



Health in all Policies & the Social Determinants of Health

Fran Baum

Southgate Institute for Health, Society
& Equity

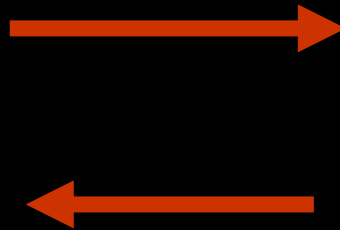
Flinders University

Adelaide

Social Determinants and HiaP

Social Determinants is a framework for **understanding**

Social, political & economic organization of society has a powerful influence on health status



Health in all Policies is mechanism for **governance and implementation** based on understanding of SDH

Cross sector

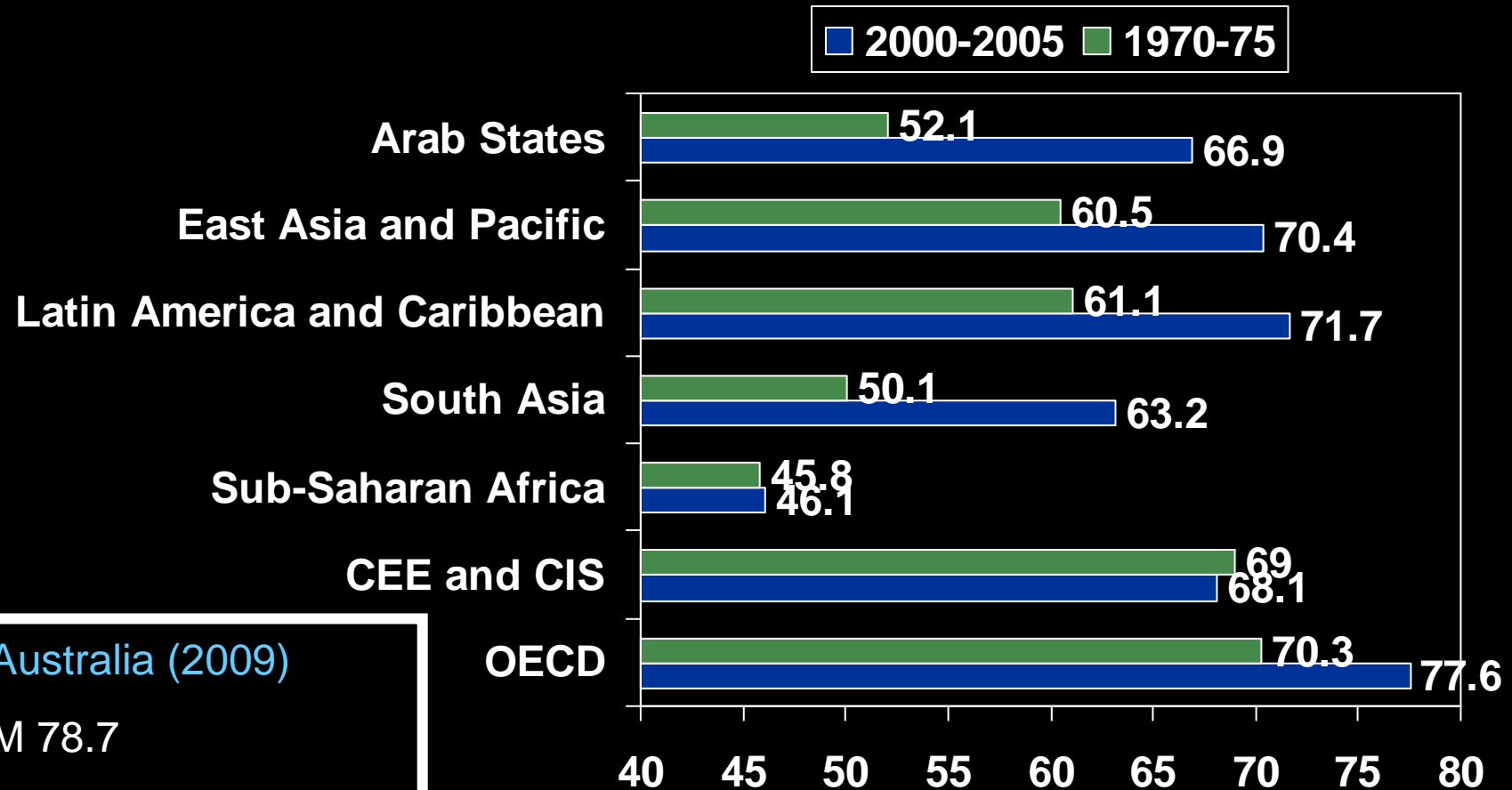
Holistic

Integrative

Led from the top

Popular support

TRENDS IN LIFE EXPECTANCY



Australia (2009)

M 78.7

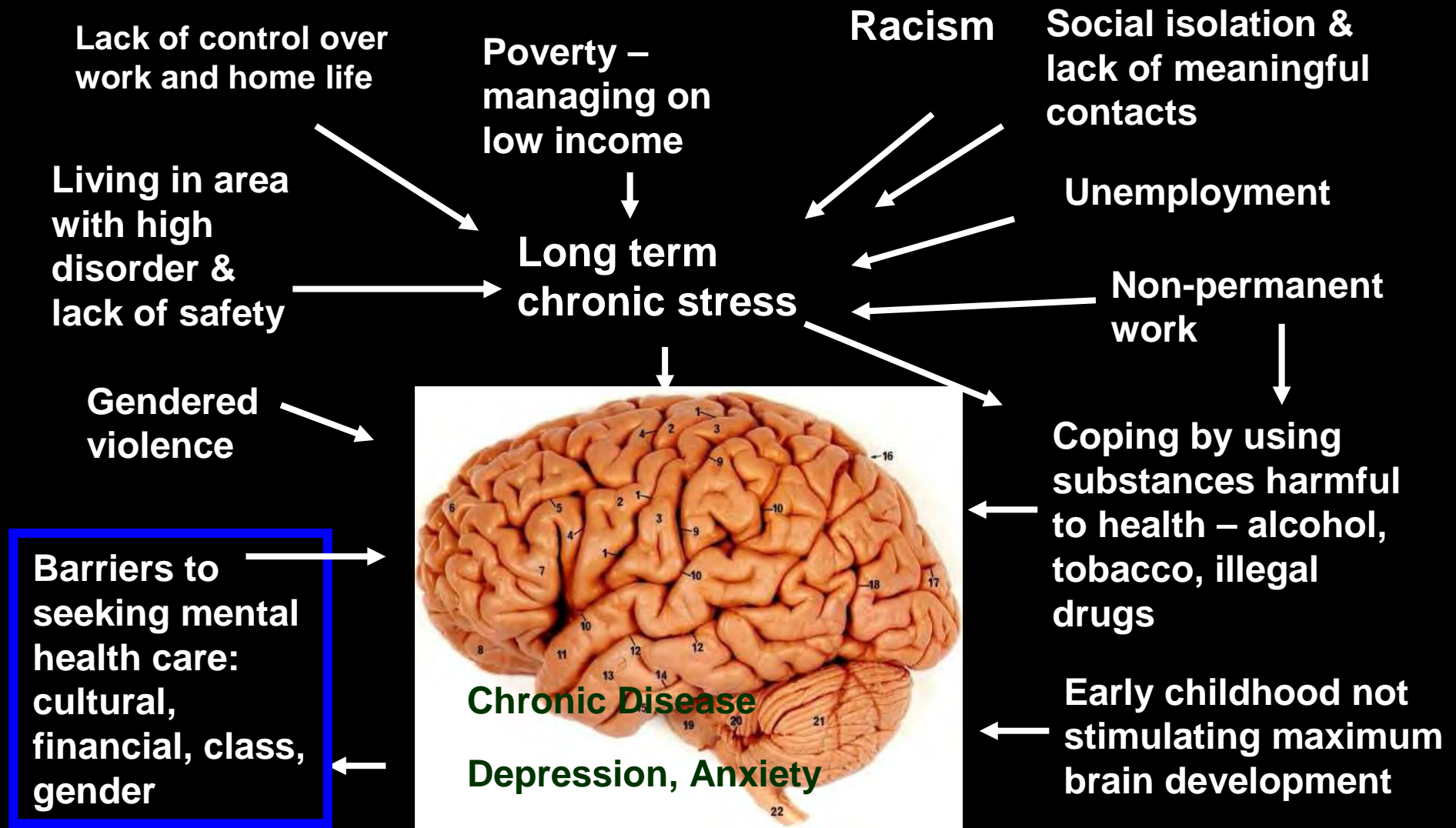
F 82.6

Aboriginal M 67.2

Aboriginal F 72.9

Human Development Report 2005

How social determinants get into our brains and cause health inequities



History: trends and opportunities

Social dimensions of health affirmed in WHO Constitution (1948), downplayed during 1950s era of disease campaigns.

Determinants re-emerge under Health for All agenda (1970s), some action in 1980s due to Ottawa Charter – eg Healthy Cities

1990s: paradigm of health as private issue dominant; some exceptions.

2000s: "step-up" and new chance for action.

2005-08 Commission on Social Determinants of Health

WHR
2008
PHC

HiAP
21st C

Support for SDH & HiAP waxes and wanes but keeps making it to policy agenda



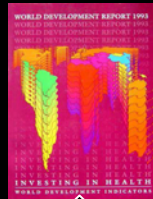
1948



1978



1986



1993



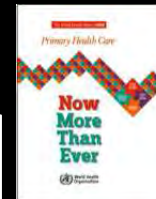
2000



2001



2005-08

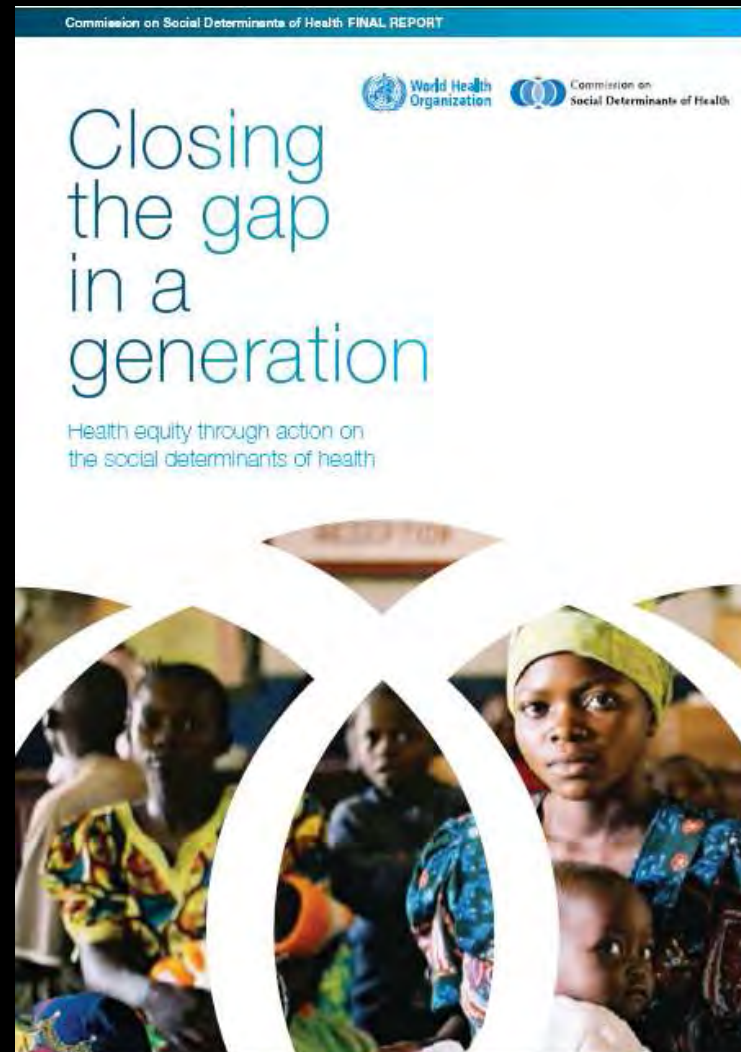


2008



Commission on the Social Determinants of Health

- Launched 28th August 2008 by Dr. Margaret Chan, Director General, WHO in Geneva
- *"Health inequity really is a matter of life and death"* Margaret Chan



Basic logic: what good does it do to
treat people's illnesses/send to
prison/report parents



then give them no choice to go back to or no control
over the conditions that made them
sick/offend/mistreat children?

Final Report: Value Base

- Need for more health equity because *“it is right and just”* & a *human right*
- Quality and distribution of health seen as a judge of the success of a society
- Empowerment central



Values important to informing action – basis for adopting a SDH approach

CSDH Report: Action Areas

Daily Living Conditions

- Equity from the start
- Healthy places- healthy people
- Fair employment –decent work
- Social protection across the life course
- Universal health care

Power, Money and Resources

- Health Equity in All Policies
- Fair financing
- Market responsibility
- Gender equity
- Political empowerment – inclusion and voice
- Good global governance

Knowledge, Monitoring and Skills

- Monitoring, research, training
- Building a global movement

Full report downloadable at http://www.who.int/social_determinants/en/



- Applying CSDH ideas to the UK
- Common themes to CSDH
- Both see health in all policies as central to overall population health and health equity

Social determinants: key messages

- Social & health gradient
- Health inequalities result from social inequalities which reflect systematic unfairness in all sectors – education, employment, housing, health, environment etc
- Economic benefits: losses from HI associated with productivity losses, reduced tax revenue, higher welfare payments, increased treatment costs

Social Determinants key messages

- Measure more than economic growth – also fair distribution of health, well-being and sustainability and these are good outcome measures for society as a whole
- Aim of action on SDH is to:
 - Give every child the best start in life
 - Increase control over lives – participatory decision making
 - Create fair employment and good work for all
 - Ensure a healthy standard of living for all
 - Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
 - More emphasis on disease prevention

HiaP: the governance mechanism for action on SDH

- Central vision of greater health, well-being and equity adopted by all sectors of government and accountability to achieve this
- Policy levers to make co-operation across government the easy option
- Political (head of state) and bureaucratic sponsorship
- Empowerment and involvement



Policy levers

- HiaP most effective when there is top down policy action combined with bottom up pressure for change



Role of health sector

Informed by 30 years of thinking Alma Ata & Primary Health Care, Ottawa Charter, Healthy Cities, CSDH

Leadership in the health sector

Stewardship for the health of a population

Leadership role of health sector

- Sociological as well as medical imagination
- Access to health services is determinant of health with strong social dimension – need to improve the equity performance of the health sector
- Primary health care as foundation of health system
- Sophisticated understanding of health promotion that reflects the Ottawa Charter & SDH
- Reduce demand and resist pressures to increase supply
- Rewards prevention of disease rather than treatment of cases
- Plan to shift dollars from hospital to community and from cure to prevention and promotion

Stewardship role of health sector

- Advocacy to other sectors about SDH & HiAP
- Facilitation of HiAP across government
- Health equity impact assessments and good surveillance on impact of SDH
- Reform of health professional education
- Health impacts in teaching of professionals such as planners, teachers, architects
- Fund research on health not just disease
- Empowering partnerships with civil society

Social Determinants & HiaP – a perfect union of understanding and action

