

The MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE presents:

PSYCHIATRIC MEDICATIONS ACROSS THE AGE SPECTRUM

Friday, February 4, 2011
MCLE, Boston

8:00 REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

8:30 WELCOME

8:45 **UNDERSTANDING AND MANAGING COMPLEX CHILDHOOD MENTAL ILLNESS**

While most childhood psychiatric disorders can be effectively treated, success is highly dependent upon both accurate diagnosis and knowledge of evidence-based treatment options, including the safe and effective use of psychiatric medications. Using case examples, this session tackles the provision of psychiatric medications for children in the child protective system and synthesizes multifaceted health care information to understand appropriate case management. Structured materials that succinctly summarize a large body of mental health knowledge will be provided as an important resource, for those who must stay abreast of the latest diagnostic and treatment trends in the face of limited time to seek out and learn new information.

David R. DeMaso, MD, Psychiatrist-in-Chief, Children's Hospital Boston. Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School

Heather J. Walter, MD, MPH, Chief, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Boston Medical Center. Professor, Psychiatry and Pediatrics, Vice-Chair of Psychiatry, Boston University School of Medicine

10:00 **OPTIONS AND ADVANCES IN PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY FOR ADULTS**

Dr. Pinals will review current developments and innovations in the field of psychiatric care related to treatments for mood, anxiety and psychotic disorders in adults. She will cover standard treatments and alternatives, as well as challenges related to prescribing (e.g., drug interactions, co-occurring substance use conditions, medical complications). Learners will gain an understanding of the issues of balancing risks and benefits of medications and how a psychiatrist approaches prescribing with informed consent.

Debra A. Pinals, MD, Assistant Commissioner, Forensic Services, Department of Mental Health

11:30 **SUICIDE RISK ASSESSMENT AND ISSUES IN PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY**

Dr. Schechter will cover the overall scope of the problem of adolescent and adult suicide and offer facts to better understand this population. His presentation, with case examples, addresses why it is hard to predict suicide, with special attention paid to symptoms and risk and protective factors. Psychopharmacological issues related to increased risk for suicide as well as those likely to decrease the risk will also be included.

Mark A. Schechter, MD, Chair, Department of Psychiatry, North Shore Medical Center. Instructor in Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School

12:45 LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)

1:30 **REVISITING ROGERS FOR CHILDREN IN CARE: IS IT WORKING?** *Hon. Gail Garinger (ret.)*, The Child Advocate

2:00 **8B AND ROGERS CASES IN PROBATE AND DISTRICT COURTS**

Discussion will focus on the role of the monitor and Rogers counsel and their responsibilities to the court, uncontested annual review protocol, and changes in Rogers practice post-UPC. Particular attention will be paid to litigation strategies in 8B cases including motions and whether respondents should testify. Eliciting testimony from doctors on concerns and necessity of treatment as well as assurances that medical problems have been considered will be addressed. Symptomatology that implicates further testing and when a District Court treatment order is justified despite an existing Probate Court order will be covered.

Montgomery C. Brower, MD, Clinical Instructor in Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School. Diplomate in Forensic Psychiatry, ABPN

Hon. Kathleen E. Coffey, First Justice, West Roxbury Division, Boston Municipal Court

Lisa van Gordon d'Errico, JD, Solo Practitioner, Northampton

Hon. Susan D. Ricci, Associate Justice, Worcester Probate and Family Court

3:30 **RED FLAGS IN JUVENILE ROGERS MEDICATION CASES**

This session addresses the system where GALs are asked to offer opinions about significant medication treatment for their young clients. Topics include: deciphering psychiatrist's affidavits and information quality and determining what to ask and when to look beyond that testimony, managing psychiatrist-GAL conflict, assessing youth client's statements, and honing skills for best presentation of information at a court hearing.

Elaine M. Angelone, JD, Solo Practitioner, Boston

John J. Iwuc, MD, Adolescent Continuing Care Unit, Worcester State Hospital

Hon. Stephen M. Limon, Associate Justice, Juvenile Court Department, Suffolk County Division

Virginia Merritt, MD, Child Psychiatrist, Boston Juvenile Court Clinic

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Registration Form --- deadline Friday, January 21, 2011

Name _____ BBO # _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Cases you accept: CPCS Mental Health _____ CPCS CAFL _____ Private _____

Please mail this form together with your check for \$125 (payable to MHLAC). Thank you.

CREDIT: CPCS has approved this course for 8 MHL and 6 CAFL continuing legal education credits.

FEE: \$125 if registered by January 21, 2011. An additional \$20 will be charged to those registering after the deadline of January 21, 2011. Fee includes breakfast, snack, and a packet of written materials.

TO REGISTER: Mail a registration form and a \$125 check (**payable to MHLAC**) by January 21, 2011 to: MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE, Conference Registration, 24 School Street, 8th Floor, Boston, MA 02108 -**note new MHLAC address**. Space is limited. Registration confirmation sent if registered by January 28, 2011.

DIRECTIONS: Public transportation is strongly recommended. MCLE is conveniently located across the street from the Park Street Station stop on the Red and Green Lines of the MBTA. Commuter Rail lines from the west and south and buses also arrive into South Station, which is an easy walk to MCLE. There is garage parking available under the Boston Common. For directions, visit www.mcle.org.

REFUND POLICY: If you cancel your registration before the close of business on January 28, 2011, MHLAC will issue a refund of your registration fee minus \$25. All persons canceling registration after close of business on January 28, 2011 will receive a packet of materials from the February 4th conference.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Kate Dulit, Managing Director, MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE: (617) 338-2345 x30 or kdulit@mhlac.org. Please visit our website at www.mass.gov/mhlac.

PSYCHIATRIC MEDICATIONS ACROSS THE AGE SPECTRUM

Friday, February 4, 2011

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

MCLE Conference Center, 10 Winter Place, Boston

The MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE presents a full-day seminar for attorneys and other professionals of all levels of experience that takes a developmental look at the use of psychiatric medications in the care of adults and children with mental health needs. This program combines clinical and legal expertise to analyze the basics and complexities inherent in effectively and appropriately treating persons with psychiatric medications. Expert faculty will equip the audience with knowledge and strategies to zealously represent persons in court who are facing medication treatment plans. The morning sessions will be taught by psychiatrists, **Drs. DeMaso, Walter, Pinals, and Schechter**. Our keynote speaker, just after lunch, will be **Hon. Gail Garinger**, The Child Advocate for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with her thoughts on the effectiveness of Rogers for children in care. In the afternoon, there will be two panel discussions with experienced professionals, including **Judges Coffey, Ricci, and Limon**, on representing children and adults with mental health needs in medication hearings in the District, Probate and Juvenile Courts. This critically important training promises to be instructive and thoughtful, with time for audience questions and discussion. Sign up early to reserve yourself a spot!