Putting Cognitive Behavioural Skills into Practice

WeBinar SkillS training: Pain ManageMent

For further information
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ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

The Pain Management Research Institute (PMRI) is part of the Sydney Medical School, based at the Royal North Shore Hospital. The NSW Ministry of Health has recognised the PMRI as the Lead Centre for Pain Research and Education in NSW.

The PMRI is staffed by a multidisciplinary group of clinicians, researchers and educators who work together to improve our understanding of all forms of pain and their treatments.

• Clinically, at our multidisciplinary Michael J Cousins’ Pain Management & Research Centre (PMRC), a key focus is implementing and evaluating the best ideas about pain in clinical practice.

• Academically, since 1996 the PMRI has provided an online graduate pain education degree, alongside a number of innovative continuing education programs for all health professionals. The degree program includes Masters, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate levels in multidisciplinary pain management. A measure of the quality of these programs is their endorsement by the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP).

• Research at PMRI is conducted within a biopsychosocial framework and includes the study of basic pain mechanisms and the development and evaluation of innovative multidisciplinary treatments.

PAST PARTICIPANT COMMENTS:

• I kind of dabbled with [CBT skills] by myself, with books. Just self taught. I was wanting some authority to make sure I really know how this is supposed to be…and you hear it from another dimension…so it gave me a lot of confidence.

• I found it very beneficial to hear examples, particularly when people were reporting on their homework…how they used the [skills from the] previous session in their workplace…and then you try to use and implement the thoughts and methods of the session…then to hear how people did it and that sort of impacted…how I would do it.

• I was able to incorporate my learning into work practice, then have the opportunity to discuss with the facilitator and fellow students.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like to be notified about the upcoming schedule or would like to organise a customised program for up to 10 participants please contact us directly via:

E: paineducation.admin@sydney.edu.au
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Details of costs for individual participants and/or customised programs are available on our website:

W: sydney.edu.au/medicine/pmri/education
WEBINAR SKILLS TRAINING

The webinar skills training program aims to give you an opportunity to learn how to help your patients better manage chronic or persisting pain problems.

Each program consists of 6 webinar sessions of 90 minutes duration conducted over a 2-3 month timeframe. In each session you explore specific strategies on how to effectively manage patients experiencing chronic pain. The schedule is as follows:

- **Session 1:** Patient assessment & case formulation
- **Session 2:** Explaining case formulation to the patient
- **Session 3:** Identifying SMART goals & using motivational interviewing
- **Session 4:** Employing self-management skills & developing a treatment plan
- **Session 5:** Reinforcing treatment program & maintenance strategies
- **Session 6:** Integration of CBT skills

HOMWORK TASKS

You are expected to use the skills covered with your patients between sessions, culminating in a case presentation in the final session. These tasks are designed to give you an opportunity to practise and reflect on the skills you explored in each session.

STUDY MATERIALS

All participants receive a comprehensive manual covering the content of the program, advice on the technical aspects of the webinar sessions and relevant papers for background reading. We also provide you with a copy of our patient manual (Manage Your Pain).

Follow-up email discussions with the facilitators, if necessary, are also available.

Note:
- Webinar groups are limited to 10 participants to foster discussion between participants and facilitators.

AN ITERATIVE PROCESS

The webinar skills training consists of four basic steps:

**PREPARATION**
- Checking computer compatibility
- Completing pre-reading

**PARTICIPATION**
- Logging on in time to participate
- Interacting with the facilitator & other participants
- Presenting & discussing homework experiences

**APPLICATION**
- Incorporating the new skills in the management of chronic pain patients (e.g. case formulation, goal setting, activity pacing, thought management, applied relaxation)

**EVIDENCE**
- Preparing a written statement about skills practised between sessions
- Reflecting on the experience & documenting insights gained, culminating in a case presentation in the final session to demonstrate competence

WORKSHOP FACILITATORS

**PROFESSOR MICHAEL NICHOLAS**

Michael is the Director of Pain Education and has 35 years of experience as a clinical psychologist in the field of pain. He has a national and international reputation, especially in relation to his work in developing multidisciplinary pain management programs, and over 140 publications in scientific journals and books on pain assessment and management. Current research interests include the self-management of persisting pain in older people, ways of reducing the threat value of persisting pain, self-management strategies in adjustment to persisting pain, and early psychosocial interventions to prevent long-term disability in people with work and motor accident injuries.

**DR SARAH OVERTON**

Sarah is a senior clinical psychologist with over 12 years experience in the area of pain management at the Pain Management & Research Centre at Royal North Shore Hospital. Her work includes running ADAPT programs as part of a multidisciplinary team and conducting comprehensive assessments of chronic pain patients within a biopsychosocial model. She is also a clinical lecturer in the Graduate Studies in Pain Management Program with the University of Sydney.

**DR BRAD WOOD**

Brad is a senior clinical psychologist at the Pain Management & Research Centre at the Royal North Shore Hospital. He has 15 years experience providing Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) to people with persistent pain. He is an active researcher and his PhD explored the role of cognitions in the relationship between pain and depression. Brad is also a senior clinical lecturer in the Graduate Studies in Pain Management Program with the University of Sydney.

**MARIA DE SOUSA**

Maria is a senior physiotherapist with over 10 years of experience at the Pain Management & Research Centre at the Royal North Shore Hospital. She has completed her Master of Science in Medicine (Pain Management) and contributes to the Graduate Studies in Pain Management Program with the University of Sydney. Her work includes conducting comprehensive assessments of patients with persistent pain within a biopsychosocial model and running cognitive-behavioural pain management programs as part of a multidisciplinary team.