Living the Social Determinants

Dr Richard Chenhall
Senior Lecturer in Medical Anthropology
Centre for Health Equity
Melbourne School of Population & Global Health

The social determinants of health has become a dominant discourse in Indigenous public health. Drawing on ethnographic research in a remote Indigenous community in the Northern Territory, this presentation will discuss some of the problems associated with interventions based on this approach. In understanding how people live, experience and interpret the range of factors that impact on their health and well being, we argue for an approach that examines the lived experiences of health.

Richard Chenhall is Senior Lecturer in Medical Anthropology in the Centre for Health Equity in the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health at The University of Melbourne. He is currently working on a number of projects focusing on the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, including substance misuse and treatment, sexual health, youth experiences and the social determinants of health. He is also conducting research related to alcoholism and self-help groups in Japan.