

Online course for prison doctors

- The idea was formed a late afternoon in May 2001
- Cooperation between World Medical Association, Norwegian Medical Association, International Committee of Red Cross
- Established an international editorial committee
- Contributors from various countries and organisations
- Launched in 2004

Distribution

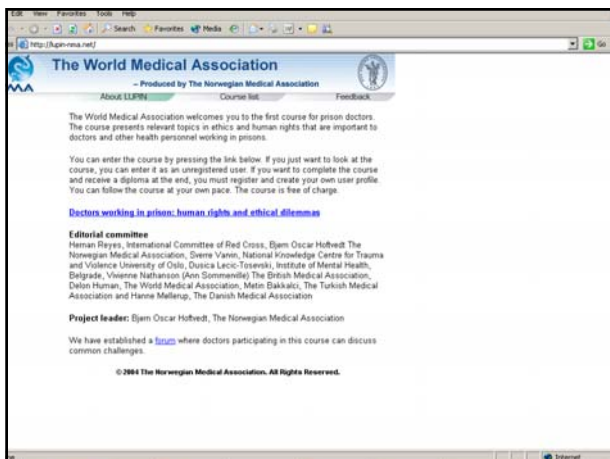
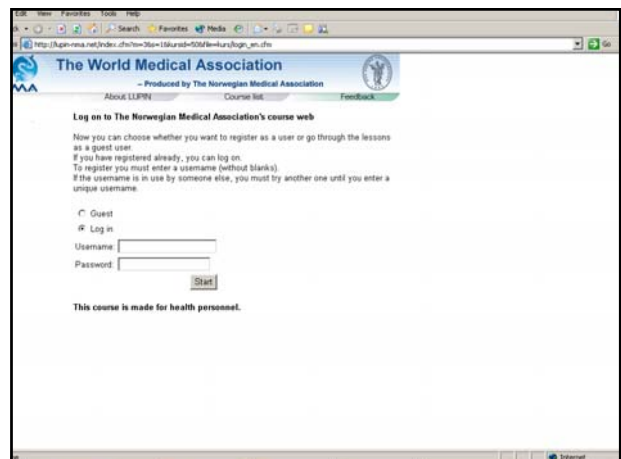
- Main distributor: World Medical Association
- Accessible also from other web sites WHO, NMA etc

Why Internet ?

- Efficient distribution
- Accessibility
- Easy to update
- Integrate text, pictures, videos, links
- More difficult to control by the authorities
- Efficient learning method?

Credit points

- The Norwegian Medical Association has accredited the course with 12 hours/points in post-graduate and continuing education.
- When a doctor has finished all the chapters, completed the tests and the evaluations, she will be asked if she wants a diploma. If she answers yes, a diploma will be sent by e-mail.



Internet

WMA The World Medical Association - Produced by The Norwegian Medical Association

Doctors working in prison: human rights and ethical dilemmas

Chapter	Author	Last used	Status
International statements on human rights, medical ethics and international humanitarian law. General principles	James Welsh	18.01.2005	1 of 1
Informed consent and confidentiality in prisons	Ann Sommerville	23.11.2004	1 of 1
The prison doctor's responsibility to report abuses of human rights	James Welsh	12.03.2005	1 of 1
Dual loyalties	Bjorn Oscar Hoffvedt og Herman Reyes	26.01.2005	1 of 1
Hunger strikes	Herman Reyes	21.01.2005	1 of 3
Health care for women, and women accompanied by their children	Ingrid Lycke Ellingsen	12.03.2005	1 of 1
Health Care for Vulnerable Groups	Rosemary Woolf	-	Not started
Care of the mentally ill in prison	Dusica Lacio-Tosevski	07.09.2004	Not started
Violence in Prisons. The Role of the Medical Professional	James McManus	-	Not started
Medical signs of torture and other degrading treatment	Sierre Vanen and Onder Cihalgil	07.09.2004	1 of 2
Research involving members of the prison population	Julian Sheather	-	Not started
Capital punishment	Vivienne Nathanson	26.01.2005	1 of 1

Internet

WMA The World Medical Association - Produced by The Norwegian Medical Association

mental disorders
emerging
personality disorders

Care of the mentally ill in prison

About the chapter

Introduction
This chapter outlines the strategies for care of prisoners with mental health problems.

Learning objectives
At the end of this section you will:

- Be informed about prevalence of mental disorders in prisons and relationship between mental disorders and offending.
- Be informed about the impact of stress of confinement on mental health.
- Be informed about EU and UN recommendations for treatment of prisoners with mental disorders.
- Be able to assess your responsibilities in prison health service in relation to mentally ill patients.
- Be reminded of basics and general goals of psychiatric assessment.
- Decide what appropriate treatment plan or action is possible and necessary.
- Decide when to refer patients to mental health specialists.
- Be informed about basic management of personality disorders.
- Be informed about managing suicidal behaviour in prison.

Content

- Introduction
- Mental health care in prisons
- Assessment of prisoners' mental health
- Defining appropriate treatment plan
- Deciding about pharmacotherapy
- Managing personality disorders
- Managing suicidal behaviour
- Conclusion

Internet

WMA The World Medical Association - Produced by The Norwegian Medical Association

1. Mental disorders

Exercise 2

When should you as a prison doctor assess a prisoner for mental health disorders? Tick one or more options.

- ☐ Only when you are asked by the prison authorities.
- ☒ After his/her admission.
- ☒ Before his/her leaving the prison.
- ☐ Whenever he/she complains about some symptoms.

Internet

WMA The World Medical Association - Produced by The Norwegian Medical Association

1. Mental disorders

Exercise 2

When should you as a prison doctor assess a prisoner for mental health disorders? Tick one or more options.

- ☐ Only when you are asked by the prison authorities.
- ☒ After his/her admission.
- ☒ Before his/her leaving the prison.
- ☐ Whenever he/she complains about some symptoms.

We would recommend b, c and d.

Comment
It is strongly recommended that the prison doctor takes pro-active role in assessment and follow-up of the mental health of prisoners especially upon their arrival and transfer to other institution, as well as to be open to hear complaints and react at the proper time.

Internet

WMA The World Medical Association - Produced by The Norwegian Medical Association

How you as a prison doctor see this phenomenon? Why do so many prisoners suffer from mental disorders?

Many of them have had a difficult childhood with parents that have been abusing alcohol or drugs (a)

New note
The high level of psychiatric morbidity in the prison population means that doctors providing health care within prisons, and they frequently have found that the between 2 and 15 percent of distance abuse (drugs and sons. Up to 73 per cent of injected drugs are between 0 and 76 per cent of personality disorder prisoners and possession of weapons. Co-prisoners have more than

son means that doctors act with mental health is care of the mentally ill in mental health services. environment in which treatment is rare. The modern

and containment. This is not easy to achieve in prisons, where dual loyalties and responsibilities are dominant. There is no doubt, however, that doctors should consider the care of mentally disordered offenders as their primary function. The goals to reduce symptoms and improve function are not in conflict with prevention of recidivism (social function). Prevention and rehabilitation of mental disorders should not be neglected in prison settings.

* Psychiatric disorders can be of various origin, clinical signs and outcome (acute, chronic, transient, recurrent).

Internet

WMA The World Medical Association - Produced by The Norwegian Medical Association

Care of the mentally ill in prison

Test lesson 1

1. If you have limited resources, which of these points would you give priority to when giving a mental health assessment?

- ☐ structured interview
- ☒ psychiatric history
- ☐ medication history
- ☐ history of past self-damaging behaviour and current self-destructive behaviour
- ☒ substance abuse history
- ☐ history of violence
- ☒ history of early trauma
- ☐ history suggestive of intellectual deficits, with testing for intellectual disability if indicated
- ☐ history of brain damage or disorder
- ☐ evaluation of likely response to incarceration

2. What is the estimated percentage of inmates with substance abuse?

- ☐ 43%
- ☒ 52%
- ☐ 73%
- ☐ 81%

The answers have been submitted. (The result has been recorded.)

1. If you have limited resources, which of these points would you give priority to when giving a mental health assessment:

- ☒ a) structured interview -
- ☒ b) psychiatric history -
- ☒ c) medication history -
- ☒ d) history of past self-damaging behaviour and current self-destructive behaviour -
- ☒ e) substance abuse history -
- ☒ f) history of violence -
- ☒ g) history of early trauma -
- ☒ h) history suggestive of intellectual deficits, with testing for intellectual disability if indicated -
- ☒ i) history of brain damage or disorder -
- ☒ j) evaluation of likely response to incarceration -

We would recommend a, b, d, e, and f

Answer statistics:  a: 61% b: 50% c: 73% d: 80% e: 56% f: 80% g: 51% h: 54% i: 61% j: 41%

2. What is the estimated percentage of inmates with substance abuse

- ☒ a) 43%
- ☐ b) 45%
- ☐ c) 73%
- ☐ d) 81%

Incorrect. You answered b). The correct answer is: a) 73%.

The World Medical Association - Produced by The Norwegian Medical Association

Your profile: [View](#) [Feedback](#)

User: Bjørn Oskar Hultvedt

name: mental disorders
enaging: Care of the mentally ill in prison
unality: Course evaluation

Check one of the alternatives from 1 to 5, 1 meaning totally agree and 5 totally disagree

1 2 3 4 5

1) The content was relevant for my practice as a prison doctor

2) The topic was presented in an interesting and inspiring way

3) The exercises, tests and questions enhanced the learning outcome

4) I learned a lot about ethics and human rights that I was new for me

5) The links to actual web sites were very useful

6) The chapter inspired me to learn more about the topic

7) I will confer this chapter if I meet similar problems in my work as a prison doctor

8) My total impression of this chapter is very positive

Comments:

Users

- 132 have completed the course
- Number of visitors higher (no registration)

The Norwegian Medical Association's Committee on Human Rights

Adresse: <http://lupin-nma.net/evaluering/>

Foredrag av vter på evalueringsskjema (133 besvarelser)		(Tilleggs Spørsmål)				
Kurs	Informert consent and confidentiality in prisons	1	2	3	4	5
Reportert:		83	34	10	2	3
Kursrapportør		70	48	10	3	1
Evalueringer		73	39	15	2	3
Via sendte e-poster		48	42	30	11	1
Kursledere		47	37	32	11	5
Endring:		58	40	27	5	2
Bakere / personer		75	34	15	4	4
Kurs forandring		83	37	9	1	2
E-postadresser						
Evaluering forandring						
Spørskjema						
Kansellert						
NEL admin						
Voting:						
Se updaterte kurs						
Skjål updaterte kurs						
Logg ut						

Kommentarer til evalueringene (132 av 133)

Frå: colin west (colwest@btinternet.com) Dato: 07 Jun 07

Frå: Mina Endrey (drendrey@doctors.net.uk) Dato: 17 May 07

Frå: Dr Krishan Vij (atom2atom@yahoo.com) Dato: 05 May 07

Frå: Dr Amandeep Singh (dramandeep@hotmail.com) Dato: 02 May 07

Frå: Marina Poddubnaya (marinayrsh@mail.ru) Dato: 01 May 07

Frå: mourabit mossadek (m.mourabit@menara.ma) Dato: 30 May 07

Comments

- I found this a very useful tool. As a medical professional with Correctional Service of Canada, I will refer my counterparts to this site and will use it myself often to deal with issues in my everyday practice.
- A very important, timely and worthwhile course that increased my understanding of sector that I am working with more and more. Thank you. (Uzbekistan)
- This course is really informative and learning. There can be more exercises per chapters. There can also be more examples for illustrations too (India)
- THANK YOU FOR THIS COURSE (Democratic republic of Congo)

The Norwegian Medical Association's Committee on Human Rights

<http://lupin-nma.net>

BBC News

