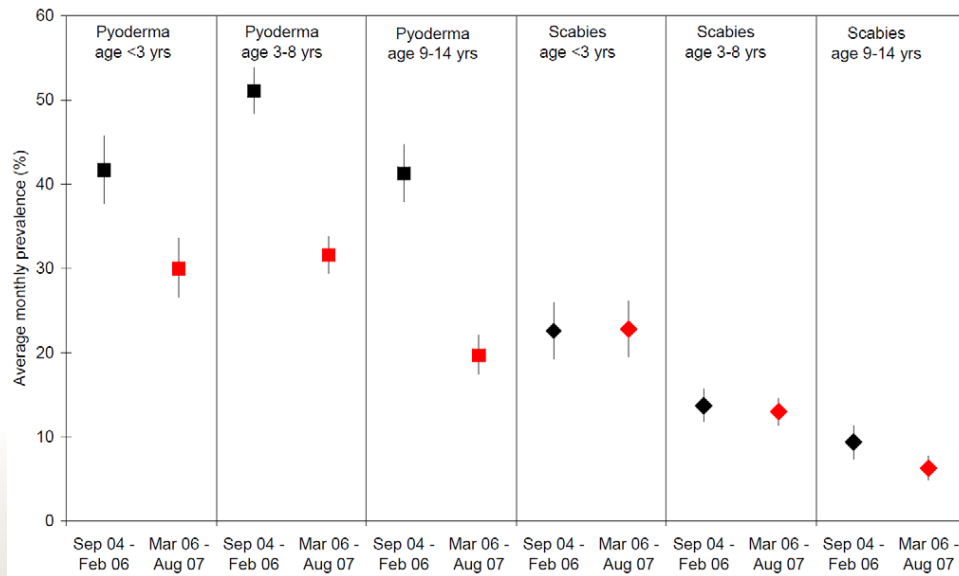
- 2 annual population census & MDAs in 1 community
- over 1000 people seen at 2010 & 2011

A Regional Initiative to Reduce Skin Infections amongst Aboriginal Children Living in Remote Communities of the Northern Territory, Australia

Ross M. Andrews^{1*}, Therese Kearns¹, Christine Connors², Colin Parker³, Kylie Carville⁴, Bart J. Currie¹, Jonathan R. Carapetis¹

EAHSP 2004-2007

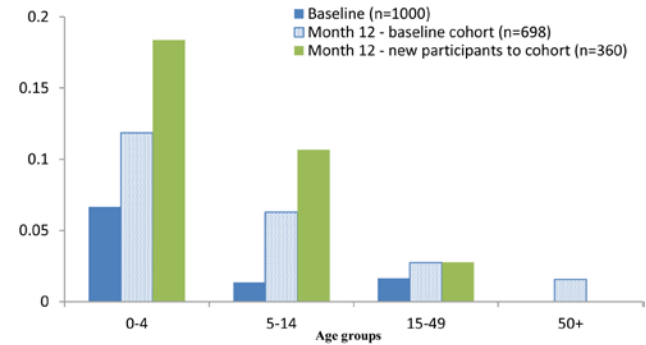
- highest burden pyoderma age <15 yrs & scabies age <3 yrs



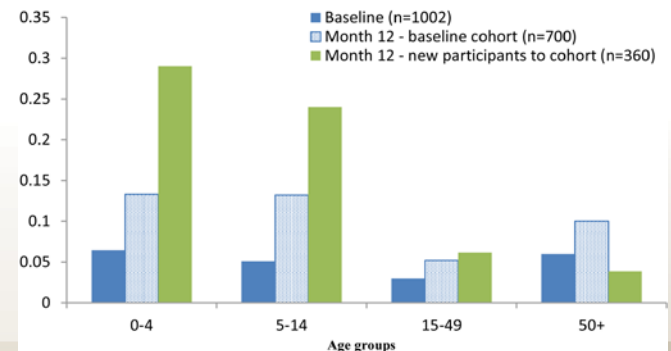
MDA 2010-2012

- highest burden pyoderma age <5yrs & scabies age <15 yrs

Pyoderma

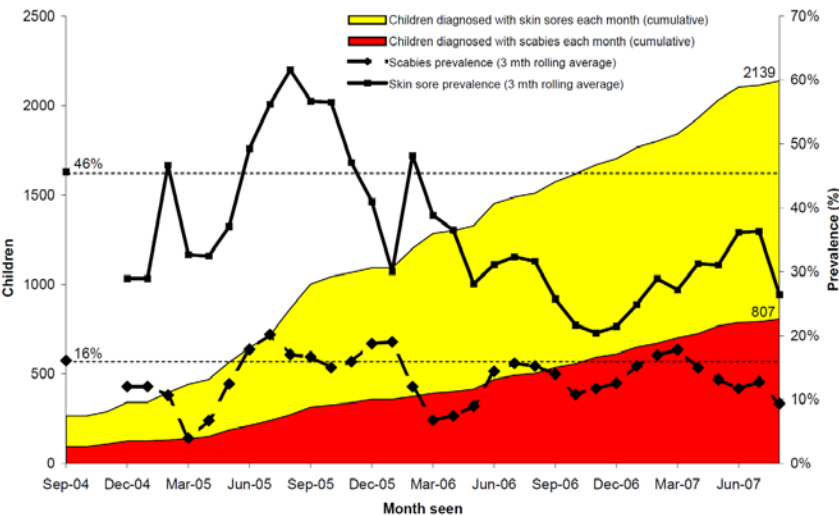


Scabies



EAHSP 2004-2007

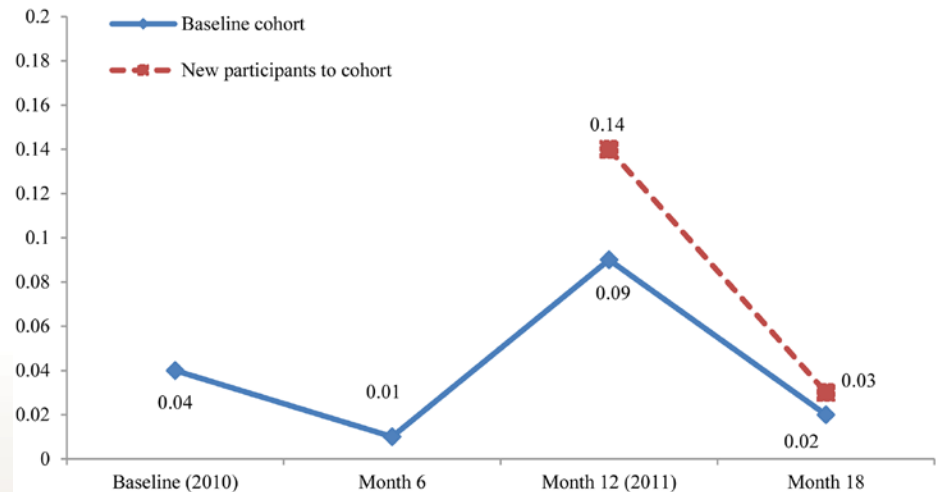
- pyoderma decreased from 47% to 32%
- scabies prevalence remained unchanged



MDA 2010-2012

- pyoderma prevalence age <15 yrs increased from 10% to 15%
- scabies prevalence age <15 yrs increased from 2% to 18%

Population prevalence at Scabies



EAHSP

- Darwin based team visited every month
- Local community workers went house to house



MDA

- Local and interstate researchers lived in community for 2 yrs
- Research team went house to house



EAHSP

- Delivered research story, obtained informed consent and provided 5% permethrin to households with scabies



MDA

- Delivered research story, obtained informed consent and provided MDA regardless of disease status to all consenting household members



EAHSP

- Referred children with skin sores and tinea to clinic for treatment
- Followed up scabies participants



MDA

- Referred children with skin sores and tinea to clinic for treatment
- Followed up participants with scabies and/or strongyloidiasis



Lessons Learned

- Effective engagement with community to have ownership of the project improved implementation and uptake of the project
- Community members liked home visits



- Providing the health information in local language improved engagement with families and their understanding of the project



Lessons Learned

- Employment and training of local workers to implement the project built capacity and provided skills for future employment





*Real training
Real jobs
Real commitment*

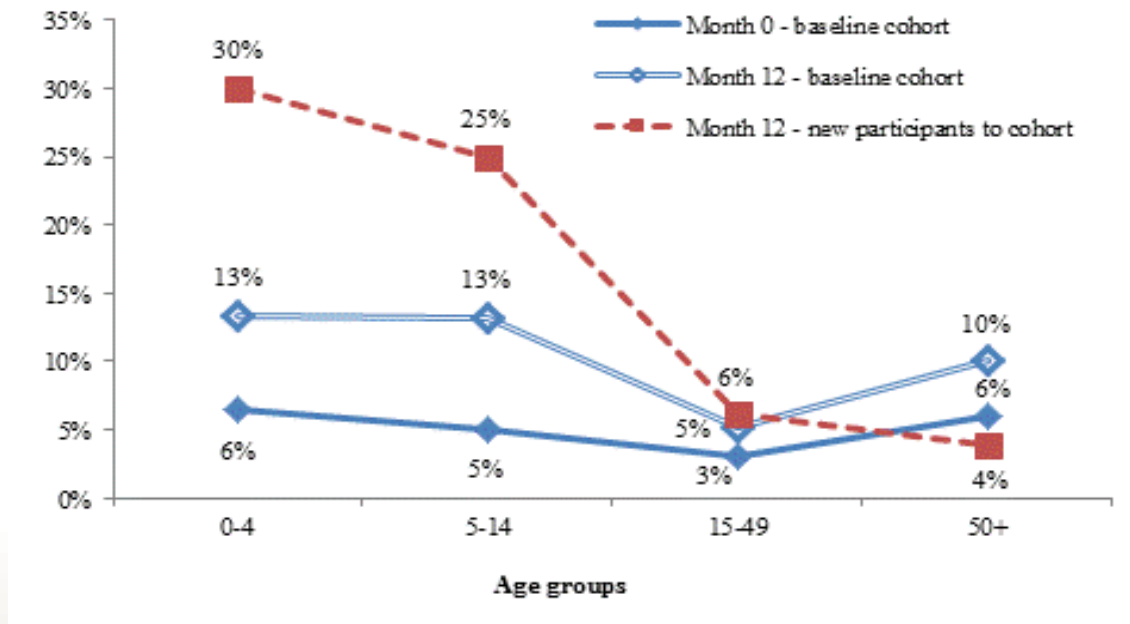
Lessons Learned

- Regular support from Darwin based team reinforced the importance of the project and the efforts of the local researchers
- Local workers and researchers valued being supported by the clinic with office space and transport where necessary



Lessons Learned

- Crusted scabies cases can have a big impact on community prevalence



Issues encountered

- Children didn't like injections
- 'Normal problem' was sometimes difficulty locating the children for follow-up
- Some people didn't want us to visit them at home
- Attendance at cultural ceremonies
- Delivering projects that are culturally appropriate - poison cousin
- Not all family members would use the cream

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PLoS NEGLECTED
TROPICAL DISEASES

Community Management of Endemic Scabies in Remote Aboriginal Communities of Northern Australia: Low Treatment Uptake and High Ongoing Acquisition

Sophie La Vincente^{1,2*}, Therese Kearns³, Christine Connors⁴, Scott Cameron², Jonathan Carapetis³, Ross Andrews³

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Key learnings

EAHSP

- Significant improvement in skin sores
- Significant improvement in scabies for school age kids
- Limited impact on scabies in little kids
- High levels of tinea with no change
- Role of outreach and community workers
- Confusion of health staff and scabies diagnosis (infected scabies often referred to as crusted scabies)

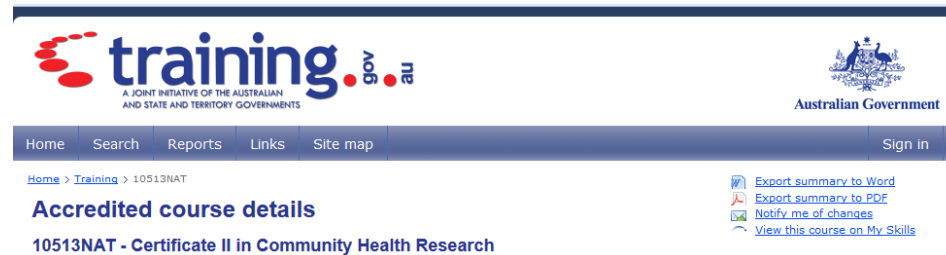
Key learnings

MDA

- MDA can lower scabies & pyoderma prevalence
- Ivermectin acceptable (96% receiving at least 1 dose)
- Ivermectin labour intensive (everyone must be weighed and females pregnancy tested)
- Definition of scabies ie. itching and lesions (not very sensitive with children in our study)
- Local community workers essential for educating and engaging community members

- Changes to CARPA for treatment of pyoderma and scabies
- Changes to CARPA to include crusted scabies as a chronic condition
- Changes to ivermectin product information to include use for crusted scabies and scabies that is not responding to first line treatment

- Employment and training of community based workers



The screenshot shows the training.gov.au website. The header includes the training.gov.au logo and the Australian Government crest. A navigation bar contains links for Home, Search, Reports, Links, Site map, and Sign in. The main content area displays the breadcrumb path: Home > Training > 10513NAT. Below this, the text reads "Accredited course details" and "10513NAT - Certificate II in Community Health Research". On the right side, there are three utility links: "Export summary to Word", "Export summary to PDF", and "Notify me of changes". At the bottom of these links is "View this course on My Skills".

- Community monitoring now easier with use of electronic health reports

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PLOS ONE

Clinic Attendances during the First 12 Months of Life for Aboriginal Children in Five Remote Communities of Northern Australia

Thérèse Kearns^{1*}, Danielle Clucas², Christine Connors³, Bart J. Currie^{1,3}, Jonathan R. Carapetis⁴, Ross M. Andrews¹

¹ Child Health Division, Menzies School of Health Research, Charles Darwin University, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia, ² Department of Paediatrics, The University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, ³ Preventable Chronic Conditions, Northern Territory Department of Health and Families, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia, ⁴ Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, Centre for Child Health Research, University of Western, Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Disease burden and health-care clinic attendances for young children in remote Aboriginal communities of northern Australia

Danielle B Clucas,^a Kylie S Carville,^b Christine Connors,^c Bart J Currie,^d Jonathan R Carapetis^d & Ross M Andrews^d



Pediatric Clinics of North America

Volume 56, Issue 6, December 2009, Pages 1421–1440

Health Issues in Indigenous Children: An Evidence Based Approach for the General Pediatrician



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A Regional Initiative to Reduce Skin Infections amongst Aboriginal Children Living in Remote Communities of the Northern Territory, Australia

Ross M. Andrews^{1*}, Therese Kearns¹, Christine Connors², Colin Parker³, Kylie Carville⁴, Bart J. Currie¹, Jonathan R. Carapetis¹

Skin Disorders, Including Pyoderma, Scabies, and Tinea Infections

Ross M. Andrews, PhD, M App Epid, MPH, Dip App Sci (Env Hlth)^a, James McCarthy, MD, FRACP^{b,c}, Jonathan R. Carapetis, MBBS, B Med Sc, PhD, FRACP, FAFPHM^d, Bart J. Currie, FRACP, FAFPHM, DTM+H^e

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Community Management of Endemic Scabies in Remote Aboriginal Communities of Northern Australia: Low Treatment Uptake and High Ongoing Acquisition

Sophie La Vincente^{1,2*}, Therese Kearns³, Christine Connors⁴, Scott Cameron², Jonathan Carapetis³, Ross Andrews³

Australasian Journal of Dermatology (2011) 52, 270–275

doi: 10.1111/j.1440-0960.2011.00806.x

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Skin disease in the first two years of life in Aboriginal children in East Arnhem Land

Erin McMeniman,^{1,2} Libby Holden,² Therese Kearns,¹ Danielle B Clucas,³ Jonathan R Carapetis,^{1,5} Bart J Currie,^{1,3} Christine Connors³ and Ross M Andrews¹

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PLoS Negl Trop Dis. 2015 Oct 30;9(10):e0004151. doi: 10.1371/journal.pntd.0004151. eCollection 2015.

Impact of an Ivermectin Mass Drug Administration on Scabies Prevalence in a Remote Australian Aboriginal Community.

Kearns TM¹, Speare R², Cheng AC³, McCarthy J⁴, Carapetis JR⁵, Holt DC¹, Currie BJ¹, Page W⁶, Shield J⁷, Gundjirri R¹, Bundhala L¹, Mulholland E⁸, Chatfield M¹, Andrews RM¹.