

The independent voice of the sector

Welcome

Welcome to EATA's membership briefing. EATA is the membership organisation for the independent drug and alcohol treatment and aftercare sector. By being a part of the umbrella body of the sector, our members are able to contribute to improvements in access and quality in the provision of treatment.

EATA WORKING FOR OUR MEMBERS

A key role of EATA is working on behalf of its members in work with government departments and other agencies. By representing the interests of its members on working groups and at consultation events EATA is able to continually raise the concerns and needs of the independent sector.

EATA is currently working on the following areas:

- Voluntary Sector Compact Plus
- Residential Rehabilitation
- Workforce Development
- Improved Service Delivery
- Improved access to Treatment
- Promotion of evidence based treatment
- Improved commissioning

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TRIBUTE TO EATA TRUSTEE MICHAEL MEAKIN

26TH JUNE 1938 – 20TH JUNE 2007



EATA's staff, Board of Trustees, and all those that worked with Michael Meakin in the addiction treatment field, will sorely miss him. He gave generously of his time, serving as an EATA trustee and received a special award for his contribution commitment and continued support. Michael was a co-founder of RAPT (Rehabilitation for Addicted Prisoners Trust) and the Addiction Recovery Foundation. He was also involved and supported the work of many of EATA's members.

EATA would like to acknowledge Michael's role and positive contribution to the sector over the years.

DRUG STRATEGY CONSULTATION

As most of you are aware the first ever National Drugs Strategy is due to end in March 2008. As a result along side the Home Office, Ipsos MORI have been employed to conduct a thorough consultation exercise to determine the success, strengths, weaknesses and gaps in the current strategy and identify future challenges for the new drug strategy. They will be adopting a series of methodologies including Focus Group Discussions and workshops with stakeholders, drug users, families and communities across the UK.

Consultation is due to take place over the summer and the first findings will be presented toward the end of the year, with a draft new strategy to be ready for early 2008.

If you have further questions around this process or would like more detailed information about the consultation process and how services can become involved please contact EATA: www.eata.org.uk

Email: secretariat@eata.org.uk or
Tel: 020 7553 9580

TOP'S - THE NEW DRUG TREATMENT EFFECTIVENESS TOOL LAUNCHED BY THE NTA

TOP (Treatment Outcome Profile) is the new drug treatment effectiveness tool designed to measure real outcomes for clients in drug treatment in England. TOP was developed by The National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse (NTA) in partnership with Dr John Marsden and Dr Michael Farrell.

It is a series of simple questions to measure outcomes in a way that is sensitive to change over time. Up until now drug treatment has been monitored using process and proxy measures alone, such as waiting times and how long a client stays in treatment. TOP is designed to compliment existing monitoring tools, and is expected to be fully applied to national clinical practice or drug treatment monitoring systems.

Specialist drug services and primary care practitioners working with drug misusers will be expected to incorporate the TOP questions into clinical practice and regular care plan reviews to measure where there are real improvements for clients in treatment

TOP is already being rolled-out to service providers and practitioners who currently report data to the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) in England through a comprehensive distribution programme, along with training and support materials, and regional events are also planned to help smooth the implementation of the TOP. It is expected that TOP will be fully integrated into drug treatment and clinical practice and picked up by NDTMS from October 2007.

For more information visit: www.nta.nhs.uk

EATA FORUMS - Why not voice your opinion?

Do you have a view or opinion about a particular subject in the substance misuse or addiction treatment field?

Register at EATA forums and get your message out. **Visit: www.eata.org.uk**

NOMS AND PROVIDERS WORK TOGETHER

EATA has been in discussions with the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) about how planned changes and developments in NOMS might have an impact on service delivery and provide new opportunities for treatment services to become involved in the provision and delivery of services through NOMS.

As a result of these discussions, NOMS held a full-day meeting on 26th June for EATA members and NOMS providers. The purpose of the event was to bring to the forefront the latest policy initiatives and wider NOMS objectives and developments.

The event looked at:

- The emerging agenda of NOMS
- Procurement and commissioning processes
- Partnerships working and alliances
- An update on NOMS initiatives
- The Value For Money and head count review that the Home Office will be conducting as a result of changes to the department's organisational structure (see below)

The aim of the day was to assist service providers to become better informed of planned developments, to increase awareness and knowledge of commissioning systems, and to provide a greater insight into the future direction of planned service provision and opportunity through the National Offender Management Service.

VALUE FOR MONEY REVIEW WITHIN SUBSTANCE MISUSE SECTOR TO TAKE PLACE

The UK Government looks to ensure value for money for its expenditure of public money and, therefore, seeks to deliver economy, efficiency and effectiveness by incurring expenditure and utilising resources wisely and without waste. The National Audit Office carries out Value For Money (VFM) studies across central Government.

The objective of the VFM review within the Substance Misuse sector is to provide a single, comprehensive and agreed overview of cross-government drugs expenditure and to assess the effectiveness of this expenditure in terms of value for money. The conclusions from this review are intended to inform development of the 2008 drug strategy.

Although this is an internal review, and reports will not be published, it is essential that treatment providers are informed of the processes used to develop future drug strategies.

For more information please contact EATA: www.eata.org.uk

Email: secretariat@eata.org.uk
or Tel: 020 7553 9580

NEXT STEPS FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S NATIONAL ALCOHOL STRATEGY

The Government has recently unveiled the next steps for the National Alcohol Strategy, which focuses on improving the effectiveness of alcohol treatment.

The strategy will ensure that the existing laws and licensing powers are being used widely and effectively. These laws are aimed to:

- Tackle alcohol-fuelled crime and disorder,
Protect young people
Tackle irresponsibly managed premises

It will also sharpen its focus on the minority of drinkers who cause or experience the most harm to themselves, communities and their families.

These are:

- 18-24 year old binge drinkers, a minority of whom are responsible for the majority of alcohol-related crime and disorder;
- Young people under 18 who drink alcohol;
- Harmful, adult drinkers who do not necessarily realise their drinking patterns are damaging their physical and mental health and may be causing substantial harm to others.

The strategy reflects Government's commitment to invest in better information and communication and to work together with all those involved in reducing the harm alcohol can cause, including the police, local authorities, prison and probation staff, the NHS, voluntary organisations, the alcohol industry, the business community, media and local communities, to shape an environment which actively promotes sensible drinking.

Home Office Minister Vernon Coaker said:

"The Government recognises that promoting a sensible drinking culture is a job for the whole of society. Everyone has a personal responsibility to drink in a safe, sensible and social way.

Key actions in the strategy include:

- Sharpened criminal justice for drunken behaviour;
- A review of NHS alcohol spending;
- More help for people who want to drink less;
- Toughened enforcement of underage sales;
- Trusted guidance for parents and young people;

- Public Information campaigns to promote a new 'sensible drinking' culture;
- Public consultation on alcohol pricing and promotion;
- Compulsory local alcohol strategies

Responses of Service providers required

CONSULTATION ON DRUG MISUSE AND DEPENDENCE – GUIDELINES ON CLINICAL MANAGEMENT: UPDATE 2007

'Drug Misuse and Dependence: Guidelines on Clinical Management: Update 2007' is a consultation draft produced by an independent expert working group supported by the NTA. The NTA are seeking responses from stakeholders in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales on a draft, of the updated version of Drug Misuse and Dependence: Guidelines on Clinical Management (known as the "Orange Book") which was published in June 2007 for a three month consultation.

The stakeholders responding should be made aware that the consultation draft presents a series of principal directions and recommendations and is substantial, especially where guidance is different from that given previously in 1999.

Stakeholders may be providers of drug treatment, clinicians, service users, health service commissioners, carers etc. The views and opinions on the content of the document are welcomed in order to inform the final draft. The consultation is due at the end of September 2007.

In order to respond to this consultation please visit: www.nta.nhs.uk

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

EATA is increasing its involvement in workforce development issues. EATA currently sits on the Sector Skills Councils working groups and is currently looking at ways in which the recently formed Development Awards, a competence-based qualification encompassing DANOS, can be best communicated to the field.

The role of EATA focuses in particular on how issues of workforce planning and development are affecting the sector. EATA has been working alongside the Home Office and the Governments communication departments in order to increase knowledge and understanding in terms of the workforce planning.

Telephone: 020 7553 9580

THE 2 YEAR RULE - AN UPDATE

Another area being tackled by the Home Office' Crime & Drug Strategy Directorate's Workforce Development Group is the '2 year rule'. The commonly mentioned '2 year rule', argues that: 'an individual should not work in the field if they have had a problem with drugs or alcohol within the last two years'. EATA has been addressing significant areas around this issue.

EATA has been doing some research around the 2 year rule and how organisations utilise it in the drug and alcohol treatment sector. EATA has been collating the viewpoints of its members and feeding them into discussions around workforce planning and development.

EATA has been working alongside the Home Office and West Midlands Substance Misuse Group to conduct research on the 2 year rule.

This piece of work looks to address the following questions:

- Where does the 2 year rule come from?
- Who does the 2 year rule protect?
- Do we need the 2 year rule?

There is an interest around organisations that adopt the 2 year rule, (particularly in smaller organisations where little funds are allocated to Human Resources).

EATA has collated a variety of viewpoints from organisations and individuals. These range from employing individuals based on their skills and competencies alone, to organisations adopting the 2 year rule as organisational policy. This has led to many discussions around the operation of the 2 – year rule within the substance misuse sector. EATA will consult with its members to inform and shape this piece of work.

If you have any further information or would like to add your organisations point of view on the 2 year rule, please email: Ghada at: ghada@eata.org.uk

EATA INVITES RESIDENTIAL SERVICES TO PARTICIPATE IN FREE PILOTING OF ROMA

ROMA stands for "Record of my Achievements". ROMA is a structured learning programme for people going through drug treatment. It has proved to be an effective tool in helping clients engage in their treatment and increase levels of motivation. It has been developed in partnership with drug workers and service users across Tier 3 services in the U.K, and will be made generally available in autumn of 2007.

ROMA works by supporting the treatment framework incorporating praise and recognition when goals are reached. ROMA provides an 11 module programme of learning, activities and action plans to be worked through, covering topics that touch on all aspects of treatment from active engagement, through to harm reduction and establishing and maintaining a drug-free lifestyle.

For each stage successfully completed, clients receive a certificate as recognition of their achievement. In later modules, drug testing can be used to provide hard evidence that a change in lifestyle has been achieved and maintained.

Although ROMA was originally developed and piloted in Tier 3 services, it has been identified that some of the modules may also be relevant for clients in Tier 4 services. ROMA will now be piloted in Tier 4 residential treatment services.

The ROMA development team would like to work more closely with one residential service, in order to identify what further modules would be required to make ROMA a useful engagement and motivational tool for use within Tier 4 services. ROMA has asked EATA to nominate interested members to take part in the pilot process.

ROMA is looking to work with an interested residential service prepared to pilot the current programme with a maximum of 12 clients, and help identify further specific and useful modules for inclusion in a second stage ROMA programme.

If your service is interested in taking part please contact Ghada at: ghada@eata.org.uk for more information.

If you would like to add any information or have any queries regarding any of EATA's meetings or services, or would like to join EATA, please contact Ghada Osman on ghada@eata.org.uk

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

VIVER MAIS - PORTUGAL

Viver Mais, is a new 12-step treatment centre based in Braga, Portugal, set up by Michael McCLOughlin, an independent practitioner from the UK. The facility will be opening extended care units, and are working with the Portuguese government to include a working supported environment. Employers are encouraged to assist in assigning work and training to clients of Viver Mais who have

completed their basic primary treatment, including those in extended care units. An important part of the treatment programme where individuals are encouraged to take on a healthy way of living as soon as possible. Being a paid employee helps in gaining a lot of self esteem especially in organisations that are understanding and willing to assist individual clients, in light of their background.

The centre is also accepting clients that are multi lingual from all countries, while staff are fluent in Portuguese, English, French and Spanish. Detoxification is available as well as 24 hour medical cover.

For more information visit:
<http://www.vivermais.pa-net.pt>

LIFE WORKS LONDON IN FULL BLOOM

Only last year Life Works was building the blocks of its new extension Lifeworks London from which an Intensive Evening programme is now run. The service is now in fact blooming -The Intensive Evening programme is proving very popular and incredibly successful amongst those seeking treatment but are unable to attend residential treatment due to work and family commitments.

Life Works is also pleased to announce that their residential facility in Surrey has just celebrated its third birthday. This centre has developed into an establishment that has helped a vast amount of people find the path to a healthy recovery.

Both facilities involve a philosophy based on the holistic approach; treating the whole person focusing on current problems and the underlying issues, so that lasting transformation is possible. Lifeworks believes that 12 step programmes are an essential as part of Life Works road to long term recovery. As everyone is unique, Lifeworks designs a personalised plan based on a comprehensive assessment. A full range of treatment options from individual counselling to residential treatment is offered. Commitment to clients begins with the first contact and continues long after treatment has been completed with a comprehensive relapse prevention plan and individually tailored aftercare plan.

For more information visit:
www.lifeworks.com

Members are encouraged to update us with their news whether they want it to appear on our website or in future membership briefings. Contact ghada@eata.org.uk, or you can send it by post.

Email: secretariat@eata.org.uk

EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS

NATIONAL

ADFAM AND LDAN CONSULTATION EVENT

THURSDAY 2ND AUGUST 10AM - 2PM

Are you affected by someone else's drinking - if so we want to hear from you. Adfam together with the London Drug and Alcohol Network is running a consultation with family members and people that work with families affected by someone else's alcohol misuse. This consultation forms part of a series of national events to find out what the needs of families and professionals are. The outcome of the consultations will hopefully drive future policy and practice.

The event will take place at: The Diana Princess Memorial Fund, The County Hall, Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7PB.

A light lunch and refreshments will be provided.

For more information or to book a place please contact Nicolay Sorensen on: 020 7553 7649 or email: n.sorensen@adfam.org.uk

ALCOHOL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE - WORKING WITH DV VICTIMS WHO HAVE ALCOHOL PROBLEMS

**15TH AUGUST 2007 AND
3 OCTOBER 2007**

The following two workshops are held in an East London venue (tbc) between 2.00pm and 4.30pm. This workshop will look at the links between suffering DV and using alcohol; why we need to address this and theory and good practice

To book please email info@ldan.org.uk

FASD - THE UNTOLD STORY

4TH OCTOBER 2007, LONDON

The 3rd conference organised by NOFAS-UK aims to educate those who work with children affected by prenatal alcohol exposure about the needs of people with FASD.

**For more information visit:
www.nofas-uk.org.**

PERFORMANCE & IMAGE ENHANCING DRUGS CONFERENCE

5 OCTOBER 2007, LIVERPOOL

This is a one-day event organised by The Centre for Public Health and Research Institute for Sport & Exercise Sciences at Liverpool John Moores University. This event will focus on the latest information and evidence relating to the use of performance and image enhancing drugs and facilitate the exchange of knowledge, views and experiences.

**To read more visit:
http://pied-conference.net**

PRISONS AND BEYOND...2007

**11TH -12TH OCTOBER, 2007,
RAMADA HOTEL, LEICESTER**

A 2 day conference for frontline staff working with drug users and/or families in the drug treatment and criminal justice field.

Organised by National Offender Management Service (NOMS), in association with FDAP, AFAM and EATA.

The conference will provide opportunities for delegates from NOMS, DIP, drug treatment services and family support providers to: hear about the latest developments in prison based drug services; learn more about how their roles fit within, and link to, the wider criminal justice drug treatment field; increase their knowledge and skills and; share experiences of working on the frontline.

For further details contact Mala via email: mala@feelgoodevents.com or tel: 07939418840

PRISONER FUNDING

A guide is available of grant giving organisations in England who fund ex-offenders and serving prisoners, in order to increase participation in employment and training opportunities. Grants are available for a variety of activities including training, specific skills, business start up support etc. to search for this type of funding online please visit:

http://www.egas-online.org.uk/fwa/index.html

To receive a copy of this guide please contact EATA

If you have any ideas or new initiatives you would like to share with us, either in our Briefing or on our website, please contact EATA on: 020 7553 9580 or email: ghada@eata.org.uk

CONTACT EATA

EATA is continually improving services for its Members. If you would like to voice any concerns within the sector, would like to request information on becoming a member, or would simply like to make a suggestion, please contact Ghada with your query

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EATA - Helping to ensure that people with substance dependencies get the treatment they need.

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