

International Conference on

General Practice & Hospital Management

December 8-9, 2016 | Dubai, UAE



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ROLE AND INVOLVEMENT OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS IN A PUBLIC COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC IN METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE

The first part of the presentation describes a prototypical adult area mental health service in Australia. The next part deals with the relationship and the importance of primary care sectors represented by General Practitioners (GPs). Existing guidelines suggest that collaboration between GPs and Area Mental Health Service (AMHS) may improve the health outcomes for people with serious mental illness. This presentation attempts to describe following different domains of collaboration between GPs and AMHS: -Primary Care Psychiatry Consultations -Clozapine Shared Care program -24/7 Crisis Response Service for GPs, Patients and Carers -Phone Consultations to GPs for urgent Psychotropic Medication issues -Continuing Medical Education programs to GPs to up skill them in handling common mental illnesses and their treatments (both high prevalence and low prevalence disorders) -Close liaison with GPs for physical commodities (like Diabetes, Thyroid related conditions, cardiac issues). The last part of the presentation is to assist General Practitioners for initial assessment and trading of common mental health conditions, including laboratory tests to exclude organic/general medical conditions with psychiatric manifestations.

Biography

Ashish Mordia completed his basic medical training (MBBS) in mid 1990s and subsequently his Specialist degree in Psychiatry (MD) in 2000 from University of Rajasthan in India. In 2001 he went to Melbourne Australia for an Honorary Fellowship in C-L Psychiatry and Psycho-oncology at St Vincent Hospital and the University of Melbourne. Later he obtained his Fellowship of Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (FRANZCP). Mordia has been living and working in Melbourne Australia for over 15 years now. He now works part time in public sector and part time in his own private practice in General Adult Psychiatry.

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