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Clinical Psychologist
Psychological trauma and drug use
This presentation will examine evidence regarding the impact of psychological trauma; the relationship between psychological trauma, PTSD and drug use; and the therapeutic implications of this evidence. A particular focus will be on the therapeutic implications for working with clients who have experienced chronic interpersonal trauma and have substance use problems.

Professor Margaret Hamilton
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Managing mental health issues - alongside everything else:
Reflections on the experience of overseeing assessments and implementation of Care Plans from the perspective of five year of he Multiple and Complex Needs Panel, Victoria.

This presentation will include a summary of issues associated with the work of melding different services to meet the multiple needs of people deemed to be complex - both practically and conceptually.

Simon Lenton
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Authors: Simon Lenton, James Fetherston, Candice Rainsford and Jessica George.

Mental health problems and psychological distress among samples of regular drug users in WA.

Abstract: This paper presents self report measures of mental; health problems and psychological distress from WA samples of samples of injecting drug users and regular ecstasy users interviewed annually as part of two national drug trends monitoring projects. The Illicit Drugs Reporting System (IDRS) and the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) are co-ordinated nationally by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre and run in WA by the National Drug Research Institute. The data show that in both samples regular drug users report high rates of mental health problems and psychological distress and a significant proportion have sought help from a health professional for these problems. The implications of these findings for mental health and drug treatment services are discussed.

National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre Education Trust

Invitation to attend
NDARC Education Trust Comorbidity Meeting
Being run concurrent with The Mental Health Services Conference

Tuesday 1st September 2009
in Perth at the Perth Convention Centre
Register at TheMHS http://www.themhs.org/09-annual-conference

PROGRAM

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THEMHS 2009 - DOUBLE TROUBLE WORKSHOP
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1ST 2009
RUNNING SHEET
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"What’s happening - what should be happening?"

This presentation will review the link between drug and mental health problems, will explore the implications for interventions, the barriers to effective responses and the options for policy and practice.

Lucinda Burns
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Substance use in marginalised populations: pregnant women and the homeless

People who are dependent on substances have been the subject of a great deal of research, both nationally and internationally. Over recent years this work has examined issues such as the increased use of methamphetamine, the effectiveness of novel treatment approaches and alcohol and substance use by young people. Individuals who use substances are not, however, a homogenous group. Rather, there are a number of subgroups who are at particularly high risk of poor outcomes, including trauma and early death. Two such high risk groups are pregnant women who are substance dependent and individuals who are homeless. This presentation will summarise key findings from a number of recently undertaken population and clinical studies by the author examining health issues and needs with these groups.

Adam Brett
Drugs, risks and mental health - a clinicians perspective

Dr Brett is the director of Community Forensic Mental Health Services in WA, he also works in general adult mental health. This talk will focus on the interactions between drugs and mental health, violence and drugs and mental health, and a clinician's perspective on the Ice epidemic. Is drug induced psychosis a useful concept or is it an excuse for services to refuse patients? Should Mental Health Services have integrated drug services or vice versa? This talk aims to answer some questions and probably ask a lot more.

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Leonie Manns
Cocktails Anyone?
Leonie Manns has been a consumer activist for many years. During this time Leonie has greatly contributed to the wider debate of Mental Health reform in Australia. Leonie has worked in a number of service areas as an educator, an advisor, a mentor, a policy maker, and an administrator.

Leonie has always been a strong advocate for people with mental illness and has been deputy chair of the National Community Advisory Group (NCAG), an inaugural member of the Mental Health Council of Australia, a former Chair of the Disability Council of NSW and a recipient of a Churchill Fellowship.

Currently Leonie is a member of both The NSW Mental Health Review Tribunal and The NSW Guardianship Tribunal as well as an accredited Mental Health First Aid instructor.

As a person with a long history of bi-polar disorder, Leonie brings a personal perspective to that cocktail of mental illness and substance mis-use.

Margaret Hamilton
Former Chairperson | Multiple and Complex Needs Panel, Victoria & Executive member of the Australian National Council on Drugs

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