

# Getting it Right in Practice: Collaboration not Competition

Thursday 19 and Friday 20 April 2007  
Hilton Birmingham Metropole

## Special Interest Sessions - 14.00

1. Crack - getting it right in practice
2. Care for the physical health of people who use drugs
3. Cannabis and mental health in young people
4. Beginner's guide to Hepatitis C testing and immunisation against hepatitis A+B in general practice
5. Preventing overdose through education
6. Motivational interviewing for beginners

# Special Interest Session 1

## Crack-getting it right in practice

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### **Dr George Ryan**

GP and RCGP Certificate Part One Lead

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### Biography

George is a GP and Clinical Lead for the RCGP Certificate in Substance Misuse Part One and Director of The Alliance.

## Special Interest Session 2

### Care for the physical health of people who use drugs

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#### **Dr Penny Schofield**

Clinical Director  
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#### Biography

I am GP principal in an inner city practice in Walker, Newcastle and have a long-standing interest in the management of substance misuse in Primary Care. I spent a year on sabbatical at the Drug and Alcohol Service in Newcastle and following this was appointed as Shared Care Coordinator for Newcastle and North Tyneside. This post involved setting up and developing the Shared Care Scheme. More recently I was appointed Clinical Director of Bridge View Drug Treatment Service, a Primary-Care based service in Newcastle. I am the RCGP clinical lead for drug misuse training North East.

#### Abstract

The purpose of this workshop is to explore the management of physical health problems in clients on substitute prescriptions from both organisational and a clinical aspects. The workshop will use case studies as the basis for discussion.

## Special Interest Session 3

### Canabis and mental health in young people

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#### **Dr Ron Alcorn**

ASATS

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#### Biography

Dr Alcorn is the Consultant Psychiatrist for a multidisciplinary specialist young person's alcohol and drug service in East London (ASATS). The service is part of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and works closely with Youth Offending Teams, Social Services Departments, schools, Adolescent Mental Health services and Early Intervention in Psychosis teams. Dr Alcorn has a background in substance misuse psychiatry and service development in this field.

#### Abstract

This workshop will explore the relationships between cannabis use and mental health problems, observed and reported, in young people. The relationship between cannabis and psychosis is topical and will be reviewed but there are other cannabis-related problems that young people encounter that can affect their mental health and development. Some of the latest cannabis research, assessment tools and treatment resources will be presented with the aim of making delegates more confident in working with young people in this area.

## Special Interest Session 4

### Beginner's guide to Hepatitis C testing and immunisation against hepatitis A+B in general practice

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#### **Dr Chris Ford**

GP SMMGP Adviser  
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#### **Biography**

Dr Chris Ford has been a GP in North West London for 22 years and has special interests in working with people who use drug and/or alcohol, HIV and hepatitis and sexual health.

She is one of the founders of Substance Misuse Management in General Practice (SSMGP), is advisory editor of 'NETWORK' (SMMGP Newsletter) and is the GP Advisor for SMMGP. She is a member and former chair of the RCGP Sex, Drugs and HIV Task Group. She is a member of the executive committee to the RCGP Certificate Programme for Substance Misuse and CPD Lead for the programme.

She is a director and former chair of The Alliance, a drug user led organisation, which encourages drug users and professionals to work together to try and improve drug services. She is also a founder member of the UK Harm Reduction Alliance (UKHRA) and a patron of FDAP

She has published widely about the care of people who use drugs in general practice and is the lead author on a number of guidance documents developed for primary care on the use of buprenorphine, working with cocaine and crack users, use of methadone and the currently being developed guidance's on 1) Guidance for prevention, testing, treatment and management of Hepatitis C in Primary Care and 2) Guidance for the use of benzodiazepines.

**Ms Kate Halliday**

SMMGP Associate Advisor

SMMGP

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Email: [smmgp@btinternet.com](mailto:smmgp@btinternet.com)**Biography**

Kate Halliday works part time as a Shared Care Coordinator in Telford and Wrekin and part-time as a freelance consultant . She qualified as a social worker in 1995 and has spent the past 12 years working in drug services. Her experience includes training, prison work and management of a Community Drugs Team, and until November 2006 as a Primary Care Adviser for the Substance Misuse Management in General Practice (SMMGP). As part of her current role she continues to work from a GP surgery as a shared care worker.

**Abstract**

Hepatitis C is an under-diagnosed and under- treated important cause of morbidity and mortality. Hepatitis C is a common and potentially curable disease, but only 1-2% of infected people are currently receiving National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) recommended therapy. Immunisation against hepatitis A and B can greatly reduce the risks to people with, or likely to become infected with hepatitis C. The major route of transmission in the UK is sharing injecting equipment.

This workshop will look at practical aspects of hepatitis C testing and hepatitis A and B immunisation in general practice for those who are planning, or are in the early stages of to starting to offer testing and immunisation. It will cover pre and post test information, immunisation regimes, and ways of encouraging patients take up testing and immunisation services.

# Special Interest Session 5

## Preventing overdose through education

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### **Tony Lee**

Lancashire User Team

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### Biography

I have been a class A drug user for over 25yrs, 12 of those years I spent homeless on the streets of London using crack and heroin together (snowball) plus alcohol.

In 04 I moved into a hostel and started on a methadone maintenance program, I have tried 4 detox's and 2 rehabs plus 4 day programs to no avail, I started on 120mls and I'm now on 40mls.

Since 04 I have been involved in User Involvement I was invited to sit on the National User Advisory Group for the NTA where I was the National Homelessness rep until it was disbanded last year, I have also sat on numerous groups on DANOS and homelessness.

In the hostel I started a library up from scratch and ran it I was also voted the hostel rep where I developed user involvement right through to head office for which I came second in the Michel Whitman prize winning £100.

In 06 I moved back to my home town in Lancashire where I set up Lancashire User Team to help develop User Involvement within Lancs as it was very spasmodic, I now sit on the Harm Reduction Group and have been involved in needs assessments for this years treatment plans and also OD campaign, I give peer workshops on OD, Safer Injecting and User Involvement.

For me the future is to develop L.U.T so that it is a voice for every single client of any treatment service within Lancashire.

### **Rob Brockus**

Lancashire User Team

### Abstract

The Overdose Prevention through education will include elements of:

Discussing DRD Including Tobacco and Alcohol.

What is the definition of a drug Overdose.

Risk Factors.

Tolerance.

Signs of an Overdose.

Dispelling Myths.

New drugs that have been licenced for opiate substitution and their interactions with current drugs.

What tolerance does Narcan, Naloxone, Naltrexone, Subutex, Suboxone have on the body after reducing or stopping opiates.

Different education tools for Overdose training.

This is just a taster.

# Special Interest Session 6

## Motivational interviewing for beginners

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### **Mr Brian Whitehead**

Counsellor in General Practice

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### Biography

Brian Whitehead is a Counsellor in general practice in London, specialising in sexual health and blood borne viruses( BBVs). He is a member of the RCGP Sex Drugs and HIV Task Group. He also has a special interest in Motivational Interviewing and its application in health care settings.

### Abstract

This workshop will consider the application of this therapy in relation to drug users, drug treatment, and drug treatment settings, as well as other health behaviours. It is intended as an introduction to the model, its principles, and techniques. It will provide an overview of the model, and its methodologies, and consider practical application in primary care.