



RESOURCE OVERVIEW

Complex needs capable: A practice resource for drug and alcohol services

Complex needs capable: A practice resource for drug and alcohol services has been developed as part of the Network of Alcohol and Drugs Agencies (NADA) Practice Enhancement Program (funded by the Mental Health and Drug Alcohol Office of the NSW Ministry of Health). The Practice Enhancement Program aims to build capacity within drug and alcohol non government organisations through addressing staff skills, knowledge and confidence, as well as organisational capacity, in responding to the needs of clients who present with complex needs such as drug and alcohol/ co-existing drug and alcohol and mental health issues, a cognitive impairment and /or criminal justice contact.

The resource includes practice tips for workers, considerations for services, links theory to practice and provides information on what workers need to know about particular complex need issues such as acquired brain injury, intellectual disability, and criminal justice contact and a useful links to services and resources of interest. This resource is currently in production. Chapter topics will include:

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Why be complex capable

Chapter 3: What do you need to know about complex clients

Chapter 4: Practice tips for workers

Chapter 5: Screening and Assessment

Chapter 6: Considerations for services

Chapter 7: Theory behind practice

Chapter 8: Other complex needs

Chapter 9: Further resources

This resource will be supported by a CD-Rom linking the reader directly to further information, service templates, useful websites and additional resources in the area of complex needs.

The NADA Working with Complex Needs Resource Advisory Group has included the following key stakeholders:

- Ageing Disability and Home Care, Family and Community Services
- Brain Injury Association NSW
- Community Restorative Centre NSW
- Corrective Services NSW
- Drug and Alcohol Multicultural Education Centre

- Intellectual Disability Rights Service, Criminal Justice Support Network
- Karralika Programs Inc.
- Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Office, NSW Ministry of Health
- NSW Council of Intellectual Disability
- Russell Family Fetal Alcohol Disorders Association
- University of Technology Sydney

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