



EAP HIGHLIGHTS

- In advance of the General Election, the EAP department designed and published the College Election Manifesto... The College Harms of Cannabis Committee has completed draft fact sheets... Papers on (i) the use of telepsychiatry in Irish Mental Health Services and (ii) Gambling Disorder... A REFOCUS co-produced symposium on "The Monetary Impact of Mental Illness"



THE MONETARY IMPACT OF MENTAL ILLNESS: Conversations that Matter in Signposting. A CPsychi REFOCUS symposium & workshop, approved for 5 External CPD Credits



- Top Search Bar Terms: 1. Dr John Hillery, 2. Spring Conference, 3. Exam, 4. Moodle, 5. ADHD

*the keywords used in the inbuilt website search bar

- No. of Website Visitors: 14, 533 (1st Jan - 13th Feb 2020)

Top Tweet

College of Psychiatrists of Ireland @IrishPsychiatry. The art and culture festival that aims to tackle mental health stigma @firstfortnight begins today!



131 Engagements & 6,355 Views

MEDIA ROUND-UP

EAP Media Activities: The College and the press

January & February 2020

"Inaccurate and Misleading: HSE and Psychiatrists warn over Scientology-linked group leaflet on antipsychotic medication", TheJournal.ie, January 2020

Dr Maeve Doyle was quoted in a major piece debunking erroneous claims about mental illness and the prescribing of anti-psychotic medication that feature in a leaflet being distributed in Dublin by the "Citizens Commission on Human Rights", a group linked to the Church of Scientology.



"How Common are Real Personality Disorders", The Irish Times, January 2020

An interview with Dr Caragh Behan outlined the incorrect usage of stigmatising language relating to mental illness in society, e.g. calling a person "OCD" or a "narcissist" and explained the diagnoses of personality disorders.

"Top 100 healthcare professionals 2019", Hospital Professional News, January 2020

Dr John Hillery, as President of the College, featured marking the College's 10 year anniversary.

Other Press Activity:

- (i) Further queries re. Scientology leaflet on antipsychotic medication from: (i) Kildare FM, (ii) Pat Kenny Show (Newstalk), and (iii) Newstalk news desk. (ii) Liaised with Irish Times journalist on story they are compiling on rates of self-prescribing amongst Irish doctors

(iii) Request for possible comment on RTE radio re. difficulties coming off SSRIs/antidepressants.

(iv) Request for written comment on HRB 2019 census of Irish Psychiatric Units and bed numbers. Sent to College Champions.

Press statements issued by the EAP department:

(i) "Monetary Impact of Mental Illness symposium" - College REFOCUS group develops and hosts first co-produced educational event for member psychiatrists and trainees on conversations in signposting that matter for Recovery.

(ii) "Use of Language at Election Time" - College of Psychiatrists urges caution around use of language, diagnostic terms and medication references when canvassing and debating before the fast approaching Election Day.

EAP COMMITTEE REPORTS

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE Chair: Dr Pauline Twomey, Vice-Chair: Dr Ciaran Clarke

AIMS:
To provide support and advice to the College and its members on the ethical dimension of patient care.
To ensure there is an ethical input into College submissions, policy and position papers.
To ensure members have an awareness and expertise in Human Rights Legislation and its impact on mental health care.

- Preparations for a parallel session using vignettes that involve ethical decision making is under way.

Next Meeting: 25th February 2020

LAW COMMITTEE Chair: Dr Mike Scully, Vice-Chair: Dr Valerie Murphy

AIM:
To provide expert psychiatric opinion based on mental health and law and to contribute to development of better mental health law.

OBJECTIVES:
To respond to requests for submissions on legal issues related to mental health.
To inform and educate members on matters related to law and mental health.
To assist the College in informing the general public on matters related to law and mental health.

- Valerie Murphy was elected as **Vice-Chair of the Committee** at a meeting on Tuesday, 17th November 2019.
- The main item of activity/concern, currently, remains the proposed DoLs addendum to the ADM (C) Act.

Next Meeting: 25th April 2020

REFOCUS - RECOVERY EXPERIENCE FORUM OF CARERS AND USERS OF SERVICES Joint Chairs: Dr Mia McLoughlin and Ms Christine McCabe

AIMS:
To engage actively in genuine partnership with the College so that training, ongoing competence and day to day practice of Psychiatry is informed and guided by those who have had experience of mental illness, or who have cared for those with mental illness. The forum comprises 23 members which includes service users/patients (8), family members/carers (8) & psychiatrists (8)

- Most recent meeting took place in December 2019.
- A REFOCUS run Symposium on the Monetary Impact of Mental Illness took place on Thursday, 23rd January 2020 in the Ashling Hotel, Dublin and was well received by Specialist and Trainee attendees. It is hoped that similar sessions could be run in locations nationally, as well as at the NCHD Academic days in clinical sites.
- Sub-groups on (ii) psychiatric diagnosis and (iii) family dynamics jointly met to discuss and draft a proposal for video projects relating to these themes.

Next Meeting: 6th March 2020

The poster is for a half-day CPsych REFOCUS symposium & workshop, approved for 5 External CPD Credits. It is titled 'THE MONETARY IMPACT OF MENTAL ILLNESS: Conversations that Matter in Signposting'. The event is on Thursday 23 January 2020, from 9.30 - 15.45 at The Ashling Hotel, Dublin 8. The sessions are:
Session 1: MABS (Money Advice and Budgeting Service) - Colette Power, National Development Officer - Financial Inclusion MABS National Development CLG & Lived Experience Speaker
Session 2: ETBI (Educational and Training Boards Ireland) - Fiona Maloney - ETBI Director of Further Education and Training Support Services at Education and Training Boards Ireland & Lived Experience REFOCUS Speaker
Session 3: Working with Employers/Organisations for mental health patients - Dr Siobhán MacEale, Consultant Psychiatrist, Liaison Psychiatry, Beaumont Hospital & Lived Experience REFOCUS Speaker
Session 4: Law: Hindrance and Help - Ms. Aine Hynes, Solicitor, Irish Mental Health Lawyers Association & Lived Experience REFOCUS Speaker
Session 5: Dr Malcolm Garland - Title TBC - Consultant General Adult Psychiatrist, Kilbarrack Health Centre

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS

Family Carers Ireland (FCI)

Family Carers Ireland presented and partook in a panel discussion at a recent PCS Hot Topics session on Carers. They focused on the recent national survey of Carers carried out with the College and other practical information for attendees around supports for family carers.