



Tuesday 17th May 2016, 10-12 a.m.

SALA RIUNIONI 1 DPSS, Via Venezia 8

Workshop:

Group therapy in addiction treatment programs

Aelita Vagale, Riga Stradins University (Latvia)

ABSTRACT

Sayings such as “You can lead a horse to water, but you can’t make it drink” reflect the fact that people generally will not perform desired behaviours unless or until they are motivated to do so. Motivation plays an important role in alcoholism treatment by influencing patients to seek, complete, and comply with treatment as well as make successful long-term changes in their drinking (DiClemente, Bellino, Neavins, 2004). In this workshop you will have a chance to get acquainted with interventions, that help addicted patient to overcome denial. I will introduce participants how group consultation and psychotherapy works in addiction treatment program. Students through group process will be able to reflect on their own perceptions about working with addicted patients and discuss the useful methods.

Thursday 19th May 2016, 9-10 a.m.

SALA RIUNIONE 1 DPG, Via Venezia 8

Conference:

Adult Addiction Treatment Program: Conclusions on the effectiveness of the programs, opportunities and challenges

Jelena Kolesnikova, Riga Stradins University (Latvia)

ABSTRACT

Drug addiction may have a devastating effect on the society as well as it may threaten its future viability. It is common knowledge that drug addiction is extremely harmful and may have lethal consequences substantially affect all areas of one’s life. Researchers are continuously seeking new approaches to the improvement of drug-addicted patient psycho-social treatment program quality, due to the fact that up 80% of the patients resume drug abuse following a year-long course of rehabilitation (Miller, 2005). Researchers have found that commencement or resumption of drug abuse is often linked to social problem-solving deficit (Jaltonskis, 1998). It is being defined as one’s inability to guide one’s behaviour towards the solution of the problem, inability to understand the problem and as an impulse driven reaction to daily issues (Maydeu-Olivares, & D’Zurilla, 1996). Thus, one of the main tasks in psycho-social rehabilitation programs is to facilitate the development of social problem-solving ability in drug-addicted patients (Sussman & Ammes, 2001). It is a well-known fact that personality disorder in drug-addicted patients is linked to resumption of drug abuse and premature forfeiture of the rehabilitation program (Magnavita, 2004), as well as such personality disorders may impede the development of social problem-solving ability (Herrick & Elliott, 2001). The personality disorders may have a substantial impact on the shift in the social-problem solving dimensions within rehabilitation programs.

Bios

Dr. psych., associate professor Jelena Kolesnikova the 2014 year started to manage the Master's study programme "Health Psychology". Riga Stradins University (Latvia), Faculty of Public Health and Social Welfare, Department of Health Psychology and Pedagogy. Head of Latvian Health Psychology Association. She is registered as an Expert of Latvian council of Science in psychology.

Mg. psych., assistant professor Aelita Vagale, Riga Stradins University (Latvia), Faculty of Public Health and Social Welfare, Department of Health Psychology and Pedagogy. Head of Association of Latvian Addiction Psychologists. Clinical Psychologist, psychotherapist. Since 1994 working with patients with addiction.