OLD WINE IN NEW WINESKINS.

Building Capacity in Psychiatric Services to Improve the Management of Substance Using Clients.

SYDNEY SOUTH WEST AREA HEALTH SERVICE
NSW HEALTH

• Coexisting Disorders Team, Liverpool Hospital.
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  Brenda Page, Kristy Tran

• SWSAHS/SSWAHS
  Prof. Scott Clark, Dr Adam Winstock,
  Dr Roger Gurr
  Prof. Victor Storm, Dr Angelo Virgona

• NSW Health.
A Context

- Separation of a “patient’s” experiences
- Separation of clinician responsibilities
- Rise in popularity of new illicit substances
- Service limitations throughout the health sector
- Money
- Enthusiastic Clinicians

Seeking a Model - Aim

Improve the knowledge and skills of Mental Health and Drug Health Clinicians in the identification, diagnosis and management of clients with coexisting mental health and drug health problems……
Seeking a Model - Principles

- Be evidence/research based
- Be responsive to identified needs
- Aim for sustainable change
- Use existing resources
- Encourage partnerships across services, consumers, carers, NGO sector

..... within a three year time frame
Seeking a Model - Choices

- Integrated Care in a third team
- “Skilled” experts in each team
- Liaison model

Seeking a Model - Old wineskins

- Southern Dual Diagnosis Service
- Drake work in USA
A Model

- Skilled clinicians “embedded” within existing teams
- Training/education programmes
- Registrar placement
- Assessment clinic
- Case conferencing
- Psychiatric clinic in DHS
- Seamless integration between services

ranzcp congress 2006
A Model - An Example

• Case

A Model - An Evaluation

After 18 months of project

No funds available
Series of interviews
MH-OAT Data
Series Cases

How to assess the impact on clients and their carers?
A Model - An Evaluation

• Conclusions:
  • the project name was little known
  • mentoring support was well received
  • increasing confidence in assessment
  • little confidence in initiating interventions
  • questions about sustainability
  • teams identified the need for focused education
  • case review process was little supported
  • our addition to the research base was limited
    (1 draft paper, 2 draft ethics proposals)

Lessons learnt

• have passion
• I need intellectual stimulation
• hit the ground running
• budget for rigorous evaluation
• complementarity
• relationship building
• limitations of projects
• ausMHLP