

Forensic Mental Health Professional Development Program

Improving knowledge, Improving practice



Workshops | February – July 2022



Centre for Forensic
Behavioural Science

Workshop 1

Understanding and assessing young people at risk of violence

This full day workshop will provide participants with an understanding of the risk factors for violence in young people and discuss the implications for assessment and management. Case examples will be utilised throughout including a case review by Dr Deacon. He will focus on the criminogenic needs and idiographic factors leading to his formulation and risk summary. Participants will have the opportunity to work through a case, applying a risk assessment framework. This will be followed by a review of the assessment task, highlighting the process of identifying risk and protective factors and considering how they can be incorporated into a risk management plan.

Speakers:

- ▶ **Dr Adam Deacon** is a Consultant Psychiatrist at Alfred Health
- ▶ **Susan Hancox** is the Youth Justice Mental Health Coordinator at Forensicare.

Date: 28 February 2022

Time: 9.30am – 4:30pm

Place: The Paul Mullen Centre
505 Hoddle Street, Clifton Hill

Cost: \$375 (+GST)

Book: www.trybooking.com/BWILC

Workshop 2

Dealing with angry, hard-to-like clients

This workshop is suitable for anyone who comes into contact with angry and aggressive people who can be challenging to deal with. It is appropriate for reception staff, customer service staff, council staff, health workers, support workers and mental health clinicians.

The workshop will cover:

- anger and aggression
- what difficult behaviour is
- techniques for dealing with difficult people
- looking after yourself and others afterwards

Speakers:

- ▶ **David Willshire** is a Clinical and Forensic Psychologist and a Principal Psychologist at Forensicare.
- ▶ **Dr Aleksandra Belofastov** is the Director of Psychological Services at Forensicare.

Date: 3 March 2022

Time: 9.30am – 1:00pm

Place: The Paul Mullen Centre
505 Hoddle Street, Clifton Hill

Cost: \$175 (+GST)

Book: www.trybooking.com/BWILE



Workshop 3

Understanding personality disorders and offending

Forensic mental health increasingly recognises that personality disorders and problematic personality traits are frequently associated with offending in general. With some forms of offending there are more specific associations. Moreover, personality disorder profoundly influences the capacity of mental health services and individual clinicians to engage effectively with clients at risk of offending.

This training provides an overview of the evidence linking personality disorder and offending to help clinicians better understand their clients and how to work with them. This training is suitable for clinicians, service providers, lawyers, and policy makers in the forensic mental health and criminal justice systems.

Speakers:

- ▶ **Professor James Ogloff AM** is Director of Psychological Services at Forensicare, University Distinguished Professor at the Swinburne University of Technology, and Director of the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science.
- ▶ **Dr Raj Darjee** is a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist and Senior Lecturer in Forensic Psychiatry at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science.

Date: 15 March 2022

Time: 9.30am – 4:00pm

Place: Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington

Cost: \$375 (+GST)

Book: www.trybooking.com/BWLUCU

Workshop 4

Working remotely with justice involved clients: Challenges and opportunities

Workplace restrictions associated with the global COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a dramatic uptake of remote working arrangements for health care providers and practitioners working within correctional services. Although this channel of communication was in use well before the pandemic, particularly within general health and mental health services, forensic practitioners were relatively slow to adopt these practices. The criminal courts had also occasionally expressed concern about practitioners conducting assessments of clients remotely. Many forensic practitioners are now comfortable with remote ways of working and it appears likely that both face-to-face and remote ways of working will be used by forensic practitioners into the foreseeable future. This lunchtime workshop explores remote ways of working by forensic practitioners. We will discuss some of their benefits and limitations. Contemporary practice guidelines will be studied and some possible solutions to identified issues, for clients and practitioners, will be considered. At the completion of this workshop, participants should be familiar with ways of working remotely, aware of some of their limits, and able to consider practices that may limit the impact of these issues. This two-hour workshop includes both teaching and group discussion and is suitable for all practitioners involved in the assessment and treatment of justice-involved clients.

Speaker:

Professor Michael Daffern is the Deputy Director of the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and a Consultant Principal Psychologist for Forensicare.

Date: 12 April 2022

Time: 12.00pm – 2:00pm

Place: Online

Cost: \$50 (+GST)

Book: www.trybooking.com/BWLCV

Workshop 5

Working with clients who have a dual diagnosis

Dual diagnosis refers to the co-occurrence of serious mental health and substance abuse problems, and is associated with poorer outcomes than mental health or substance abuse problems on their own. Dual diagnosis is also associated with higher rates of offending behaviour, with approximately 74% of patients in Victoria's Forensic Mental Health Hospital (Thomas Embling Hospital) having a substance abuse or dependence disorder across their life-span, and in the Victorian prison system, people with a serious mental illness are much more likely to have a substance use disorder than those without.

This training aims to enhance participants' conceptual understanding of dual diagnosis and the association with offending behaviours, as well as provide practical guidance in regards to how to have collaborative conversations with people about their substance misuse, mental health problems and offending behaviours.

Speakers:

- ▶ **Ms Jemma Stevenson** works for ASCO as a Senior Forensic Alcohol and Other Drug Clinician at Thomas Embling Hospital.
- ▶ **Dr Kylie Thomson** is a Clinical and Forensic Psychologist and Senior Lecturer at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science.

Date: 21 April 2022

Time: 9.30am – 1:00pm

Place: Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington

Cost: \$175 (+GST)

Book: www.trybooking.com/BWIKY

Workshop 6

Assessing suicide and self-harm risk for clients involved in the justice system

Individuals in the justice system are at greater risk of suicide and self-harm, but there is limited discussion of this high-risk population in most training, research, and mental health practice. At the completion of this half-day training, participants should be able to identify risk factors specific to justice-involved populations, understand how justice involvement may contribute to risk, and consider the complexities of managing suicide and self-harm risk in this population. This training will provide participants the opportunity to practice their skills through group activities and reviewing case studies. This training was designed for clinicians who work in general or mental health services or service providers who work with justice-involved clients. Participants should have an understanding of how to assess suicide and self-harm risk prior to attending.

Speakers:

- ▶ **Mr Mark Magella** is a Senior Accredited Mental Health Social Worker who works on Forensicare's court based Mental Health Assessment & Referral Service (MHARS) and as a case manager on a suicide prevention program with in AMHS. He was previously a Lead Suicide and Self-Harm Prevention Trainer in the correctional system in Victoria.
- ▶ **Dr Melanie Simmons** is a Clinical and Forensic Psychologist and a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science. She was previously a Lead Suicide and Self-Harm Prevention Trainer in the correctional system in Victoria.

Date: 6 May 2022

Time: 9.00am – 12:30pm

Place: Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington

Cost: \$175 (+GST)

Book: www.trybooking.com/BWLMS

Workshop 7

Neuropsychological disorders and cognitive impairments – assessment and management

Many individuals with psychiatric presentations or those in the criminal justice systems have significant risk factors for cognitive impairment. This full-day training will provide an overview of cognitive impairment: identification, assessment and management. At the completion of training, participants should have a clearer idea of how cognitive impairment can present, approaches to assessment, the different cognitive domains, tips on how to manage impairment and how and when to refer on for further information.

Speaker:

Dr Amanda Nielsen is a Senior Forensic Neuropsychologist with Forensicare's Problem Behaviour Program.

Date: 25 May 2022

Time: 9.30am – 4:30pm

Place: The Paul Mullen Centre
505 Hoddle Street, Clifton Hill

Cost: \$375 (+GST)

Book: www.trybooking.com/BWLMO

Workshop 8

Working with people who commit sexual offences

Fear, hatred, disgust and banishment dominate societal discourse about those who commit sexual offences. Legal measures to control the risk posed by sexual offenders are expanding. In this context, it is important that practitioners and services understand the research evidence base and best practice in the assessment, treatment and management of those who sexually offend.

This full-day workshop will give attendees an up-to-date detailed and evidence based overview of: the nature and prevalence of sexual offending; theoretical models of sexual offending; the relationship between sexual offending and mental disorders; risk factors, protective factors and risk assessment; managing sexual offenders; pharmacological treatment; psychological treatment; and, online sexual offending.

It is suitable for practitioners from mental health, correctional, police or legal backgrounds who want to develop their knowledge of sexual offenders.

Speakers:

- ▶ **Dr Raj Darjee** is a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist and Senior Lecturer in Forensic Psychiatry at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science.
- ▶ **Dr Marie Henshaw** is a Clinical and Forensic Psychologist at Forensicare and senior research fellow at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science.

Date: 17 June 2022

Time: 9.00am – 4:30pm

Place: Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington

Cost: \$375 (+GST)

Book: www.trybooking.com/BWLMO

Workshop 9

Identifying and assessing individuals at risk of grievance-fuelled violence

Violence by lone individuals driven by a perceived injury or injustice can have devastating outcomes. This training provides a theoretical and practical overview of the concept of lone actor grievance-fuelled violence, including lone actor terrorism, the significance of mental illness and the role of clinicians and other service providers in the prevention of targeted violence. The training will enhance awareness of the threat posed by individuals with pathological grievances, radicalisation to violent extremism, and risk management options.

The training is suitable for all mental health practitioners in general, forensic, adult and youth sectors, as well as professionals in justice, education and law enforcement settings.

Speaker:

Professor Michele Pathé was previously a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist with Forensicare and a Professor at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science. She was instrumental in establishing the Queensland and Victorian Fixated Threat Assessment Centres and has played a key role in developing Australia's policy responses to lone actor grievance-fuelled violence.

Date: 29 June 2022

Time: 12.00pm – 2:00pm

Place: AMDC Building - Swinburne University

Lecture Theatre 301

453 Burwood Rd, Hawthorn

or

Online

Cost: FREE

Book: www.trybooking.com/BWLMV

Workshop 10

Assessment of personality disorder for adults in forensic services

There is a well-documented need for practitioners to have skills in identifying, assessing and providing clinical intervention for people with personality disorders. This workshop will focus specifically on the clinical and psychometric assessment of personality disorders. It will explore what personality and personality disorder is, and how the way clinical assessment of it has changed over time. It will offer an overview of categorical versus dimensional models of personality disorder, in addition to outlining a range of different approaches and tools to aid clinical assessment. Key considerations and challenges for assessing personality disorder will be discussed within the context of forensic services which will also include assessment of personality disorder for the courts.

The workshop will be targeted to clinicians who assess and treat personality disorder as part of their work.

Speakers:

► **Professor Jim Ogloff AM** is Director of Psychological Services at Forensicare, University Distinguished Professor at the Swinburne University of Technology, and Director of the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science.

► **Ms Claudia Mulder** is a Principal Psychologist and Lead Clinician with Forensicare's Personality Disorders Initiative.

► **Dr Nik Loft** is a Principal Psychologist at Forensicare's Thomas Embling Hospital.

Date: 21 July 2022

Time: 9.30pm – 4:00pm

Place: Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington

Cost: \$375 (+GST)

Book: www.trybooking.com/BWLNH

Workshop 11

Formulation of complex and potentially harmful behaviour

One of the most challenging aspects of working in forensic contexts is responding to behaviours that have the potential to cause significant harm (e.g., violence, threats, harmful sexual behaviour, stalking). To work effectively with such clients, professionals need to be able to formulate the client's behaviour; i.e. understand and explain the behaviour and harm potential, and use knowledge this to guide risk management and intervention. Formulation of problem behaviour is particularly important in cases where there are multiple interacting comorbidities and co-occurring biopsychosocial challenges; in client groups with whom it can be difficult to establish a rapport; and in cases where there is a high risk of inconsistent management across agencies and over time.

The aim of this workshop is to teach a method of formulating problematic and potentially harmful client behaviour that goes beyond the application of structured risk assessment guides. The workshop will involve both didactic learning and case study-based practice.

Participants will finish the workshop with a framework for formulation that they can use to understand and communicate about concerning client behaviour, and to shape risk reduction and intervention efforts. This workshop is intended for health and human services professionals who are keen build their ability to work with clients who present with problematic and potentially harmful behaviour towards others.

Speaker:

A/Professor Troy McEwan is an Associate Professor at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science, and a Senior Psychologist with Forensicare's Problem Behaviour Program. She also convenes the Doctorate of Psychology (Clinical and Forensic) training program and the Graduate Diploma of Forensic Psychology at Swinburne University of Technology.

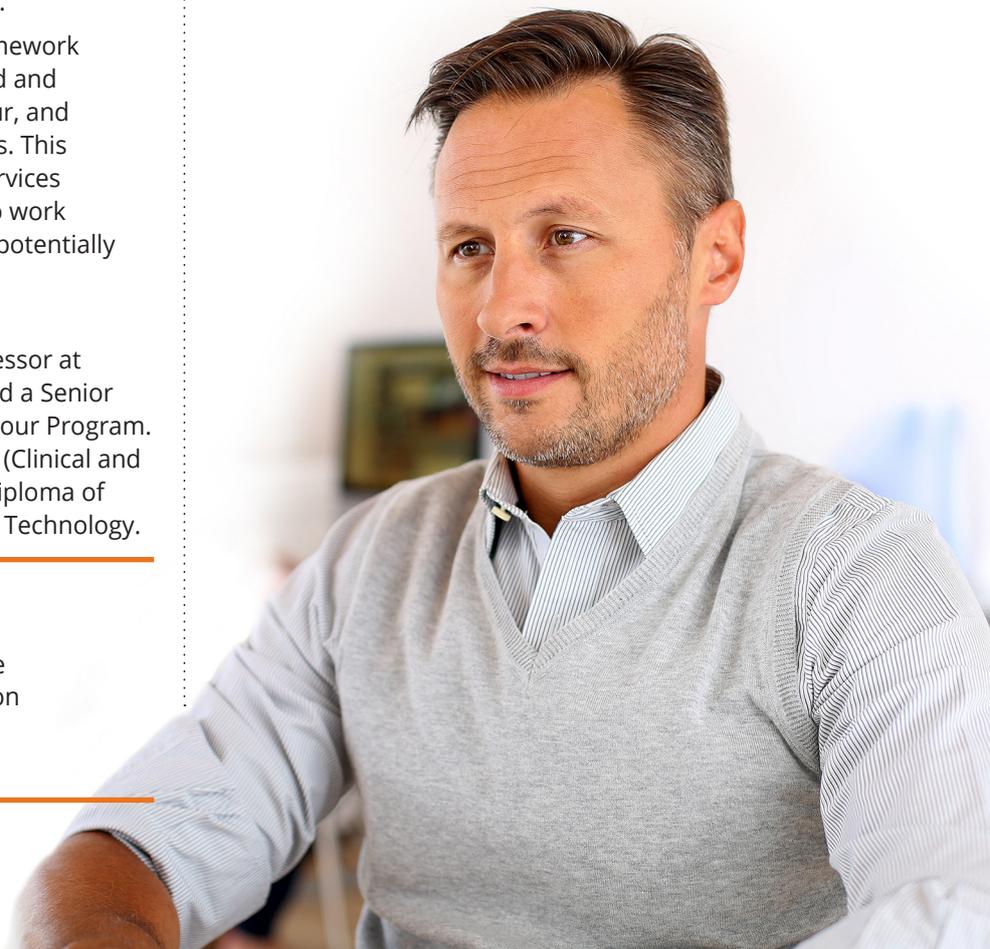
Date: 23 March 2022

Time: 10.30am – 4:30pm

Place: Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington

Cost: \$375 (+GST)

Book: www.trybooking.com/BWZUK



Registration forms

Please register and pay online at:
www.forensicare.vic.gov.au/training

Cancellation policy

We reserve the right to cancel workshops, in which case all fees will be refunded.

If participants withdraw up to 72 hours prior to the commencement of the workshop, then 50% of the fee will be refunded.

There will be no refunds for cancellations within 72 hours of the workshop.

Bookings are non-transferable to future workshops, but bookings for a particular workshop can be transferred to other persons.

Enquiries

We provide tailored training for organisations and agencies. To discuss any specific training needs and requests, please contact:

Mitali Gupta
(03) 9947 2500

Melanie Simmons
(03) 9214 6234

e: FMHPDP@swin.edu.au
FMHPDP@forensicare.vic.gov.au



FMHPDP Workshop locations

The Paul Mullen Centre
505 Hoddle Street
Clifton Hill 3068

Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road
Alphington 3078

