

Dr Whiteford is the Kratzmann Professor of Psychiatry and Population Health at The University of Queensland and Director of the Policy and Evaluation Group at the Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research in Australia. He trained in medicine, psychiatry and health policy in Queensland and at Stanford University. He has held senior clinical and administrative positions in Australia, including those of Director of Mental Health in the state of Queensland and the Australian Federal government. He worked for ten years on the design and implementation of Australia's Mental Health Strategy and was Chair of the Working Group which oversaw this initiative. In 1999 he was appointed to the first mental health position at the World Bank in Washington DC with the task of developing the Bank's capacity to respond to the rising global burden of neuropsychiatric disorders. His research interests are in psychiatric epidemiology and burden of disease estimates, mental health policy analysis and reform of mental health services. He currently chairs the Mental Disorders Expert Group for the new Global Burden of Disease Study.