

June 8, 2011

Media Alert and Invitation:

## Queensland 'Science in the Pub: 'Disasters & Diseases' event

**Who:** The Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR) Queensland Branch

**What:** 'Science in the Pub' public forum entitled "Disasters, Disease & Medical Research"

**When:** Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2011, from 6:30pm (for 7pm start) at

**Where:** The London Club, Teneriffe.

Following recent natural disasters in Queensland and elsewhere, the threat of subsequent disease outbreaks are often widely publicized. However, do our perceptions match the actual risk?

- What diseases should we be most concerned about?
- What does the research tells us?
- What are the long-term mental health implications?

**This event will bring to life facts and information about disease prevention and control in the wake of natural disasters as well as the effects of psychological trauma and how to deal with it!**

Our panel of engaging scientists from local organizations will describe their research on various aspects of disease control and mental health relevant to natural disasters, followed by open discussion from the floor. Our panelists will include:

- \* **Professor Brett McDermott: Director, Mater Child and Youth Mental Health Service;**
- \* Dr. Tim Hurst: Mosquito Control Laboratory, Queensland Institute of Medical Research;
- \* Dr. Eindra Aung, School of Population Health, University of Queensland
- \* Dr. Michelle Gatton, Malaria Drug Resistance & Chemotherapy Lab, QIMR

Our MC for the evening will be **Professor Michael McGuckin**, Senior Research Fellow and Deputy Director of the Mater Medical Research Institute in Brisbane.

We expect to attract the interest of the public, and the event has been advertised widely on community radio and event pages. The event will also include a brief 'pub' style trivia and door prizes. This will be a lively and stimulating evening. To register interest and obtain further information, please contact:

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The ASMR MRW® undertaken by ASMR is supported by funding from The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

