

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



UTAS health research on show at symposium

The strength of northern and north-west health research at the University of Tasmania will be on show at a two-day symposium starting **tomorrow** (Thursday 22 October).

PhD and Masters students from the University Department of Rural Health, the Rural Clinical School, the Launceston Clinical School and the Schools of Nursing and Midwifery and Human Life Sciences will discuss beginning and completed research. Papers to be presented include:

- ***Primary health care and rural nursing in outer regional Australia*** by Ree van Galen, Thursday 1.45pm. Interviews with 21 nurses in regional Tasmania and NSW to find out about the importance of nurses in their communities;
- ***The effect of yoga on secondary lymphoedema of the arm from treatment for breast cancer*** by Annette Loudon, Thursday 2.15pm. Twenty per cent of women with mastectomies get secondary arm lymphoedema which is incurable. This beginning research will detect whether yoga can help;
- ***Do transdermal opioids reduce healthcare in a rural pain population?*** by John Henshawe, Thursday 2.45pm. This study showed that pain-relieving skin patches were effective in people experiencing non-cancer pain in north-west Tasmanian rural areas where there is a relative shortage of doctors.
- ***Investigations into haemodynamic function in type two diabetes*** by Sibella King, Thursday 3.45pm. Testing the effects of increased temperature, light exercise and eating chilli on the blood pressure of people with diabetes.
- ***Perinatal health promotion*** by Robyn Kelly, Friday 10.50am. This research will investigate how mental health (eg. to combat depression) is promoted to women in antenatal and postnatal classes and support groups.
- ***Interactions between service-users in suicidal crisis and registered nurses in mental health services in Tasmania*** by David Lees, Friday 10.50am. Preliminary findings indicate best practice and

perceived impediments to nurses' interactions with people in suicide-crisis.

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