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Education

2019–2023 Curtin University Doctor of Philosophy [Awarded with Chancellor’s commendation 2023]
2005–2007 Curtin University Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health (Epidemiology)
1998 University of Western Australia Graduate Diploma in Secondary Education
1995–1997 Edith Cowan University Bachelor of Arts (Aboriginal & Intercultural Studies)

Relevant experience

2023–present *Operations manager, Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics ([ALIGN](#)), The Kids Research Institute Australia, Perth*
Adjunct appointment: Research Fellow, The John Curtin School of Medical Research, Australian National University, Canberra
2023–present *Research Fellow, [National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University](#), Perth*
2022–2023 *Project officer, [Western Australian Network for Alcohol and Drug Agencies](#), Perth*
2019–2023 *Research Associate, [National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University](#), Perth*
2018–2019 *Program Manager, National FASD Prevention, Telethon Kids Institute, Perth*
2016–2018 *Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator, [Children’s Ground](#), Alice Springs/ Jabiru/ Darwin*
2001–2016 *Research Associate, [National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University](#), Perth.*
Co-located with Tangentyere Council, Alice Springs (2005–2008)

Skills

- Use and application of Microsoft Office programs, including MSEXcel and MSAccess.
- Community-based and collaborative research.
- Qualitative research and analysis.
- Critical analytical skills.
- Stakeholder management.
- Written and oral communication skills.

Leadership

Current board membership

- From 2020 – [Life Member Palmerston Association](#)
- From 2023 – Board Member [Holyoake](#)
- From 2020 – Board Member [Children’s Ground](#)
- From 2019 – Advisory Board Member, [National Centre for Clinical Research on Emerging Drugs](#)
- Associate Editor of [Addiction Journal](#)

Advisory committees

- From 2023 – Curtin University Human Research Ethics Committee (2023)
- From 2017 – [Indigenous Australian AOD Knowledge Centre Reference Group](#)
- 2018–2023 – [FASD Hub](#) Advisory committee
- From 2017 – National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Conference organising committee

Scholarships/ prizes

- 2006 National Drug and Alcohol Award for Excellence in Research – research team,
- 2006 Curtin University Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence – research team
- 2012 First People's Award for Excellence in Science and Research, by the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs (APSAD).
- Centre for Research Excellence in Indigenous Health and Alcohol PhD scholarship 2019.
- GRS 2019 Writing Retreat 2019.
- AusSMC's Indigenous Media Mentoring Program 2020.
- NDARC ECR Travel scholarship 2022.
- School of Population Health, Curtin University Equity Scholarship, 2022.

Selected publications

PhD Thesis

Stearne, A. (2023). *Inclusion of Self-Determination By First Nations Australian Communities in Alcohol Related Policy Development In The Northern Territory*. [Doctorate of Philosophy, National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University].

Book chapters

Gray, D., Saggars, S. and **Stearne, A.** (2019). Indigenous health: the perpetuation of inequality. In Germov, J. (ed.) *Second Opinion: An Introduction to Health Sociology (6th ed)*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Wilkes, E.T., Gray, D., Casey, W., **Stearne, A.** and Dadd, L. (2014). Harmful Substance Use and Mental Health. In Purdie, N., Dudgeon, P. and Walker, R. (eds.) *Working Together: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health and Wellbeing Principles and Practice (2nd ed)*. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra. pp. 125–146.

Peer reviewed journal articles

Gray D, Cartwright K, **Stearne A**, Saggars S, Wilkes E, Wilson M (2017) Review of the harmful use of alcohol among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet.
<http://www.aodknowledgecentre.net.au/aodkc/alcohol/reviews/alcohol-review>

Lee, K.S., Wilson, S., **Stearne, A.**, Hayman, N., Conigrave, J., Doyle, M.F., Bullen, L., Weatherall, T., James, D.B., Reynolds, T., Perry, J. and Conigrave, K. (2023). Walking side-by-side: supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians to lead the way in alcohol research. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 42, (2), pp. 241-247. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/dar.13523>

Snijder, M., Lees, B., **Stearne, A.**, Ward, J., Garlick Bock, S., Newton, N.C. and Stapinski, L. (2021). An ecological model of drug and alcohol use and related harms among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians: a systematic review of the literature. *Preventive Medicine Reports*, 21. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pmedr.2020.101277>

Snijder, M., Lees, B., Ward, J., **Stearne, A.**, Newton, N.C. and Stapinski, L. (2019). Developing an ecological framework of factors associated with substance use and related harms among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People: Protocol for a systematic review. *BMJ Open*, 9, (5), pp. e024418. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2018-024418>

Stearne, A., Allsop, S., Shakeshaft, A.P., Symons, M. and Wright, M. (2021). Identifying how the principles of self-determination could be applied to create effective alcohol policy for First Nations Australians: synthesising the lessons from the development of general public policy. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 95, pp. 103260:1-12. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2021.103260>

Stearne, A., Lee, K.S., Allsop, S., Shakeshaft, A.P. and Wright, M. (2022). First Nations Australians' experiences of current alcohol policy in Central Australia: evidence of self-determination? *BMC International Journal for Equity in Health*, 21, (1). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12939-022-01719-z>

Stearne, A., Lee, K.S., Allsop, S., Shakeshaft, A.P. and Wright, M. (2022). First Nations Australians' self-determination in health and alcohol policy development: a Delphi Study. *BMC Health Research Policy and Systems*, 20, (1). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12961-022-00813-6>

Stearne, A., Lee, K.S., Allsop, S., Shakeshaft, A.P. and Wright, M. (2022). Self-determination by First Nations Australians in alcohol policy: lessons from Mbandia/Alice Springs (Northern Territory, Australia). *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 108, pp. 103822. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2022.103822>

Technical reports

Butt, J., Wilkes, E., Jones, J., Ripley, E. and **Stearne, A.** (in press). *Alcohol and Other drug use and its Implications for Mental health and Prevention for First Nations people*. Produced for the Indigenous Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Clearinghouse. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Butt, J., Wilkes, E., Jones, J., Ripley, E. and **Stearne, A.** (in press). *Companion Paper – Harmful Alcohol and Other Drug Use and its Implications for Suicide Risk and Prevention for First Nations people*. Produced for the Indigenous Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Clearinghouse. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Gray, D., **Stearne, A.**, Bonson, M., Wilkes, E.T., Butt, J. and Wilson, M. (2014). Review of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Treatment Service Sector: Harnessing Good Intentions. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University, Perth. ISBN: 978-0-9873641-6-6

Saggers, S. and **Stearne, A.** (2011). Palka-Jarrija: Enhancing Capacity Management. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia.

Saggers, S. and **Stearne, A.** (2011). Evaluation of the Jaru Pirrjirdi Suicide Prevention Project. Final report. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia.

Gray, D., **Stearne, A.**, Wilson, M. and Doyle, M.F. (2010). Indigenous-specific Alcohol and Other Drug Interventions: Continuities, Changes and Areas of Greatest Need. ANCD Research Paper 20. Australian National Council on Drugs, Canberra. ISBN: 9781877018237

Stearne, A. (2009). Evaluating Tangentyere Council's Family Wellbeing Program: A Summative Assessment January 2007 – June 2009. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, WA.

Chikritzhs, T.N., Pascal, R., Gray, D., **Stearne, A.**, Saggers, S. and Jones, P. (2007). Trends in alcohol-attributable deaths among Indigenous Australians, 1998-2004. *National Alcohol Indicators, Bulletin* 11.

Stearne, A. (2007). Drug and alcohol services association of Alice Springs community-based outreach program: final evaluation report. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Western Australia.

Gray, D., Shaw, G., d'Abbs, P., Brooks, D., **Stearne, A.**, Mosey, A. and Spooner, C. (2006). Policing, Volatile Substance Misuse, and Indigenous Australians. National Drug Law Enforcement and Research Fund, Mardon, SA. ISBN: 0 642 47447 8

Chikritzhs, T.N., Gray, D., Stockwell, T.R., **Stearne, A.**, Pascal, R. and Saggers, S. (2004). The Indigenous National Alcohol Indicators Project: Making Better Use of the Data.

Gray, D. and **Stearne, A.** (2004). *Makin Tracks: Final Evaluation Report*. National Drug Research Institute, Perth. ISBN: 1 740 673 409

Strempel, P., Saggers, S., Gray, D. and **Stearne, A.** (2004). Indigenous drug and alcohol projects: elements of best practice. ANCD Research Paper No. 8. Australian National Council on Drugs, Canberra. ISBN: 1 877018 09 0

Chikritzhs, T.N., Stockwell, T.R., Gray, D., **Stearne, A.**, Pascal, R. and Saggers, S. (2004). Applying national indicators of alcohol-related harms to Indigenous Australians: a discussion paper. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Western Australia.

Shaw, G., Biven, A., Gray, D., Mosey, A., **Stearne, A.** and Perry, J. (2004). An evaluation of the COMGAS Scheme: 'They sniffed it and they sniffed it – but it just wasn't there'. Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra. ISBN: 0 642 82566 1

Gray, D., Sputore, B.A., **Stearne, A.**, Bourbon, D. and Strempel, P. (2002). Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Projects 1999-2000. ANCD Research Paper No. 4. Australian National Council on Drugs, Canberra. ISBN: 1 877018 03 1

Stearne, A. (2002). Assessment of the Need for Perth-Based Aboriginal Substance Misuse Services: A Report Prepared for the Noongar Alcohol and Substance Abuse Service. National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology, Perth. ISBN: 1 74067 1581

Selected presentations

Keynote

Stearne, A., Lee, K.S., Wright, M., Shakeshaft, A.P. and Allsop, S. (2022) Alcohol policy and self-determination in the Northern Territory. Do First Nations Australians have the right? Invited, Keynote, Plenary presentation at the APSAD 2022 Conference, Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin, NT, Australia, 9th-12th October 2022.

Stearne A, Gray D, Cartwright K, Siggers S, Wilkes E, Wilson M (2018) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders people and alcohol harms: What does the evidence say?. Presented at the AADANT 2018 NT Alcohol and Other Drug Conference, Darwin Vibe Hotel, Darwin, 12th April 2018.

Selected international conferences presentations

Siggers, S. and **Stearne, A.** (2007) Building ‘strong voices’ for Indigenous young people: Addressing substance misuse and mental health issues in Australia. Invited presentation at the 1st International Conference of Indigenous Mental Health: 1st National Meeting of Indigenous Mental Health, Quality Hotel & Suites Lakeside, Brasilia, DF, Brazil, 22–25th October 2007.

Stearne, A. (2023) First Nations Australians’ right to exercise self-determination in alcohol policy development: a starting point. Presented at the Healing Our Spirit Worldwide - the Ninth Gathering, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 11th-15th September 2023.

Stearne, A. (2020) International evidence of First Nations Peoples’ Self-Determination in Alcohol-Related Policy Development. Presented at the 6th Global Alcohol Policy Conference 2020: ‘Alcohol, Equity and Global Health: the benefit of alcohol control for sustainable development for all’, Dublin Castle, Dublin, Ireland, 9–11th March 2020.

Stearne, A. and Wilkes, E.T. (2010) Indigenous Australia drug and alcohol research: Collaborating for more than just the research. Presented at the International network of Indigenous Health Knowledge and Development. Knowing our Roots: Indigenous Medicines, Health Knowledges and Best Practices, Kiana Lodge, Poulsbo, WA, USA, 24th–28th May 2010.

Stearne, A., Campbell, D. and Foster, D.A. (2007) Working Together For Change: Building research capacity. Presented at the Two nations, ten cultures? The Combined APSAD and Cutting Edge Addiction Conference, Aotea Centre, Auckland, New Zealand, 4–7th November 2007.

Wilkes, E.T. and **Stearne, A.** (2010) Indigenous Australian Alcohol And Drug Research: The Principles Of The Program. Presented at the International network of Indigenous Health Knowledge and Development. Knowing our Roots: Indigenous Medicines, Health Knowledges and Best Practices, Kiana Lodge,

Selected Australian conference presentations

Doyle, M.F., Weatherall, T., Bullen, L., Perry, J. and **Stearne, A.** (2022) Pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to lead the way in alcohol research. Symposium. Presented at the APSAD 2022 Conference, Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin, NT, Australia, 9th-12th October 2022.

Stearne, A. (2023) Aboriginal alcohol and other drug sector leadership project: ‘Nothing about us without us’. Invited presentation at the Aboriginal Alcohol and other Drug Worker Forum 2023: Time for Action: Speaking, Leading, Driving Change, The Westin, 18th-19th May 2023.

Stearne, A. (2021). First Nations Australians’ self-determination in the process of developing alcohol-related policy: A Delphi study. Presented at the National Drug Research Institute Symposium, Perth Convention Centre, 6th October 2021.

Stearne, A. (2021) Inclusion and incorporation of First Nations Australian Peoples’ self-determination In alcohol-related policy development. Presented at The 6th National Indigenous Drug & Alcohol Conference: Pathways to Healing, Stamford Grand Glenelg, Glenelg, SA, Australia, 24th-26th March 2021.

Stearne, A., Gray, D., Bonson, M., Wilkes, E., Butt, J. & Wilson, M. (2016) Harnessing good intentions: A review of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander AOD Treatment Sector.. Presented at the 4th National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Conference, Stamford Grand, Glenelg, SA, 11th October 2016.

Selected invited presentations

- Stearne, A.** (2024) First Nations Australians' right to self-determination in AOD policy: the process is important. Invited presentation at the National FASD Advisory Group meeting, 21st February 2024.
- Stearne, A.** (2022) First Nations Australians' right to self-determination in AOD policy: the process is important. Invited presentation at the Cracks in the Ice Webinar series, 9th August 2022.
- Stearne, A.** (2022). Inclusion of Self-Determination by First Nations Australians Communities in Alcohol Related Policy Development in the Northern Territory. National Drug Research Institute Seminar Series 2022, 1st June 2022.
- Stearne, A.** (2022). First Nations Australians' self-determination in the process of developing alcohol-related policy: how can this affect service provision. Invited presentation at the Drug and Alcohol Services of South Australia. 25 May 2022.
- Stearne, A.** (2022). First Nations Australians' self-determination in the process of developing alcohol-related policy: how can this affect service provision. Invited presentation at the Mental Health Commission (WA): AOD Prevention Network. 9 May 2022.
- Stearne, A.** and Butt, J.C. (2021). Approaches to Alcohol: Policy and Practise - through an Aboriginal Lens. Invited presentation at the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists: 2021 WA Addictions Symposium. Alcohol ... Where to from here? The University of Western Australia Club, 13th November 2021.
- Stearne, A.** (2016) Getting everything in place: importance of process evaluation. Invited presentation at the Symposium on Outcomes in Alcohol and other Drug Treatment, Rydges- South Bank Brisbane, South Brisbane, Australia, 12th April 2016.