

2023



AUSTRALIAN FATHERHOOD RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

4TH & 5TH MAY | MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

DEAKIN DOWNTOWN & ONLINE

TOWER 2, LEVEL 12 / 727 COLLINS ST MELBOURNE 3008



@ausfatherhood



australian-fatherhood-research-consortium

#AFRS2023

This symposium acknowledges the traditional Wurrundjeri owners of the land upon which it is hosted.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

DAY ONE - THURSDAY 4TH MAY 2023

09:00 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO THE AFRC**
Karen Wynter

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
Video property of Deakin University

DADS GROUP INTRODUCTION
Thomas Docking

09:30 **KEYNOTE SPEAKER - THOMAS MAYO**
Chaired by Karen Wynter
Sharing the voices of First Nations fathers

10:30 **BREAK**

10:50 **PRESENTATION SESSION 1 - ENGAGEMENT OF FATHERS IN HEALTH SERVICES**
Chaired by Elisabeth Duursma



SCAN FOR ABSTRACTS

1. J. Brown: A Qualitative Investigation of Barriers to Fathers Participation in Parenting Programs
2. V. Mancini: Exploring the role of fathers in the neonatal intensive care units
3. A. Peipers: Talking to Dads – Getting the Language Right
4. T. Carter: Australian males preceding fatherhood: Paternal preconception health, treatments, and health services utilization in Australia

11:50 **PRESENTATION SESSION 2 - DIVERSITY IN FATHERS AND FAMILIES**
Chaired by Rebecca Giallo



SCAN FOR ABSTRACTS

1. E. Duursma: Maintaining father-child relationships using video visitation in Australian prisons
2. R. Elmir: "Google is my best friend": Culturally and Linguistically diverse fathers' experiences of accessing and receiving support in the perinatal period
3. A. Thomas: Adapting respectful relationships program for Chinese families: Applying a cultural lens to Baby Makes 3
4. A. Risi: Dads and deployment: Rebuilding father-child relationships after military separations



Dads Group

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

DAY ONE - THURSDAY 4TH MAY 2023

12:50 LUNCH

13:40 PRESENTATION SESSION 3 - FATHERS' WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH
Chaired by Chris May

1. A. Fogarty: Suicidality and self-harm during pregnancy and early fatherhood: A systematic review
2. H. Jaberipour: Pre-birth trauma-informed support: Listening to expectant fathers so that they can listen to their babies
3. C. Wade: Focus on New Fathers: Evaluation of a NSW pilot of a novel digital screening and referral solution for identifying perinatal fathers at risk of poor mental health
4. L. Ritorto: Socioecological factors associated with postnatal depressive, anxiety and stress symptoms among a community sample of fathers enrolled in a coparenting intervention
5. B. Dixon: The social predictors of paternal antenatal mental health and their associations with maternal mental health in the Queensland Family Cohort prospective study



SCAN FOR ABSTRACTS

14:50 BREAK

15:05 PANEL
Chaired by Jennifer StGeorge
Reflections on the day's presentations

16:10 END OF DAY COMMENTS

16:30 CLOSE

17:00 DRINKS
Bar Nacional

18:30 DINNER
BangPop

**Poster presentation*



Dads Group

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

DAY TWO - FRIDAY 5TH MAY 2023

09:00 **WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY**

Karen Wynter

SUMMARY OF DAY 1

Chris May

09:30 **KEYNOTE SPEAKER - PROFESSOR NATASHA CABRERA**

Chaired by Jennifer St George

What does culture have to do with it? Understanding diversity among fathers and its implications for children's wellbeing

10:30 **BREAK**

10:45 **PRESENTATION SESSION 4 - SUPPORTING CHILD HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

Chaired by Karen Wynter

1. M. Percival: Advanced Paternal Age And Offspring Bone Health; An Inverse Relationship

2. L. Gibson: The ORIGINS Project: A platform for research discovery with expectant and new fathers

3. E. Segers: Flourishing in ORIGINS Fathers: physiological and psychological health trajectories of fathers from pregnancy to early childhood*

4. V. Shrewsbury: The fundamental role of fathers in early childhood obesity prevention: a review and development of the co-parent model*

11:30 **PRESENTATION SESSION 5 - FATHER-FOCUSED INTERVENTIONS AND RESOURCES**

Chaired by Jennifer Ericksen

1. K. Wynter: Interventions with fathers to prevent or reduce partner violence against women during pregnancy and early parenthood: what works?

2 T. Docking: Engaging Fathers using a Perinatal Integrated Model of Care (PIMC)

3. R. Eade: The Fathering Project: Changing Children's Lives by Supporting and Empowering Fathers*

4. D. Ebbs: Gidget Village Partners Support Group Program: 'Parenting in Partnership' – A six-week program aimed at dads and non-birthing partners*

5. K. Gebremariam: Exploring fathers' support needs and preferred sources of breastfeeding information*

**Poster presentation*



SCAN FOR ABSTRACTS



SCAN FOR ABSTRACTS



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DAY TWO – FRIDAY 5TH MAY 2023

12:20 LUNCH

13:10 PRESENTATION SESSION 6 - FATHERS' EXPERIENCES OF BEING A PARENT
Chaired by Ashlee Borgkvist

1. L. D'Souza: 'A big personal ambition is to be a good father': Fathers' accounts of their attachment parenting practices
2. E. Makela: Intention to co-sleep and perceived sleep quality in father-child co-sleeping arrangements
3. L. Lewington: Exploring men's experiences with paid parental leave policies in Australia*
4. K. Wynter: Associations between self-efficacy and health literacy among expectant and new fathers: findings from a global survey*
5. A. Hofmeier: From Pain to Perception: Negative Parenting Experiences in Childhood and their impact on Beliefs about the Father's Role*
6. C. May: Development of a Brief Coparenting Measure: The Coparenting Competence Scale*
7. C. Wade: Three waves of data about the parenting experiences of Victorian fathers, 2016-2022*
8. S. Hodgson: Distress on returning to work: First-time fathers' experiences*



SCAN FOR ABSTRACTS

14:15 BREAK

14:30 ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION
Chaired by Jacqui Macdonald

15:30 END OF DAY REFLECTION
Karen Wynter

15:45 CLOSE

**Poster presentation*



Dads Group

ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN FATHERHOOD RESEARCH CONSORTIUM

The **Australian Fatherhood Research Consortium (AFRC)** formed in 2017 with three key aims:

- (i) to advance the science of fatherhood;
- (ii) to inform practice and policy that supports men and their families; and
- (iii) to promote healthy inclusion of fathers in family life.

To guide the AFRC collaboration, five groups have been formed, specialising in different aspects of research and practice. The **Data Analysis** group was created to enable better collaboration across studies with research data on fathers, and is led by Dr. Jacqui Macdonald of Deakin University. The **Intervention** group was created to bring together researchers, practitioners, and policy makers interested in contributing to the development and evaluation of intervention programs for fathers, and is led by Dr. Levita D'Souza of Monash University. The **Literature Review** group was formed to evaluate and synthesise the existing literature on fathers, and is led by Dr. Karen Wynter of Monash University/Deakin University. The **Science Communication** group was formed to translate the AFRC group's findings from the research domain into the public domain to raise the profile of fathers in policy and practice. It is led by Dr. Chris May, University of Newcastle.

FIND OUT MORE:

Web: <http://mappresearch.org/fatherhood-consortium>

Twitter: @ausfatherhood | #AFRS2023

Linked In: [australian-fatherhood-research-consortium](https://www.linkedin.com/company/australian-fatherhood-research-consortium)



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In Collaboration with:



Scan here to explore collaboration opportunities
with Dads Group

AUSTRALIAN FATHERHOOD RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM STEERING COMMITTEE



WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO THE 2023 AFRS STEERING COMMITTEE...

Convenor: Karen Wynter, Monash University/Deakin University

Assistant: Georgia Zouboulis, Deakin University

Organising Committee:

Jacqui Macdonald, Deakin University

Jennifer StGeorge, University of Newcastle

Chris May, University of Newcastle

Ashlee Borgkvist, University of South Australia

Elisabeth Duursma, University of Western Sydney

Jennifer Ericksen, Parent-Infant Research Institute, Austin Health

Rebecca Giallo, Deakin University

David Hawkins, Dads Matter, City of Casey

Robert Mills, NSW Health

Jane Herbert, University of Wollongong

THIS SYMPOSIUM IS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF:



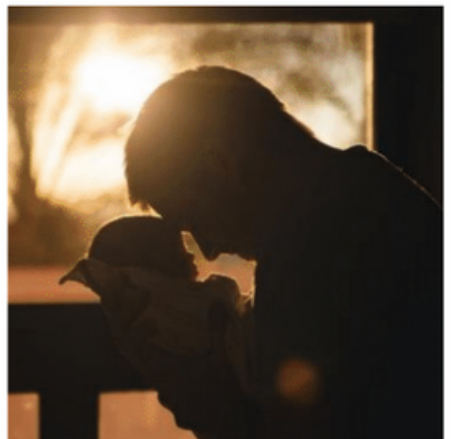
THE CENTRE FOR SOCIAL AND EARLY EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Centre for Social and Early Emotional Development (SEED) aims to promote emotional health from conception to young adulthood and into the next generation. SEED recognises the seminal role that experiences in early emotional life have on social development, that every age and stage matters in building wellbeing, and that confidence in holding positive and painful emotion is essential to felt security across the lifecourse.

SEED advises on the most effective approaches to promoting wellness and intervening at the earliest opportunities in troubled pathways. SEED brings together life-course, clinical and public health research and practice to describe the major milestones in emotional life. SEED then engages systems for translating our research knowledge broadly to the community, organisations and government.

SEED's Lifecourse and Surveillance Theme aims to improve our understanding of the developmental origins of mental health and disorder. This area of work is guided by SEED's population based longitudinal studies of social-emotional development, including the Men and Parenting Pathways (MAPP) Study. It supports research into the developmental origins of mental health and disorder, within and across generations.

Find out more about SEED at:
<https://www.deakin.edu.au/seed>



THIS SYMPOSIUM IS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF:



INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH
TRANSFORMATION

INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH TRANSFORMATION



Through excellence in collaborative research, the Institute for Health Transformation aims to strengthen health systems by transforming how we design and deliver health prevention and care, both in Australia and around the world.

By integrating population health, health systems and services research across the broad spectrum, from wellness to complex chronic disease and end-of-life care, we aim to transform health, from prevention to care, so we can:

- activate healthy populations and communities
- innovate health service delivery and design
- optimise transitions between care and community
- drive equity and value in health and care.

Our team of multidisciplinary researchers represent four key research domains: health economics, determinants of health, obesity prevention, and quality and patient safety. The convenor of AFRS 2023, Dr Karen Wynter, works in the Centre for Quality and Patient Safety (QPS) - Western Health partnership at the IHT.

Find out more about IHT at:
<https://www.deakin.edu.au/iht>

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THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

The Family Action Centre (FAC) is a research and practice centre focused on families and their communities. The Centre produces innovative, dynamic and enduring work that aims to strengthen family and community well-being. The FAC is committed to addressing factors that affect health and wellbeing, and the social and educational paths of families, particularly for those challenged by increasingly complex vulnerabilities.

The FAC is a national leader in fatherhood and family wellbeing research, with a focus on fathers of young children and babies and supporting these fathers in their relationship with their families. An emerging area of research strength is Strong Families-Capable Communities with its focus on harnessing the collective capabilities of communities to address complex problems confronting families. The Centre's research in these fields provides evidence for policy and service system innovations that better mobilise capabilities to improve individual, family and community outcomes.

The Centre delivers family support and outreach services, such as parenting programs, family inclusive practice programs and health evaluation initiatives. The wealth of outreach expertise and experience, supports and grounds the teaching and research. The Centre hosts a range of students from various disciplines in an inter-professional placement unit, and also provides opportunities to student volunteers to participate in our family support programs, where they liaise with human service workers in education, health, and family and community services.



Contact FAC at: family@newcastle.edu.au



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