**NRSMHN 2024 ASM**

**Speakers short talk summaries**

**Dr Rob Waller, Kathy Harrison and Dr Elvina Gountouna**

*The challenges and options when using routine data to support mental health research*

DataLoch is a data service in Lothian that can support researchers with primary and secondary care data to support mental health related studies. The talk will consider the challenges in data-driven mental health research, and position DataLoch as a resource that can help to shed light on complex care pathways and multi-morbidities.

**Prof Deborah Cairns**

*The Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory: Addressing the health inequalities faced by people with learning disabilities*

SLDO delivers rigorous, inclusive and impactful research and teaching that aims to improve the lives of people with learning disabilities.  Professor Cairns will provide an overview of the work carried out by SLDO, providing some key examples of the health inequalities experienced by people with learning disabilities.

**Dr Roisin Mooney**

*CO-PACT Study*

Racialised populations are disproportionately detained under the Mental Health Act. Co-PACT was an NIHR PRP funded study that foregrounded lived experience. We used the creative method of photovoice to facilitate people who had been detained in the preceding two years to share their experiences. These experiences then informed a series of local and national experience based co-design workshops, which result in both local action plans and national policy recommendations.

**Prof Liz Hughes**

*Understanding how police respond to mental health concerns*

The talk will be presenting the findings from a scoping review as well as preliminary themes from first phase of the primary data from observations and interviews in two police forces regarding how police conceptualise, prioritise and respond to incidents that involve people with mental health concerns from a policing, partner agency and lived experience perspective

**Prof Colin McKay**

*SIDMA and capacity – what next?*

A distinctive feature of Scottish mental health law is the requirement that ‘SIDMA’ (significant impairment of decision-making ability) be present to justify compulsory treatment or detention. This presentation will outline research into how SIDMA is understood and applied, the implications of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the proposals of the Scottish Mental Health Law Review for a new test of Autonomous Decision Making. It will consider whether SIDMA has a future and what could replace it.

**Graham Morgan**

*Involving people with lived experience of mental ill health in discussions and research around mental health legislation: barriers and solutions*

Graham will give a perspective based on his work at the MWC as an engagement officer; his personal life and his past work with SMHLR and HUG action for mental health about the need to involve people with lived experience in debate and research into mental health legislation, the barriers, positives and necessities we should all be aware of.

**Dr Thomas Ward**

*Optimising AVATAR therapy for people who hear distressing voices: learning from the AVATAR2 trial*

Within the past decade AVATAR therapy has emerged as an effective digital therapy for distressing voices in psychosis. AVATAR therapy involves voice-hearers engaging in a series of facilitated dialogues with a digital embodiment of the distressing voice (the ‘avatar’). The therapy aims to reduce distress and help people to live life on their own terms.  In this talk I will discuss the multi-centred AVATAR2 trial which has focused on therapy optimisation and wider implementation, including delivery of AVATAR therapy for the first time within a Scottish clinical context.

**Dr Premal Shah**

*The explosion in adult ADHD assessment demand- a perfect public empowerment storm?*

Dr Shah will be presenting data that quantifies the unpredicted increase in demand for adult ADHD assessment and relating it to important markers of social change out with the control of medical and governmental influence. This data may be important in informing a cogent and fair strategy for neurodevelopmental disorders.

**Dr Mark McCann**

*Systems, social networks and mental health*

This talk will introduce how the structures and features of social relationships can influence health and wellbeing, providing examples of the approaches that allow us to better understand the complex structures in social and organisational systems. The talk will discuss the potential for network approaches to research, evaluation, and whole system approaches.

**Dr Veenu Gupta**

*Supporting and Empowering the Lived Experience Workforce: Reflecting on the Past, Being Present, and Looking to the future*

Dr Veenu Gupta will reflect on her circular journey of going from being a patient diagnosed with psychosis to working as Assistant Professor in Lived Experience Research to becoming a patient again. Veenu will discuss her past experiences, taking stock of the present as a lived experience researcher and hopes for the future. These experiences will be contextualised into her PhD research by presenting findings aimed at understanding the identity and support needs of lived experience researchers and providers. Veenu will then provide a vision for hopes for the future for the lived experience field and identify ways for the profession to be supportive, empowering, and flourishing to support the growth of the lived experience workforce.