

Program Highlights: Mental Health

Explore the Conference Program

Learn first hand how digital health drives improvements on campus and in clinical settings, e-Health presenters apply chaos theory, thoughtful design, and mindfulness to mental health treatment challenges.



Students Mental Health Virtual Community: Needs and Challenges

Presented By: Prof. Farah Ahmad, York University, School of Health Policy and Management
Session Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2017

Mental health problems are increasing at an alarming rate on university campuses across North America, including Canada. Yet, within the Canadian health care system, there are long wait-times for mental health and campus counselling services due to limited resources. System gaps are of particular concern for youth entering post-secondary education under the conditions of economic uncertainty. Indeed, innovative strategies are needed for early engagement of campus youth in health and mental-health promoting practices. With the objective of addressing growing mental health needs in post-secondary students, our team is developing and evaluating a youth-centered Mindfulness Virtual Community (MVC) platform with interactive discussion forums and group sessions led by mental health professionals. This three-phased project is an academic-industry partnership funded by the eHIPP grant initiatives of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.



Dashboards Driving Quality: A Focused Example Using Suicide Risk Assessments

Presented By: Brittini Makund, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Performance Improvement
Session Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2017

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) is Canada's largest mental health and addictions facility. A strategic priority for CAMH is the promotion of safety, with a particular focus on the prevention of violence directed at self or others. A critical component of this strategy is focused on suicide risk prevention, with the expectation that all inpatients are screened for suicide risk within 24 hours of admission. At the time, available reporting tools were unable to communicate compliance and quality data to stakeholders, resulting in low compliance and accountability in assessing patients. Accordingly, a dashboard to monitor changes was developed as a resource to access just in time compliance data to ensure assessment completion.



Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Delivered to the Inuit of Nunavut

Presented by: David Willis, The Hospital for Sick Children
Session Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Participants will hear and discuss learning's on service delivery from a Physician perspective on how models of care are evolving to address unique cultural, environmental and societal factors. Participants will have a clear understanding of the clinical needs and requirements in serving Inuit populations. Understanding program management perspectives on the funding, technical and contractual requirements needed when developing agreements and launching services with remote communities, regions and governments will be discussed. The experience from the recipient's perspective will be presented through presentation and discussion of the territories, the communities and individual clinician needs and requirements. Participants will leave with a better understanding of programmatic needs, clinical requirements and cultural competencies needed when creating a sustainable long term partnership for the delivery of Psychiatric care with Aboriginal and Inuit partners.



Caging the Chaos: Electronic Clinical Decision Support in Mental Health

Presented By: Michael Seiferling, Five Hills Health Region, Mental Health
Session Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2017

The diversity in mental health care can make it difficult to find consistent and reliable treatment recommendations for clients. Similar to 'chaos theory', small changes in initial conditions of a client can greatly impact their trajectory in the system of care. Where a person presents for care, what professional assess them and what the main issue the client presents with all effect a treatment plan. This presentation will describe how LOCUS, a clinical decision support tool was used to create a standard report for client care. This report includes a "level of care" recommendation that is used to match a client to a specific service menu. This allows for reliable and consistent service offerings for all clients based on their current level of need.