

Mental Health Professionals' Network

Eastern Suburbs Chinese Focused Mental Health Network Meeting

Medication misuse and its impact on mental health

Dear Colleagues,

You are invited to the next Eastern Suburbs Chinese Focused Mental Health network meeting.

Feel free to forward this invitation to invite your colleagues who may wish to attend.

Please [register](#) your acceptance or apology for this meeting.

Coordinator: Maria Yap

Guest Speakers: **Dr Tamsin Short & Julius Ting**

Tamsin is a clinical psychologist and Julius is the Project Co-ordinator, from Medication Support and Recovery Service (MSRS), a unique alcohol and other drug service in Victoria, which specialises in the treatment of pharmaceutical misuse, including medications such as opioid painkillers and benzodiazepines.

Topic: Since 1 February 2018, codeine has become a prescription-only medication; consequently, a significant number of people were confronted by the reality of their dependency on codeine and other related medications. Understandably, there are concerns about how these changes affect people's mental health particularly those living with chronic pain

Healthcare providers may not realise that they will likely be, or are already, treating clients who will be affected by these changes.

This meeting will have an interactive discussion on:

- current trends in medication misuse including population groups affected
- rationale for the changes to codeine and the planned introduction of SafeScript (Real Time Prescription Monitoring)
- signs of problematic medication use & signs and symptoms of withdrawal
- where to seek non-pharmaceutical help for people who are dependent or misusing prescription or over the counter medications
- strategies in communicating information to the Chinese community about these changes

Date: **Wednesday, April 11, 2018**

Time: 6:00 pm to 8.00 pm

Venue: EMPHN Box Hill Office,
Banksia room, 18-20 Prospect Street, Box Hill, VIC 3128
(parking at the shopping centre, no available free parking on site)

Catering: Light supper provided

Register: To register online please visit: <https://www.mhpn.org.au/NetworkMeetingRSVP/567>
or email Amanda Osciak at a.osciak@mhpn.org.au

If you are unable to attend this meeting, but would like to receive invitations to future meetings please email a.osciak@mhpn.org.au to be added to the email distribution list.