

Dr Cathy Day – Career History

Jul 2014 - Present | *Senior Research Officer* - Research School of Population Health, Australian National University, Canberra

As part of the Chronic Diseases Epidemiology Group, I manage a \$1.4M NHMRC-funded partnership project on social inequalities in cardiovascular disease. The program looks at four domains of social disadvantage: low socio-economic status, rural/remote residence, Aboriginality and mental illness. It considers the impact of these domains of disadvantage on cardiovascular risk, incidence, care and outcome, with a view to ultimately costing and prioritising interventions. I am responsible for all ethics protocols and amendments across six institutions, manage the budget including staffing and recruitment, ensure that the program achieves its stated objectives over a four-year period and undertake quantitative analysis on large-scale linked datasets on several chronic diseases, including cardiovascular disease, prostate cancer and lower urinary tract symptoms.

Jul 2006 – Mar 2014 | *Consultant* - BeaconHill Australia

The focus of BeaconHill is on civic planning and community consultation for major projects. I organised consultative processes, ran design competitions, managed publicity and prepared reports for a wide range of civic planning projects, and negotiated with relevant members of the Australian Federal Parliament. Recent successful projects include the National Workers Memorial, the upgrade to the Hughes Shopping Centre and the Department of Employment's Experience+ Work Ready program in Auburn.

Sep 2003 - Mar 2005 | *Transition Manager then Project Manager, PBS Online Project* - Medicare, Canberra

As Transition Manager, I was responsible for training, communications, marketing, deployment and transition to operations of a major government project. PBS Online connected Australia's 5,500 pharmacies to government IT networks to reduce fraud, improve speed of payment to pharmacists and ensure correct prescriptions were dispensed. I also provided policy advice to the Minister for Health and attended numerous pharmacy conferences to give presentations on PBS Online. I was Project Manager for the final three months of the project and was responsible for project management, administration and financial management of an annual budget of \$5.7M (total budget of \$20M). I delivered the project on time, with agreed capability and with a small budget surplus, and developed and implemented the communications and marketing strategy for the project, resulting in 95% awareness of the product amongst pharmacists.

Apr 2002- Sep 2003 | *Manager, Data Analytics and Intelligence - Medicare, Canberra*

I led a section that created Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to detect fraud against Medicare and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Under my leadership, the team developed AI systems for Diagnostic Imaging, General Practice, Gynaecology, Cosmetic & Plastic Surgery, Orthopaedic Surgery and Internal Operator Fraud. My major achievement was introducing performance management into a working environment that had not experienced it before.

Dec 2001- April 2002 | *Senior Manager, Engineering Development - DSD, Canberra*

I led a team of 55 engineers in developing and delivering communications-related projects in the Defence Signals Directorate (DSD). I had overall responsibility for projects worth \$100 million, and two ongoing contracts worth \$20 million per year.

Jul 2001 - Nov 2001 | *Senior Civilian Monitor - Peace Monitoring Group, South Bougainville*

I led a small team of civilian monitors as part of the multi-national Peace Monitoring Group, based in Siwai District, Bougainville. My duties included directing the work of the civilian monitors in South Bougainville, as well as fulfilling the mandate of the PMG with respect to Siwai District. This involved liaising with key leaders in the District, facilitating activities related to the peace process, disseminating information regarding the peace process and weapons disposal, negotiating the lifting of roadblocks and investigating murders. I was highly successful in my mission, which I put down to applying a basic anthropological principle of understanding the culture in which one is working. By persistent effort, I guided and drove the two faction commanders in Siwai District to speak with each other in the first instance, then to form a joint weapons disposal committee. Both commanders told me separately that they had not spoken to each other since the ceasefire in 1997 and that without my personal intervention, they would not have done so.

Nov 2000 - Jul 2001 | *Senior Manager, IT Infrastructure Projects - DSD, Canberra*

I led a group of IT professionals who designed, developed and installed computing infrastructure for a large and complex computing site. I was appointed to this position specifically to 'heal' a dysfunctional team that had come to blows over work matters. I was able to leave the team working co-operatively and effectively.

Jan 1999 - Nov 2000 | *Director, Military Sigint Operations Centre - DSD, Canberra*

I had responsibility for almost 300 staff operating in a 24-hour environment. The MSOC supported military operations of the Australian Defence Force and allied organisations by providing timely and accurate signals intelligence to national customers and deployed forces. I provided day-to-day direction and high-level decision-making as well as representing the MSOC to senior customer representatives. My major achievements included proposing and leading the introduction of new 12-hour shift arrangements which delivered a 50% increase in personnel on task during priority times; and leading the introduction and integration of a new multi-million-dollar intelligence collection system which provided time-critical intelligence from international partner assets.

Jul 1996 - Jan 1999 | *Mission Director - Joint Defence Facility Pine Gap, Alice Springs*

As Mission Director, I had responsibility during the course of my shift for all operational activities of this significant intelligence facility. Weekday business hours comprised only 25% of the working hours of the facility and outside of those times I acted as Chief of Facility, exercising responsibility for the entire facility.

Jun 1994 - Jan 1996 | *Director, Satellite Combined Operations Party - DSD, Canberra*

I was responsible for all aspects of collection management for two satellite collection systems. My duties included project planning for future systems, project management of multi-million-dollar international projects, high-level resource management for non-routine collection and management of over 40 staff from four nationalities and six services, involved in 24-hour operations.

Jan 1993 - Jun 1994 | *Policy Adviser - DSD, Canberra*

Aug 1991 - Dec 1992 | *Manager, Operational Computer Security – DSD, Canberra*

Jun 1989 - Aug 1991 | *Australian Army Officer - Counter-Intelligence Branch of the Directorate of Military Intelligence, Canberra*

Volunteer Roles

Whilst completing my Masters and PhD, I undertook a range of voluntary and temporary work, including teacher in the slums of New Delhi, researcher on maternal mortality in East Timor, welfare worker in the Salvation Army, census enumerator, electoral officer, university research officer, production manager at large UK festivals and security advisor at a UK football stadium event. Further details are available on request.