

Raising standards: the quest for more humane alcohol and other drug care in custodial environments

Chair: Thileepan Naren

Chair's email: thileepan.naren@wh.org.au

Authors:

Thileepan Naren^{1,2}, Jocelyn Chan^{1,2}, Grace FitzGerald¹, Stuart Kinner³, Rebecca Winter², Anthony Hew¹, Paul Dessauer⁴, Michael Doyle⁵

¹*Western Health, Melbourne, Australia*, ²*Burnet Institute, Melbourne, Australia*, ³*Curtin University, Perth, Australia*, ⁴*Peer Based Harm Reduction WA, Perth, Australia*, ⁵*University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia*

Aim: Alcohol and other drug care in custodial settings is inconsistently delivered and often falls far short of community equivalent standards. This presentation will highlight some of the work of the National Prison Addiction Medicine Network to develop guidelines and create consensus-based statements for the provision of alcohol and other drug care in custodial environments.

Panellist 1: Jocelyn Chan

Panellist 1 email: jocelyn.chan@wh.org.au

Panellist 2: Grace FitzGerald

Panellist 2 email: gracelfitzgerald@gmail.com

Panellist 3: Stuart Kinner

Panellist 3 email: stuart.kinner@curtin.edu.au

Panellist 4: Rebecca Winter

Panellist 4 email: rebecca.winter@burnet.edu.au

Panellist 5: Anthony Hew

Panellist 5 email: anthony.hew@wh.org.au

Panellist 6: Paul Dessauer

Panellist 6 email: ceo@harmreductionwa.org

Panellist 7: Michael Doyle

Panellist 7 email: michael.doyle@sydney.edu.au

Detailed Description of Topics to be Discussed: The panel will outline and discuss works completed or currently being worked on by the National Prison Addiction Medicine Network, including:

1. National consensus statement on opioid agonist therapy in custodial settings
2. The management of withdrawal from alcohol and other drugs in Australian custodial settings – a consensus statement
3. Using linked administrative data to improve health outcomes for incarcerated people
4. The need for national minimum healthcare standards in custodial settings and a national strategy for alcohol and other drugs in custodial settings

5. Dual diagnosis care and best practice in custodial environments
6. Post-release and transitional care from custodial settings

Discussion Section: The chair will facilitate presentations by the panel and an interactive discussion amongst panellists about potential implementation strategies for consensus and evidence-based interventions for alcohol and other drug care in custodial environments, decreasing barriers to research in custodial environments, increasing cross-collaboration amongst researchers, and increasing transparency in reporting health outcomes. Following this, an open-format discussion will occur, inviting contributions from audience members. Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of alcohol and other drug care in custodial environments and the need for increased standards for the care of those in custodial environments.

Disclosure of Interest Statement:

Thileepan Naren has received speaking honoraria, travel, and conference support from Camurus.