

Treatment Considerations for Women with Co-occurring Psychiatric and Substance Use Disorders

Women and Co-Morbidity Workshop
Blending Clinical Practice and Research
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Sheryl Pimlott Kubiak, PhD

Treatment Implications

- Co-morbidity is under-recognized
 - Cross screening and assessment
 - Co-morbidity affects treatment retention
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- Treatment sectors are segmented
 - Policies/Practices as well as funding

Treatment Implications....

- Little overlapping expertise or training
 - Workforce Development
- Treatment strategies may differ or conflict
 - Pharmacology
 - Confrontation v. Nurturance

Variation in Severity; Variation in Treatment

		SUBSTANCE ABUSE	
		LOW	HIGH
MENTAL HEALTH	LOW	Low MH Low SA	High SA Low MH
	H I G H	High MH Low SA	↑ High MH High SA

Intervention Strategies

- Residential care and/or Therapeutic Communities
- Transitional case management support to re-enter community life
- Serial treatment/parallel treatment minimally effective
- Integrated treatment with dual focus of both disorders
 - Improves functioning
 - Reduces rates of hospitalization
 - Improves treatment retention

Presenting to the substance abuse treatment provider....

- Assessing the risk
- Affiliations/collaborations with mental health facility, crisis center and/or mobile crisis unit
- Assessing ancillary needs – Knowing community resources
- Policies and procedures for medication use in your facility

