

Supporting the Mental Health of Older People Living in the Community

Webinar date and time: Tuesday, 26th May 2015, 7:15 – 8:30pm AEST

Webinar panellists

Ms Julie Bajic (NSW-based psychologist)

Julie established Wise Care in 2011 to meet the growing needs of older adults and assist them to live independently and, if appropriate, move into supported accommodation. Apart from aged care, Julie has extensive experience working in the disability sector, human services and occupational rehabilitation. She teaches at a university, has delivered both academic and industry training, mentoring, consultancy, as well as provided psychotherapy for common psychological disorders. Julie has an honours degree in Psychology (University of Newcastle), Masters of Business Administration (Southern Cross University) and is currently completing her PhD (Macquarie University) investigating workplace implications of depression in older clients. Julie is the NSW Convenor for the Psychology and Ageing Interest Group with the Australian Psychology Society.



Professor Henry Brodaty (NSW-based psychiatrist)

Professor Henry Brodaty is an internationally recognised authority on ageing and dementia. He is Scientia Professor of Ageing and Mental Health, University of NSW Australia; Co-Director, Centre for Healthy Brain Ageing (CHeBA); Director of Aged Care Psychiatry and Head of the Memory Disorders Clinic, Prince of Wales Hospital; Director of the Primary Dementia Collaborative Research Centre, and has served on several NSW and Commonwealth committees related to ageing and dementia.



He is the president of the International Psychogeriatric Association, past chairman of Alzheimer's Disease International, and a past president of Alzheimer's Australia and Alzheimer's Australia (NSW); has published over 400 papers and book chapters; is on the editorial board of several journals and has received numerous important awards.

Broad Research Areas: Ageing, Psychiatry, Gerontology - Geriatrics, Neurodegenerative Diseases

Qualifications: AO, MBBS (Syd), MD (UNSW), DSc (UNSW), FRACP, FRANZCP

Society Memberships & Professional Activities:

Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists; International Psychogeriatric Association; Alzheimer's Association, NSW; Alzheimer's Association, Australia; Alzheimer's Disease International; Australian Association of Gerontology.

Mental Health Professionals' Network

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Sharon Leigh-Hazell (ACT-based Carer and Carers' Advocate)

Sharon has a lived experience of mental health issues as a carer and advocate for her mother who had bipolar disorder. Sharon is an active carer representative, and is a PhD student with the National Institute for Mental Health Research at the Australian National University where the focus of her research is models of care for older people with chronic mental illness. She has postgraduate qualifications in population health and over 20 years of experience in the public sector.



Associate Professor Morton Rawlin (Vic-based GP)

Morton is a GP practising in Melbourne and is the Chair of the Victoria Faculty and the National Faculty of Specific Interests. Morton has extensive experience in general practice medical education at all levels, including as a general practice supervisor and medical educator. His past professional appointments include Medical Director of Dianella Community Health, RACGP National Manager of Fellowship Programs and RACGP Director of Education. He is currently Adjunct Associate Professor in General Practice at the University of Sydney. Morton has a long standing interest in competency assessment and training. His research and teaching interests are in standards and teaching in general practice, dermatology and mental health. Morton is a member of the Australian Suicide Prevention Advisory Council.



Webinar facilitator

Dr Michael Murray (general practitioner and medical educator)

Dr Michael Murray is a Townsville based GP currently providing medical education with Tropical Medical Training: General Practice Specialists. He also works at headspace, Townsville. He has worked for over 25 years as a GP in both rural and metropolitan practice and in indigenous health; his clinical expertise is in psychological medicine.



As a key Mental Health Professionals' Network (MHPN) webinar facilitator, Dr Michael Murray knows as well as anyone the power of integrated communication. As a career-long regional and rural doctor, he is profoundly aware of the isolation and restrictions to learning that GPs in the far corners of Australia endure.