Canadian Coalition for Seniors’ Mental Health

Setting the Policy Agenda: Older Persons’ Mental Health and Addictions

Presenter: Faith Malach

The Canadian Research Network for Care in the Community & The Older Persons’ Mental Health and Addictions Network of Ontario Meeting

Toronto – May 17th 2006
Agenda

• Seniors’ Mental Health -Reality

• The CCSMH
  – Seniors’ Mental Health Research Network
  – National Guidelines Project

• Senate Committee Recommendations

• Systems Implications and Questions
Mental Illness is NOT a normal consequence of aging!

- Depression: 14.7% – 20% in the community
- LTC: 80 - 90% of residents
- Alzheimer’s: 1 in 3 over 85
- Delirium
  - up to 50% of older persons admitted to acute care / 70% incidence in ICU
- Suicide: The 1997 suicide rate for older Canadian men nearly 2x that of the nation as a whole
The CCSMH is committed to ....

To promote the mental health of seniors’ by connecting people, ideas & resources

- Education
- Advocacy / Public awareness
- Research
- Best Practices - Assessment & Treatment
- Family Caregivers
- Human Resources
Collaboration is a necessity for success!

CCSMH Steering Committee Members
Alzheimer Society of Canada
Canadian Academy of Geriatric Psychiatry
CARP Canada’s Association for the 50 Plus
Canadian Association of Social Workers
Canadian Caregiver Coalition
Canadian Geriatrics Society
Canadian Health Care Association
Canadian Mental Health Association
Canadian Nurses Association
Canadian Psychological Association
Canadian Society of Consulting Pharmacists
College of Family Practitioners of Canada
Public Health Agency of Canada (Advisory)
Seniors’ Mental Health Research: Falling Between the Cracks

About the Network

The idea of a Canadian Seniors’ Mental Health research and knowledge exchange network was born out of a Research Workshop sponsored by the Canadian Coalition for Seniors’ Mental Health (CCSMH) in September 2004. Among the 47 key stakeholders who gathered together to discuss the state of seniors’ mental health research in Canada there was unanimous agreement to create an online Seniors’ Mental Health research and knowledge exchange network.

The goal of the research and knowledge exchange network is to connect people, ideas, and resources in the interest of research on seniors’ mental health.

Research and Knowledge Exchange Network Objectives

- To provide public access to a database of seniors’ mental health researchers and research information.
- To provide opportunities for interactive exchange of information and ideas pertaining to seniors’ mental health.
- To create linkages to key research stakeholder groups in order to build capacity for seniors’ mental health research in Canada.

Who is the Research and Knowledge Exchange Network for?

Research in the field of seniors’ mental health is broad and multidisciplinary. This site is designed for use by:

- Researchers in all disciplines
- Representatives of research funding bodies
- Representatives of Federal, Provincial and Territorial Government Leaders and policy planners
Creation of Canada’s FIRST National Evidence Based Guidelines for Seniors’ Mental Health

• Assessment & Treatment of Delirium
• Assessment & Treatment of Depression
• Assessment & Treatment of Mental Health Issues in LTC (with a focus on mood & behaviour)
• Assessment and Prevention of Suicide
Key Challenges: Dissemination? Implementation?

“Type that up, make ten thousand copies, and send them to all the important people in the world.”
### Policy Implications: Senate Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost ( $ million per year)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Commission</td>
<td>17.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Health Housing Initiative</td>
<td>224.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basket of Community Services</td>
<td>215.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concurrent Disorders Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telemental Health</td>
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<td>Peer Support</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>25.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>536.0</td>
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CCSMH Framework for Action

- Outer Circle – Enablers
- Inner Quadrants – Four Cornerstones for Action
- Centre Circle – Guiding Principles
Policy Implications: Funding the System

Proposed Tax

- 5¢ bottle of beer
- $1.20 case of 24 bottles
- 25¢ bottle of wine
- 85¢ bottle of spirits

Innovative vs. Irrational?

Nickel a Drink Proposal

$478 million per year
Systems Implications

- What legislative/regulatory changes are required to support the creation & sustainability of a quality mental health system?

- Where does mental health fall within the private vs. public debate?

- What is required for each of us to ensure success and forward movement?
VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.CCSMH.CA

To promote seniors mental health by connecting people, ideas and resources.

Promouvoir la santé mentale des personnes âgées en reliant les personnes, les idées et les ressources.

CCSMH
Canadian Coalition for Seniors Mental Health

English
Welcome

CCSMPA
Coalition Canadienne Pour la Santé Mentale des Personnes Âgées

Français
Bienvenue