Traveller men's perceptions of their role regarding their health"

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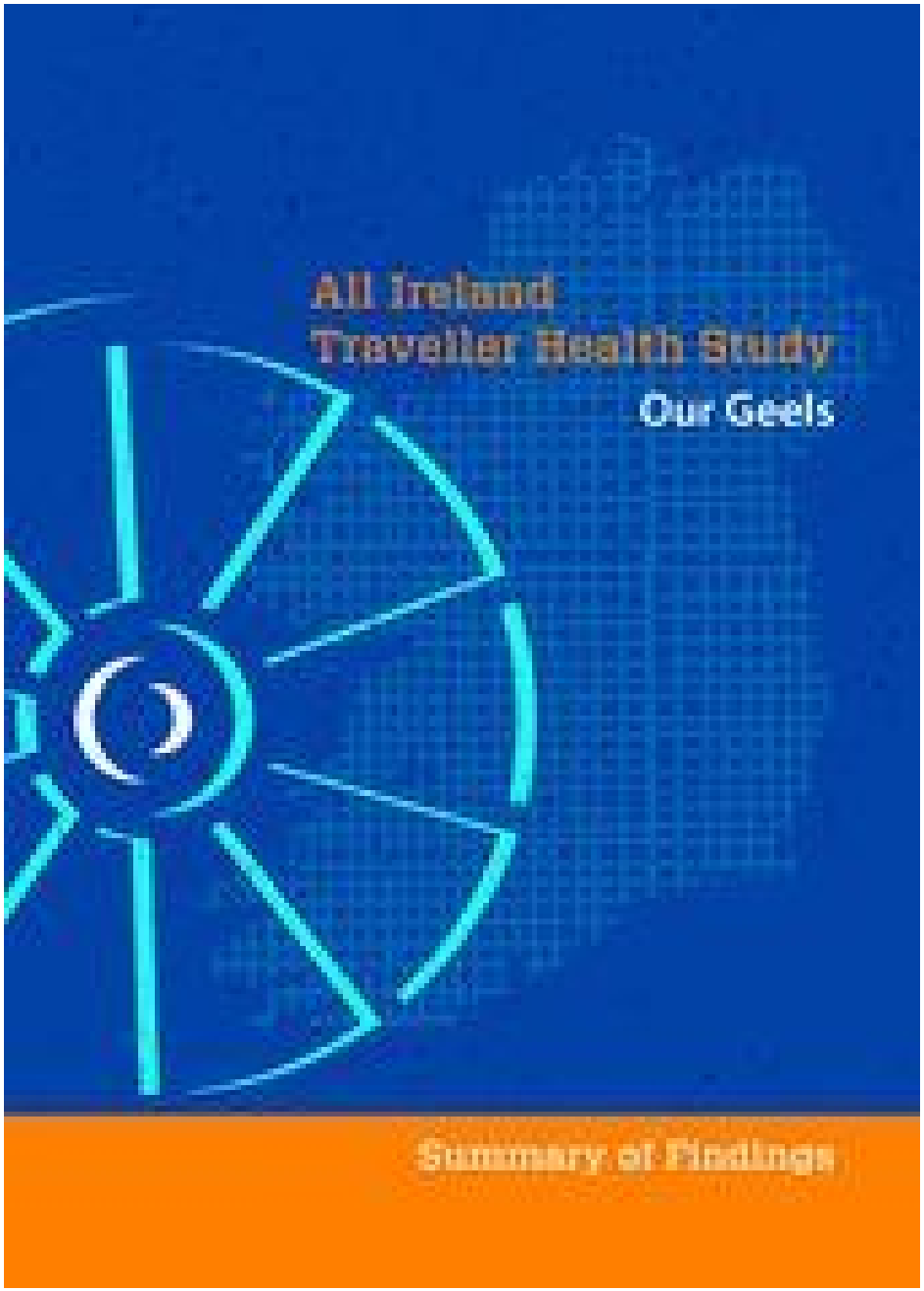
- Background.
- Sample.
- Methodology.
- Findings.
- Recommendations.
- Issues of concern.
- Contact Details.

Background

- Commission on Itinerancy, 1963- Settled.
- Travelling People Review Body, 1983- Barriers around mistrust; Nomadic Travellers.
- ‘Travellers health Status Study’ (Barry and Daly, 1988).
- ‘The travellers health status study’ (Barry et al, 1989).
- O’ Donovan et al’s (1995)
- Traveller Health Study (1995)

Background

- Primary Health care for Travellers Project (1995) within Public Health Nursing.
- All Ireland Traveller Health Study (2010).
- Practice/Anecdotal.


All Ireland
Traveller Health Study
Our Geels
Summary of Findings

AITHS(2010)
Major findings.

- An improvement in health in general as a result of many determinants e.g. accommodation, education.
- However, acknowledgement is given to the fact that the PHCT were responsible for the drastic improvement in the health of women and children in the families.
- The life expectancy of these two groups has improved.
- Unfortunately, what is of serious concern is the fact that the men's life expectancy has reduced a further 5 years and is similar to the life expectancy of men in the 1940's (AITHS, 2010).
- Involving men in health care has always been a problem in traveller health. Most men see the role as the 'woman's' role and therefore do not engage.
- The AITHS (2010) demonstrates the need for traveller men to become active in health and health promotional issues.

Rationale

- The rationale for this study is therefore to enquire from traveller men how there health can be improved; what barriers or facilitators affect them in accessing health and what they perceive can be implemented to improve their health.

Research Question.

- The research question in this study is,

"What are Traveller men's perceptions of their role regarding their health"

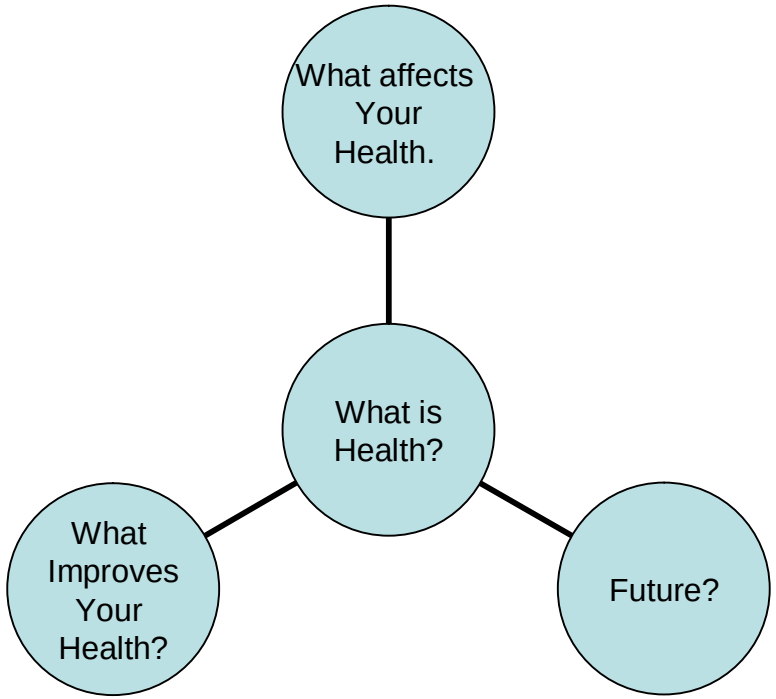
Aims

- To ascertain the perceived role of traveller men regarding their health,
- to identify the barriers and facilitations to their health care, and
- to recognise ways to specifically improve traveller men's health care.

Methodology.

- A qualitative design .
- Semi-structured interviews.
- Purposive sample. Traveller men over 18 years and living in the area.
- Sample 6 men** (20, 37, 39, 51, 52, 72) (mean 45yrs).
- Ethical approval was obtained from The Ethics Committee of the Health Service Executive in the area.
- Permission granted for participants to sign with an ‘X’ instead of a signature and to give of a verbal consent on audio-tape.
- Analysis was through King’s Template analysis.

Findings.


What affects Your Health.
What is Health?
What Improves Your Health?
Future?

What is Health?

- Depression.
- Suicide.
- Mental health.
- Physical Fitness.
- Cancer.

What Affects Health?
(What makes your health worse?)

- Unable to talk.
- Not going to the GP.
- Shameful.
- Embarrassing.
- Weakness.
- ‘Tribal’ standing.

Future?

- Will not talk to other people about their illnesses.
- Would work in a men's group similar to PHCT.
- Outreach centres- 'Blitz' for Health Promotional screening.
- 10/52 fitness program with small session of health promotion included.

What Affects Health?
(What makes your health better?)

- Talking to Doctor- after a diagnosis.
- Having a job.
- Reading and writing.

Contact Details.

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Complete sheet at back of room if you require the slide show or reference list.

Thank you for listening.