

Working with Women with Severe Mental Illness in the Perinatal Period: Identifying and Managing Risk

Workshop Description

Pregnancy and the postpartum are periods of high risk for women with severe mental illness. Risks include those related to diagnosis, symptom profile, impairment of parental function and inadequate treatment and management. During this workshop we aim to identify factors that influence these risks; consider how they can be modified, and enable clinicians to work with women and their partners/families to improve outcomes.

Prof Ian Jones will focus on women with bipolar affective disorder and post-partum psychosis and consider how assessment of risk can be individualised. Dr Liz McDonald will discuss how the symptoms of schizophrenia affect risk and the implications of this diagnosis for risk assessment and management. Dr Roch Cantwell will present both findings from the enquiries into maternal psychiatric deaths and the recommendations that emerge from this work aimed at lowering risk.

We will take a case based approach with participants in small groups working through a series of real world vignettes before coming back together to share their thoughts and conclusions.

Participants in the workshop will learn about the risks associated with severe mental illness in the perinatal period, how to individualise the risk assessment for each women, and how to work collaboratively with women and their partners / families to reduce risk.

Registration Fee

\$150

Target Audience

- Clinicians working with women with SMI in the perinatal period including:
 - Psychiatrists at all stages of career
 - Clinical Psychologists
 - Nursing staff
 - Other therapists

Presented by

Dr Roch Cantwell, FRCPsych

Roch Cantwell is a consultant perinatal psychiatrist and clinical lead for the Glasgow Perinatal Mental Health Service and West of Scotland Mother and Baby Unit. He is the lead psychiatry assessor, and chapter author, for the UK and Ireland Confidential Enquiries into Maternal Deaths. He is also lead clinician for Scotland's national managed clinical network for perinatal mental health. He chairs the RCPsych in Scotland's Perinatal Faculty and is past-chair of the UK faculty. He chaired the development of the SIGN Guideline on Perinatal Mood Disorders. He has authored or co-authored over 40 papers and book chapters.

Professor Ian Jones, MRCPsych, PHD

Ian Jones is Professor of Psychiatry and Honorary Consultant Perinatal Psychiatrist at Cardiff University. He is Director of the National Centre for Mental Health (www.NCMH.info) and with colleagues leads the Bipolar Disorder Research Network (www.BDRN.org). He leads the Cardiff University Psychiatry Service (CUPS) and a clinical service offering pre-conception counselling to women with severe mental illness. His research focuses on bipolar disorder and postpartum psychosis. He has authored or co-authored over 300 publications and book chapters. He has been awarded the Marcé Medal for his research on Postpartum Psychosis and was named Academic Psychiatrist of the Year at the RCPsych Awards.

Dr Liz McDonald, FRCPsych

Dr McDonald is a consultant perinatal psychiatrist who worked in developing and delivering ground breaking perinatal mental health services in east London. She has been a Chair or member of several committees including the Perinatal Faculty of the Royal College of Psychiatrists; NICE; MBACE and the Pan-London Perinatal Mental Health Clinical Network. She is currently Clinical Lead at the RCPsych for developing the perinatal psychiatric workforce and a clinical associate at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust. She is an outstanding communicator, delivering training across the UK and internationally, and is passionate about and committed to developing the perinatal mental health workforce