



Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Hazelwood Health Study Community briefing – 11 August



MONASH University



UNIVERSITY of
TASMANIA



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE



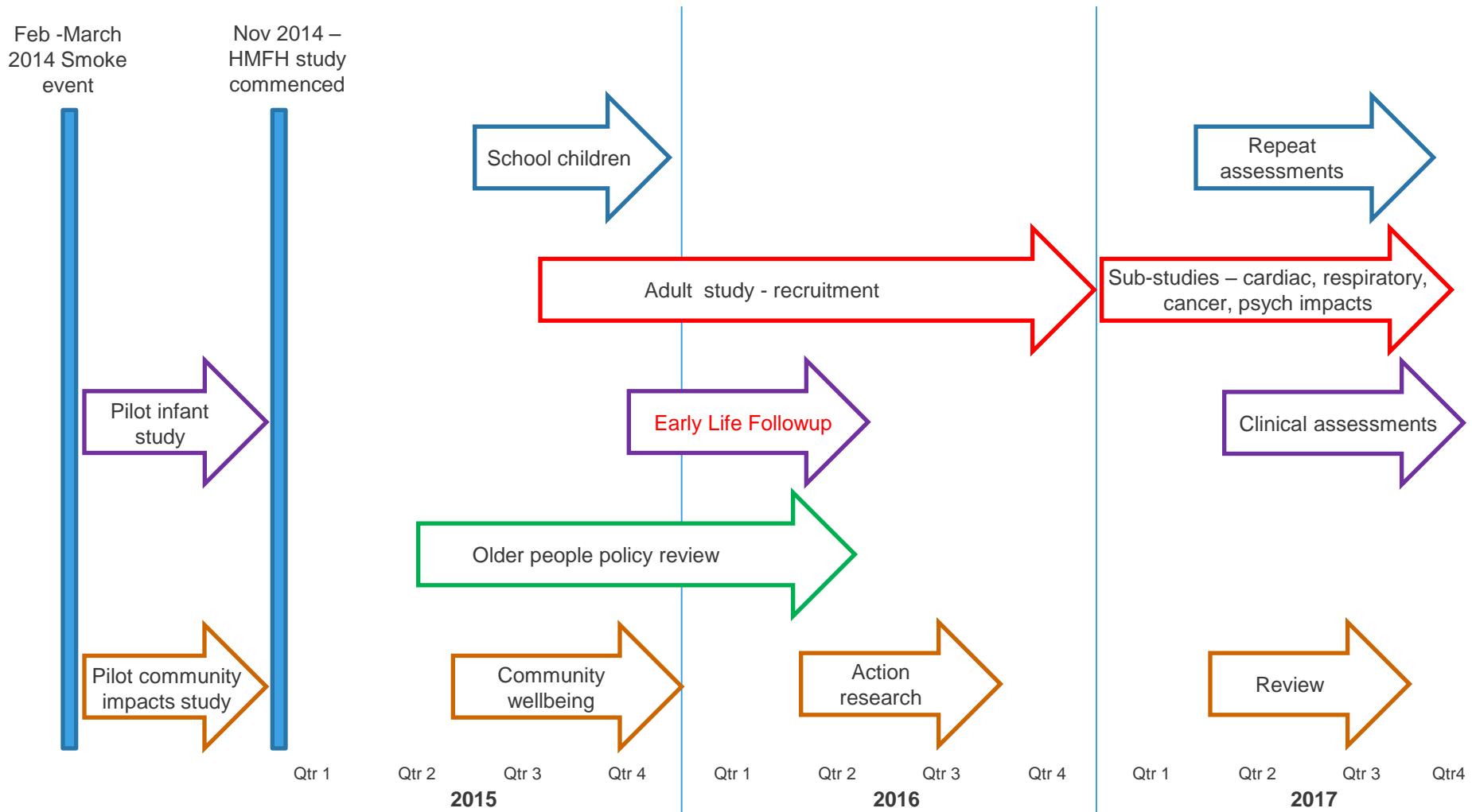
Presentation overview

1. Welcome
2. Study overview
3. Community Wellbeing
4. Adult Survey
5. Selection of the comparison community
6. Exposure assessment
7. Latrobe Residential House Dust Study
8. Schools Study
9. Latrobe Early Life Followup (ELF) Study
10. Older People study
11. Discussion

1. Welcome – Judi Walker

- The Hazelwood Health Study is about identifying potential health outcomes for people who may have been exposed to smoke from the mine fire.
- The study came about in response to community concerns and the potential health impacts need to be assessed in a credible, independent and transparent way.
- Key members of the study team are here today to talk about the different components of the study and the different groups which are being targeted.
- This is the first of what will become half-yearly community briefings to keep local residents up to date with the study operations and outcomes.

2. Study overview – Michael Abramson



2.1 Strengths of the study

- Multidisciplinary team of credible and very experienced researchers
 - Expertise includes epidemiology, environmental health risk assessment, toxicology, air quality, psychology etc.
 - Between 11 and 40 years research experience individually
- High level expertise in community engagement
- Strong links into the local community, will build capacity
- Community involvement at all levels
- Research design addressing all questions asked in the request
- Building on existing pilot studies following the fire event – infant health and initial health and well-being impacts
- Deliverables include findings of adult survey and several more detailed reports on specific potential impacts

2.2 Four main pillars of data collection

- Exposure assessment:
 - Air monitoring data and modelling
 - Development of exposure metrics for participants
- Surveys of adults, and parents of infants and school children:
 - Sociodemographics, pre-existing conditions
 - Risk factors eg. smoking
 - Exposure questions
 - Outcome measures
- Face-to-face evaluations for sub-studies:
 - e.g. lung and blood vessel function, blood tests for inflammation
- Data linkage:
 - e.g. ambulance, hospital, cancer and death data