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## **Pervasive social inequalities in child health in Australia: The role of racism**

Dr. Carrington Shepherd

Telethon Kids Institute and the University of Western Australia

## Invitation

Wednesday, 28 January 2015

1 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.

Room B004/005

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The health and social disadvantage faced by the Indigenous peoples of Australia (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) is an acknowledged part of Australian society. The contemporary data reveal striking inequalities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians in most measurable aspects of wellbeing across the life cycle. The reasons for these disparities and the poor state of Aboriginal health in Australia are complex and multifaceted, although racism is increasingly being implicated as a key determinant of Aboriginal health.

This presentation will review the levels of racism faced by Aboriginal peoples and the nature of its relationship with the physical and mental health of Aboriginal populations. Carrington will argue that a more sophisticated understanding of the dynamic relationship between racism, socioeconomic disadvantage and health will be fundamental to processes that aim to reduce health inequality in Australia.

**Carrington Shepherd** is a NHMRC-funded\* Research Fellow at the Telethon Kids Institute and Adjunct Research Fellow at the University of Western Australia in Perth, Western Australia. His research primarily focuses on the analysis of population-representative data to explore how social determinants of health and pathways can lead to better life chances for Aboriginal peoples in Australia.

\* Australian National Health and Medical Research Council

*To register, please reply by January 27 to Sonia Mira: [sonia.mira@wzb.eu](mailto:sonia.mira@wzb.eu)*