

The MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE presents:

KEEPING CURRENT IN MENTAL HEALTH AND THE LAW

Friday, February 3, 2012

MCLE, Boston

8:00 REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

8:30 WELCOME

8:45 **KEYNOTE: ANTIPSYCHOTICS IN THE MEDICAL TREATMENT PLAN**

Dr. Freudenreich will provide an in-depth look at anti-psychotic medications, highlighting developments in the past five years and different treatment options depending on factors like medical illness, age, and obesity. He will offer insight into standard of care to distinguish between truth and lore in a proposed treatment plan.

Oliver Freudenreich, MD, Director, First Episode and Early Psychosis Program, Massachusetts General Hospital. Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School.

10:30 **PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER DURING PREGNANCY AND THE POSTPARTUM PERIOD: MANAGEMENT AND RISK**

Dr. Cohen will review depression in women during pregnancy and post-partum to allow for thoughtful treatment planning. His talk covers postpartum depressive syndromes, appropriate treatments, guidelines for psychotropic drug use, and risks associated with prenatal exposure to psychotropics as well as untreated maternal psychiatric disorder.

Lee S. Cohen, MD, Director, Center for Women's Mental Health, Massachusetts General Hospital. Carpenter Chair in Psychiatry and Women's Mental Health, Harvard Medical School.

11:30 **ADHD ACROSS THE LIFESPAN**

ADHD occurs in 6-9% of children and up to 5% of adults and while considered a chronic disorder associated with substantial impairment, it is often overlooked. Treatment encompasses education, psychotherapy, and pharmacotherapy. Dr. Wilens will discuss the presentation and diagnosis of ADHD in children and adults, biological findings, concurrent problems, and basic treatment strategies.

Timothy Wilens, MD, Director of Substance Abuse Services, Pediatric Psychopharmacology, Massachusetts General Hospital. Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School.

12:30 LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)

1:15 **THE ANATOMY OF A HOSPITALIZATION: LEGAL AND CLINICAL ISSUES PRIOR TO CIVIL COMMITMENT**

This innovative session covers procedures, pitfalls, current trends and the role of counsel in Section 12 admissions, including changes to the law under 12(a), emergency room wait times, and the process of admission under 12(b), including notice of rights, appointment of counsel and emergency hearings. Panelists will discuss conditional voluntary status issues such as converting from a Section 12 and the capacity to be admitted on a conditional voluntary status. Methods through which a person who is initially on a conditional voluntary status may become the subject of a petition for civil commitment, including submission of a three-day notice, rejection of a proposed transfer, and a hospital's decision to reject the client's ability to remain on a conditional voluntary status, will be analyzed. Counsel's role and advocacy tips will be highlighted throughout.

Dost Ongur, MD, PhD, Clinical Director, Schizophrenia and Bipolar Disorder Program, McLean Hospital. Assistant Professor in Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School.

Michael Porter, JD, Associate, Connor & Hilliard

Felicia A. Smith, MD, Director, Acute Psychiatry Service, Massachusetts General Hospital. Associate Director, Division of Medicine and Psychiatry. Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School.

Karen Talley, JD, Staff Attorney, Mental Health Litigation Division, Committee for Public Counsel Services

3:00 **CHILDREN PLACED IN MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES**

Experienced practitioner(s) will discuss the legal requirements for admitting a child in DCF custody to a locked mental health facility, with a particular focus on applicable statutes, case law and regulations. The session will also review the rights of children in mental health facilities and DCF obligations once a child is hospitalized.

Margaret Winchester, JD, Attorney-in-charge, Worcester CAFL, Committee for Public Counsel Services

4:00 **EVIDENTIARY ISSUES IN COMMITMENT AND GUARDIANSHIP CASES**

This session will analyze common, difficult evidentiary issues in commitment and guardianship cases with a particular focus on what is admissible and excludable on direct examination and strategies to challenge the admission of medical records into evidence.

Nadell Hill, JD, Solo Practitioner

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Registration deadline is Friday, January 20, 2012

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 **5 CAFL** continuing legal education credits.

FEE: \$125 if registered by January 20, 2012. An additional \$20 will be charged to those registering after the deadline of January 20, 2012. Fee includes breakfast, snack, and packet of written materials.

TO REGISTER: Mail the Registration Form by January 20, 2012 with a check for \$125 (**payable to MHLAC**) to: MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE, Conference Registration, 24 School Street, 8th floor, Boston, MA 02108. Space is limited. Registration confirmation will be sent if registered before January 27, 2012.

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 27, 2012, MHLAC will issue a refund of your registration fee minus \$25. All persons canceling registration after close of business on January 27, 2012 will receive a packet of materials from the February 3rd conference.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Kate Dulit, Managing Director, MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE at (617) 338-2345 x130 or kdulit@mhlac.org. You can also visit our website at www.mass.gov/mhlac.

KEEPING CURRENT IN MENTAL HEALTH AND THE LAW

Friday, February 3, 2012

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 on cutting edge issues involved in representing persons with mental illness. This program combines a cross section of clinical and legal expertise to focus on psychiatric complexities and legal strategies to improve advocacy on behalf of clients with mental illness. The morning clinical sessions include a study of recent anti-psychotic medications and standard of practice, psychiatric disorders during pregnancy and postpartum, and ADHD in adults and children. The afternoon begins with a creative, legal and medical session focused on the complexities that surround a hospitalization in a mental health facility from the emergency room to the commitment hearing. Next, you will learn about the laws and rights regarding the admission of children in DCF custody to a hospital. Finally, the day ends with a presentation on difficult, evidentiary issues in commitment and guardianship cases. This important training promises to be enlightening and informative, and will allow time for audience questions and participation. Our hope is to provide knowledge and improve skills to keep attorneys and advocates up to date and ensure zealous representation of persons with a myriad of mental health needs.