



Workshop 21 Beyond the facts: interrogating hepatitis C treatment

Thursday 4 October, 9.30 am–4.30 pm

Dockside @ Cockle Bay

Introduction to the workshop

A number of new possibilities for hepatitis C treatment loom on the horizon. The Treatment and Care review undertaken by the NSW Department of Health will provide strategic direction for the hepatitis C sector. New treatments and models of care, particularly in general practice and the alcohol and drug sector, will become a reality. The purpose of this workshop is to move beyond the well-known *facts* of hepatitis C treatment and to interrogate the notion of a 'one-size-fits-all' approach. Clients, workers, settings and structures have great influence on the decisions surrounding, and expectations of, hepatitis C treatment. We will consider the diverse range of people requiring and providing treatment in a variety of services influenced by a number of structures, approaches and circumstances.

Aims of the workshop

This workshop is designed to:

- increase awareness of issues affecting informed decision making about hepatitis C treatment, and barriers to accessing treatment
- explore the complex nature of decisions concerning hepatitis C treatment
- consider the implications of the above for how hepatitis C treatment may be offered in the future in different settings and structures, by different workers and to different client groups.

Delegate profile: who should attend

Employees of research centres, area health services and government and non-government organisations should apply. Employees and managers of alcohol and other drug services are especially welcome.

Cost

There is a registration fee of \$55 (including GST) per participant per workshop. Note: You may be eligible for funding to attend from the NSW Health Workforce Development Program (WDP). Check the guidelines for applying for a WDP Grant in the *WDP Training Directory* or at www.wdp.nsw.gov.au

Registration

To register, please email Ann Whitelaw at a.whitelaw@unsw.edu.au. Please include in the email your name, job title, the name of your organisation, its postal address and your contact phone numbers. Please note: Delegates who are eligible will be selected on a first-come-first-served basis.

Registrations are now open and close on Tuesday 25 September 2007.

The workshop starts at 9.30 am, registrations at 8.30 am.

Guest speakers (confirmed)

Heidi Coupland is a PhD student at the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research. Her project looks at the prevention and management of hepatitis C among Indo-Chinese injecting drug users.

Rita Farrugia is a registered nurse with the Alcohol and Other Drugs Service at St George Hospital, South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service. She will be speaking on the concerns and viewpoints of clients of AOD services.

Magdalena Harris is a PhD candidate at the National Centre in HIV Social Research (NCHSR) and a board member of the NSW Hepatitis C Council. Her doctoral research is a qualitative study looking at the experiences of people with hepatitis C in Auckland and Sydney.

Jenny Kelsall is Hepatitis C Peer Education Officer at VIVAIDS, the Victorian state drug user organisation. She worked for many years in the Epidemiology & Social Research Unit of the Burnet Centre for Medical Research in Melbourne, focusing on injecting drug use and blood-borne viruses.

Robyne Latham is an Indigenous researcher at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University, Melbourne. She will address the key factors that influence Aboriginal people's decisions about whether or not to have treatment for hepatitis C.

Stuart Loveday is currently Vice-President, a founding executive member and former president of Hepatitis Australia, and has been the Executive Officer of the Hepatitis C Council of NSW since 1994.

Susan McGuckin is Community Mobilisation Program Manager at the NSW Users & AIDS Association Inc. She has a long-standing reputation for advocating for the rights and dignity of people who use drugs illicitly.

Marlize Mouton is a social worker at the Sydney South West Area Health Service. She is also studying for a Master's Degree at NCHSR, looking at the role of the social worker in hepatitis C treatment clinics.

Associate Professor Carla Treloar is Head of the Hepatitis C program at the National Centre in HIV Social Research. She is also Deputy Director of NCHSR and Manager of the Consortium.

Proudly brought to you by the Consortium members:

National Centre in HIV Social Research (NCHSR), AIDS Council of NSW (ACON), People Living with HIV/AIDS NSW (PLWHA NSW), Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC), Hepatitis C Council of NSW, Workforce Development Program, Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council (AH&MRC), NSW Users and AIDS Association (NUAA).

Supported by the Dockside Group. Funded by NSW Health.