Congratulations to our Nurse Manager, Sandy Eagar (at right) for winning the NSW Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Award. Sandy has over thirty years nursing experience, was a representative on the now-defunct Immigration Health Advisory Group, and has been instrumental in setting up the new nursing model of care at RHS. This is a most well-deserved honour.

Supporting clients during the conflict in Syria and Iraq: increased anxiety and sleeplessness are common when loved ones are caught in conflicts overseas, impacting on memory and the ability to process complex information. Relevant resources include: STARTTS’ Sleeping Better factsheet, Reduce Stress factsheet and Relaxation CD ($18); and WCHN’s Tips to support parents. STARTTS is taking referrals.

NSW Refugee Health Improvement Network review: Help us evaluate the work of RHIN by completing this brief survey. Next month’s guest speaker: B-Ann Echevarria (Women’s Health Officer, RHS) on working with people from a refugee background on cancer initiatives. Tues 8th Oct, at Anglicare Parramatta. Contact the Convenor for details.

Health experts’ reports on immigration detention centres include: Dr Mares (child psychiatrist) Christmas Is March 2014; Dr Kowalenko (child psychiatrist) Sydney Immigration Residential Housing June 2014; and Dr Paxton (pediatrician) et al Melbourne Immigration Transit Accommodation May 2014.

Submissions to the Children in Detention Inquiry: submissions are now available from the Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma; Australian Association of Social Workers; and Australian College of Children & Young People’s Nurses.

TIS National is no longer accepting booking requests sent by fax: Find the online interpreter booking form at www.tisnational.gov.au/bookingform.

Study on use of children as interpreters: UWS Researchers are exploring the effect of using children as initial interpreters for their parents. Now-adult participants are invited to complete an online questionnaire.

New cancer resources: Your guide to breast and cervical screening videos are available from BreastScreen NSW website in Arabic, Mandarin and English and from Cervical Screening NSW. Untold Stories: Experiences of Cervical Cancer Screening videos have been produced by Family Planning NSW for Khmer, Dari, Hindi, Karen, Assyrian, Arabic and Mandarin speakers. Other stories in this series include: Bhutanese, Turkish, Vietnamese, French, Arabic and Mandarin. Available on-line.

New CDC Congolese refugee health profile developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US) is available on-line. Priority health conditions identified include: parasitic infections, malaria, mental health, sexual and gender-based violence.
Competencies in Multicultural Healthcare eLearning CD for health professionals is available for purchase from the Hunter New England LHD. For further information on this training package contact therese.morris@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au.

New multicultural health webpage provides links to all things multicultural in NSW Health including events, multicultural health state-wide services, multicultural contacts in each Local Health District, and relevant policies and plans, including the Refugee Health Plan.

Resources from the Primary Health Care Research Conference 2014: Refugee health issues were well-represented at the Conference held in Canberra in July, many of which can be downloaded from the PHCR website. Of particular interest: Targets and performance indicators for refugee health services: developing and testing relevant measures for service improvement (Phillips, Chan, Rowse & Samaan); and Analysis of the comprehensive initial health assessments for new arrival refugees in eastern Melbourne (McMinn).

A sample of published articles is below. Links to abstracts are provided where full texts are not available for free.


Carrigan, C Flying under the radar: the health of refugees and asylum seekers in Australia, Australian Nursing & Midwifery Jn, 21(9):22-27.


Eagar S (2014) Refugees and Disability...We are all in this Together, Australian Mosaic 37:36-38.


an evidence-based model of cultural responsiveness for refugee families, *Kōtuitui: New Zealand Jn of Social Sciences Online*.


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### Training and professional development

**19 Sept 2014**: *Biofeedback in Working with Torture and Trauma Survivors* (one-day workshop) $149/$99. [Click here](#) to register. [STARTTS Carramar](#).


**10 Oct 2014**: *Jungle Tracks: A Therapeutic Storytelling Program for Children and Adolescents* (one-day workshop) $199($149) STARTTS Carramar. See [STARTTS](#).


**17 Oct 2014**: Core Concepts in Working with Children and Adolescents from Refugee Backgrounds (one-day workshop) $149 ($99) STARTTS Carramar. See [STARTTS](#).

**17, 23-24 Oct 2014**: *Clinical Approaches in Early Childhood Work with Refugees* (workshop) 9.30am-4.30pm, $349($219), STARTTS Carramar.


**13 Nov 2014**: Refugee Health Forum hosted by Inner West Medicare Local, in conjunction with Sydney LHD, 6:30-9:00pm, at Canterbury Hospital.

**26 Nov 2014**: *Effective Clinical Interventions with Asylum Seekers* (clinical evening) 6-8pm, STARTTS Carramar, Free to attend in person, $5.99 live webcast.


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If you have a health-related refugee item for the next Refugee Health E-news please contact: NSW Refugee Health Service (02) 8778 0770 or [Cathy.Preston-Thomas@sswahs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Cathy.Preston-Thomas@sswahs.nsw.gov.au).

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