

The MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE presents:

APPLIED SCIENCE FOR LAWYERS: NEUROLOGY AND PSYCHIATRY IN THE COURTROOM

Friday, February 6, 2009
MCLE, Boston

8:00 REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

8:30 WELCOME

8:45 **NEUROIMAGING IN PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY**

This lecture will explore the use of psychiatric and neurological concepts in legal settings, and evaluate successful and unsuccessful attempts to use diagnostic findings to explain human behaviors. Dr. Price, a behavioral neurologist, and Dr. Edersheim, a forensic psychiatrist and attorney, will outline classic instances in which neurobehavioral diagnoses become relevant to legal determinations and illustrate common “errors of translation” when diagnoses and diagnostic tests are used in the legal arena.

Judith G. Edersheim, J.D., M.D., Senior Consultant, Law & Psychiatry Service, Massachusetts General Hospital; Clinical Instructor in Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School.

Bruce H. Price, M.D. Chief, Department of Neurology, McLean Hospital; Associate Professor of Neurology, Harvard Medical School.

10:30 **SUICIDOLOGY: STATE- OF- THE- ART ASSESSMENT**

Dr. Jacobs will present the Suicide Assessment Five-step Evaluation and Triage (SAFE-T) pocket card which provides protocols for conducting a comprehensive suicide assessment, estimating suicide risk, identifying protective factors, developing treatment plans and interventions responsive to the risk level of patients. This model, originally conceived of by Dr. Jacobs, was developed through collaboration between Screening for Mental Health, Inc. (SMH) and the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC). Its protocols and guidelines were developed based upon the American Psychiatric Association Practice Guidelines for the Assessment and Treatment of Patients with Suicidal Behaviors.

Douglas G. Jacobs, M.D., President and CEO, Screening for Mental Health, Inc.; Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School.

11:30 **COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT AND DECISION- MAKING IN THE ELDERLY**

Dr. Murray will discuss important issues in evaluating dementia and decision-making ability. He will discuss commonly used approaches to assessment and various diagnostic tools as well as analyze what can and cannot be learned from results. Dr. Murray will offer an overview of the importance and challenges of these evaluations in an effort to improve the ability of attorneys to anticipate a variety of issues.

Evan D. Murray, M.D., Behavioral Neurologist, McLean Hospital/Massachusetts General Hospital; Instructor in Neurology, Harvard Medical School.

12:30 LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)

1:30 **VIOLENCE RISK ASSESSMENT FOR JUVENILES**

This workshop focuses upon a model of risk assessment for juveniles for violence. Dr. DiCataldo will identify static and dynamic risk factors as well as discuss controversies regarding actuarial and clinical approaches to risk assessment. In addition, he will present “best practices” approaches to this area of work. Finally, you will learn about issues in securing risk assessment evaluations through court clinics, CPCS providers or other sources.

Frank DiCataldo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychology, Roger Williams University.

3:30 **SCIENTIFIC AND CLINICAL DATA IN SEXUAL DANGEROUS PERSON EVALUATIONS**

Dr. Saleh will analyze the use and misuse of scientific and clinical data in Sexual Dangerous Person evaluations. He will review data pertaining to the clinical characteristics, risk assessment and risk management of sexually deviant and non-sexually deviant offenders. He will also talk about the applicability of such data in SDP evaluations.

Fabian M. Saleh, M.D., Law & Psychiatry Service, Massachusetts General Hospital; Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School; Director & Founder of the Sexual Behaviors Clinics, CHL.

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Registration Form --- deadline Friday, January 23, 2009

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: This course is approved for eight (8) credits towards both CPCS continuing MHL and CAFL certification.

FEE: \$125 if registered by January 23, 2009. An additional \$20 will be charged to those registering after the deadline of January 23, 2009. Registration fee includes breakfast, snack, and packet of written materials.

TO REGISTER: Mail the Registration Form by January 23, 2009 with a check for \$125 (**payable to MHLAC**) to: MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE, Conference Registration, 399 Washington Street, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02108. Space is limited. Registration confirmation will be sent if registered before January 30, 2009.

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.

REFUND POLICY: If you cancel your registration before the close of business on January 30, 2009, MHLAC will issue a refund of your registration fee minus \$25. All persons canceling registration after close of business on January 30, 2009 will receive a packet of materials from the February 6 conference.

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

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Friday, February 6, 2009

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 aimed at **improving the understanding of the use of science, specifically neurology and psychiatry, in the legal context**. The idea for this training originates with the *Center for Law, Brain and Behavior*, a new joint academic venture of Massachusetts General Hospital and McLean Hospital whose goal it is to ensure the appropriate application of psychiatric and neurologic diagnosis and treatment principles in legal settings. Sessions will include **neuroimaging, suicide assessment, decision-making in the elderly, violence risk assessment for juveniles, and sexual dangerous person evaluations**. Participants will learn a tremendous amount from experienced clinicians as well as have the opportunity to ask questions at the end of each session to tie the scientific material to their own legal work and improve advocacy on behalf of clients with mental illness.