

## **Feasibility and acceptability of a psychoeducation program for clients with complex support needs**

Emily Deans<sup>1</sup>, Wing See Yuen<sup>1</sup>, Christine Faddoul<sup>2</sup>, Sara Farnbach<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, UNSW Sydney,* <sup>2</sup>*Rendu House Health Services, St Vincent de Paul Society, Campbelltown, Australia*

Presenter's email: [e.deans@unsw.edu.au](mailto:e.deans@unsw.edu.au)

**Issues:** Drug health clinicians encounter challenges addressing the issues facing clients with complex support needs. This project evaluated a new psychoeducational program to better engage, retain and support clients with complex support needs at Rendu House.

**Method:** Rendu House and South West Sydney Primary Health Network collaborated with 360Edge Consultancy and the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, UNSW, to co-produce a psychoeducational program supported by an evaluative program logic detailing how the program relates to participant outcomes. Feasibility and acceptability were assessed using a mixed method approach, including the analysis of routinely collected outcome measures, and via qualitative inquiry with clients and clinicians.

**Results:** Qualitative interviews with clinicians indicated that the psychoeducation program is feasible within this setting. Clients appreciated the flexibility of the program and ability to tailor modules to participants' personal needs/goals. Clients reported being able to implement relapse prevention strategies and developed deeper understanding of what influenced their substance use. Collection of routinely collected data is ongoing.

**Conclusions:** This program provides an example of how collaborative partnerships, led by a Non-Government Organisation and involving consultants and researchers, has developed a novel program to optimise operational and client outcomes. The psychoeducational program provides promise as an approach to overcome issues facing clients with complex support needs.

**Disclosure of Interest Statement:** This project was funded by South West Sydney Primary Health Network. No pharmaceutical grants were received in the development of this study. No authors receive funding from the gambling, alcohol or tobacco industries.