Dual Diagnosis in Older Adults

Monday 10 December 2018 De Vere West One Conference Centre, London

Chair and speaker include:
Professor Ilana Crome
Co-Chair, Working Group, Our Invisible Addicts
Royal College of Psychiatrists
Emeritus Professor of Addiction Psychiatry, Keele University
Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist, South Staffordshire and
Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Honorary Professor, St George’s University of London

Dr Amit Arora
Member, Older Person’s Substance Misuse
Working Group, The Royal College of Psychiatrists
Consultant Geriatrician University
Hospital of North Midlands NHS Trust

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"For too long, the topic of substance misuse in older people has been ignored. A new approach, that is non-discriminatory, comprehensive and needs-led, is now essential.” Our Invisible Addicts, Royal College of Psychiatrists March 2018

“The proportion of older people with substance misuse continues to rise more rapidly than can be explained by the rise in the proportion of older people in the UK” Our Invisible Addicts, Royal College of Psychiatrists March 2018

“Substance misuse amongst older people continues to grow as the population of “baby boomers” ages, increasing both the number of older people and the percentage of the older population with experience of substance misuse... improving health and social outcomes for older people with substance related disorders requires a rigorous approach... There is a need for best practice to be implemented and extended to all relevant settings” Our Invisible Addicts, Royal College of Psychiatrists March 2018

“Substance misuse in older people is associated with reduced life expectancy and accelerated ageing, which is further compounded by socio-economic deprivation” Our Invisible Addicts, Royal College of Psychiatrists March 2018

“Greater value needs to be placed on the requirements and wishes of older substance misusers” Our Invisible Addicts, Royal College of Psychiatrists March 2018

The 2018 Royal College of Psychiatrist Report ‘Our Invisible Addicts’ highlights the importance of developing effective dual diagnosis services for older adults – from early intervention through to recovery and preventing relapse. This conference will focus on managing the growing problem of substance abuse in older people and look at developing a person centred approach to developing care pathways for substance misuse within mental health services for older people and mental health treatment for older people within substance misuse services.

This conference will enable you to:
- Network with colleagues who are working to improve dual diagnosis services for older adults
- Learn from outstanding practice in developing services for assessment, diagnosis, harm reduction and recovery
- Reflect on national developments
- Learn from the lived experience of an older adult
- Ensure you are up to date with evidence for treatment interventions and services relating to the management of substance use disorders in older people
- Develop your skills in understanding ethical and legal considerations for older people with substance misuse: self neglect and unwise decisions
- Understand how you can improve screening, early intervention & risk assessment
- Improve prevention and reduce social isolation in older people
- Develop effective working and support for homeless older adults
- Identify key strategies for relapse prevention
- Ensure you are up to date with the latest evidence on alcohol-related brain damage and physical complications of substance misuse
- Self assess and reflect on your own practice
- Gain cpd accreditation points contributing to professional development and revalidation evidence

100% of delegates at our previous conference on this subject would recommend it to a colleagues

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10.00 Chairman’s Introduction: 
Dual Diagnosis in Older People: Challenges for Policy and Practice

Professor Ilana Crome
Co-Chair, Working Group, Our Invisible Addicts, Royal College of Psychiatrists
Emeritus Professor of Addiction Psychiatry, Keele University
Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist, South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust;
Honorary Professor, St George’s University of London

• the growing problem of substance misuse in older people: certainties and myths
• evidence for treatment interventions and services relating to the management of substance use disorders in older people
• delivering age-specific programmes and age sensitive services
• future research needs

10.45 Dual Diagnosis: Learning from the lived experience of Older Adults

Paul Scates
Senior Peer Specialist, Campaigner and Ambassador with Older Person with Dual Diagnosis

• learning from the lived experience
• what does recovery mean to you? Ensuring people facing mental health challenges develop their own definition of recovery
• ensuring every person in services is involved in developing an outcomes-focused recovery path
• engaging with people to encourage continued contact with services

11.15 Question and answers, followed by tea & coffee at 11.25

11.50 EXTENDED SESSION: Falling Down - Learning from collaborative learning and international community of practice to address problematic substance use in older populations

Dr Trish Hafford-Letchfield
Professor of Social Care
and Dr Carmel Clancy
Professor in Mental Health and Addiction
Department of Mental Health and Social Work, Middlesex University

• Evidence for and implications of substance use in the over 65%
• Issues and problems arising from older people’s unique needs and circumstances in relation to substance abuse – service provision, management of care, training of care professionals and lack of coherent guidance
• Our online virtual learning programme ‘Falling Down’ and how it addresses some of these issues
• What we have learned and how we can share this – with the aim of shifting culture and improving practice
• Recommendations for developing policy, practice and education in the field of ageing – with interactive discussion

12.50 Question and answers, followed by lunch at 13.00

13.45 Alcohol-related brain damage and physical complications of substance misuse: current evidence & improving practice

Dr Kripa Chakravarthy
Consultant Psychiatrist
with Simon Thacker
Lead Consultant for Old Age Psychiatry
and Denise Garton
Clinical Lead for Substance Misuse South Derbyshire Liaison Team
Royal Derby Hospital

• improving the assessment, treatment and care of older people with alcohol-related brain damage (ARBD)
• improving the care pathway

14.15 Improving screening, early intervention & risk assessment

Dr Peter Bagshaw
General Practitioner and Clinical Lead, South Gloucestershire CCG
Director, South West Clinical Network for Dementia
Co-author of ‘mental health in older people’

• where to older people with addictions present?
• how can we improve access to services: a GP perspective
• improving early intervention and risk assessment
• working together to provide support and support recovery

14.45 Relapse Prevention

Lois Dugmore
Consultant Nurse, Dual Diagnosis
Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust

• harm reduction and recovery oriented intervention for people with a dual diagnosis
• cue reactivity and relapse prevention: what works
• supporting people to recognize the signs of relapse
• case studies in practice

15.15 Ethical and legal considerations for older people with substance misuse: self neglect and unwise decisions

Dr Amit Arora
Member, Older Person’s Substance Misuse Working Group
The Royal College of Psychiatrists
Consultant Geriatrician University
Hospital of North Midlands NHS Trust

• ethical and legal issues
• substance misuse, mental capacity and unwise decisions
• using an Ethical Decision Making Framework
• assessing safeguarding concerns
• professional issues and challenges

15.45 Question and answers, followed by tea & coffee at 15.50

16.00 Case Study: Reducing alcohol and substance use in people with mental health conditions

Mike Ward
Senior Consultant
Alcohol Concern

• The Blue Light Project: a national initiative to develop alternative approaches and care pathways for treatment resistant drinkers
• using motivational and harm reduction approaches
• advice for providers, tools, and tips

16.30 Improving prevention and social inclusion: Case study: Men’s Sheds

Nathan Sarea
Chair,
UK Men’s Sheds Association

• developing social opportunities for older men
• developing an informal approach, allowing the members to shape the group based on their own needs and interests
• our experience of Men’s Sheds and the impact on mental health and substance

17.00 Question and answers, followed by close
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