

# THE DRUG TREATMENT CENTRE BOARD

## Learning from the Past – Developing for the Future

An educational conference for those working in addiction services in Ireland

18th September 2006 - Newgrange Hotel, Navan, Co. Meath

4th October 2006 - Mill Park Hotel, Donegal Town, Co. Donegal

17th October 2006 - Kilkenny River Court, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny

Following on from the success of the 2005 Educational Events in Galway, Limerick and Cork, The Drug Treatment Centre Board is delighted to present a series of seminars taking place in Meath, Donegal and Kilkenny. Over the past three years we have developed an educational programme tailored to meet the needs of our colleagues working in addiction services around the country. As part of our ongoing commitment to education in addiction we have expanded our programme in 2006 and we are delighted to present exceptional speakers on the topics of:-

- Dr Des Corrigan – "The Effects of Psychoactive Drugs"
- Dr Joe Barry / Dr Declan Bedford – "Drugs and Alcohol"
- Dr Brion Sweeney - "The 4 Tier Model of Addiction Services in Ireland"
- Dr Bobby Smyth – "Development of Adolescent Services"

In response to feedback from 2006 delegates, the afternoon session will have a special focus on developing services for adolescents. Kevin Ducray and Seamas Noone of The Drug Treatment Centre Board will make a presentation on the "Young Persons Programme", the history of its development, reviewing its services and their evolution, the needs of clients, the multidisciplinary teams and the challenges ahead.

Our mission is to:

"provide an integrated person centred, specialist addiction service,  
supported by best practice and national leadership in academic excellence."

We know from previous delegates responses that these events are hugely beneficial to those in attendance. We look forward to visiting each of these regions and hope to have the pleasure of welcoming you and your colleagues to one of our seminars!

Sheila Heffernan  
General Manager

### SEMINAR PROGRAMME

Time	Information
09.30hrs	Registration and Refreshments
10.00hrs	"Drugs: Mood, Memory and Mayhem" Dr Des Corrigan
10.45hrs	"Drugs and Alcohol" • "Drugs and Alcohol: Should we be approaching them so differently?" Dr Joe Barry (18th September and 4th October) • "The problems caused by our drinking: when we will start taking them seriously?" Dr Declan Bedford (17th October)
11.30hrs	Refreshment Break
11.45hrs	"The 4 Tier Model of Addiction Services in Ireland" Dr Brion Sweeney
12.40hrs	Local Co-ordinators Update – a presentation on the status of local services by the local co-ordinator.
13.00hrs	Lunch
14.00hrs	Special Focus: Developing Services for Adolescents • "Life Beyond Methadone" Kevin Ducray and Seamas Noone • "Adolescent Drug and Alcohol Abuse in Ireland – Developing a Coherent Treatment Response" Dr Bobby Smyth
16.00hrs	Questions and Answers
16.15hrs	Conference Closes



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**Speaker** **Dr. Desmond Corrigan**

Dr Desmond Corrigan is Senior Lecturer and formerly Head of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Trinity College Dublin. He is the Chairperson, National Advisory Committee on Drugs (2000-to date), a Member of the Inter Departmental Group on Drugs (2005–to date) a Member of the Advisory Committee on Human Medicines at the Irish Medicines Board (2006-to date) and he represents Ireland on the Scientific Committee of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) and on its Risk Assessment Committee for New Psychoactive Substances.

Dr Corrigan is also Chairperson of the European Councils Horizontal Working Party on Drugs 2004, Chairperson of the EMCDDA Scientific Committee and former Chairman of the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Local Drugs Task Force from 1997–2000. Author of "Facts about Drug Misuse in Ireland" (3rd Edition), Dr Corrigan lectures to drug workers & other healthcare professionals, Gardai, teachers, parents and participants on Addiction Studies courses on various aspects of problem drug-taking.

**Paper** **Drugs: Mood, Memory & Mayhem**

Psychoactive drugs, by definition, are mood-altering chemicals, pleasurable for some, but harmful in others, not least in those with co-existing mood disorders. Given the extent of co-morbidity/dual diagnosis in the drug using population, there is an urgent need for Irish Guidelines to manage such patients. In other cases the use of stimulants, hallucinogens, cannabis and MDMA (Ecstasy) may be a cause of mental ill-health. Particularly controversial is the claimed long-term neurotoxicity of ecstasy resulting in depression and linked to the memory problems being reported by chronic users. Concurrent cannabis use has been suggested as an explanation for this based on the research evidence and on the recognition of specific brain cannabinoid receptors. Increasing attention is being focussed on a related amphetamine derivative – methamphetamine known as "Meth", "Ice" or "Crystal", not least because of the psychotic violence associated with it and other psychostimulants such as cocaine. However it would be foolish to overemphasise the role of cocaine in violent offences while ignoring the much bigger risk posed by alcohol. Because of its complex effects on the human brain including loss of inhibitory control, reduced anxiety about the consequences of actions and amplification of risk-taking, violence is much more likely with alcohol than with any other drug. This highlights the fact that an individual does not have to be addicted to a drug to be harmed by it, which is the theme which features prominently throughout this presentation.

**Speaker** **Dr Declan Bedford (17th October Only)**

Dr Declan Bedford graduated from the Medical School of University College Dublin. He is a Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. He works as a Specialist in Public Health Medicine for the Population Directorate of the Health Service Executive and is based in Navan Co Meath. He is a board member of The Drug Treatment Centre Board and was a member of the Strategic Task Force on Alcohol. His work interests include alcohol related harm, injury, suicide and mens health and has many research papers published in national and international journals.

**Paper:** **The problems caused by our drinking: When will we start taking them seriously?**

Ireland has a serious alcohol problem as seen by our high levels of consumption and our tendency to binge drink, which are amongst the highest in Europe. The result of this is the high rate of alcohol related harm as seen in the high level of deaths on the roads and the high suicide rate, particularly amongst young males where alcohol use is an important factor. Alcohol is also an important factor in social and domestic violence, hospital admissions and causes problems in Accident and Emergency Departments.

Despite many recommendations to reduce the level of alcohol related harm there has been little implementation of the evidence based actions which are required if we are to reduce the huge health and social costs of our drinking. Dr Bedford will discuss the barriers to making progress and what can and should be done at national and community level

**Speaker** **Dr Joe Barry (18th September and 4th October only)**

Dr Joe Barry is a Specialist in Public Health Medicine with the Health Service Executive Eastern Region and a Senior Lecturer in Public Health, at the Department of Public Health and Primary Care, Trinity College Dublin.

Dr Barry qualified in Medicine from UCC and has worked in Dublin's drug services since 1989. He has been Medical Advisor to The National Drug Strategy Team since its establishment in 1996 and was a member of The Drug Treatment Centre Board from 1993-2003. Dr Barry is a member of the National Advisory Committee on Drugs and the Strategic Task Force on Alcohol, Dr Barry has published extensively nationally and internationally on drug related issues.

**Paper** **Drugs and Alcohol – Should we be treating them so differently?**

There has been concerted political and public sector action in relation to addressing illicit drug use in Ireland over the past 15 years. From a position of having very little service provision we have moved to having a very high percentage of drug users in treatment. Also, indicators of drug related harm have improved. Unfavourable international comparisons and the threat of HIV infection were major stimuli for Irish Government action. There was also political consensus, shared by public officials that 'something needed to be done'.

All of this contrasts markedly with our response to alcohol. During the 1990s our per capita alcohol consumption increased by 41%. The 8% increase in the United Kingdom was the next highest increase. Per capita consumption in most European Union countries dropped during the same time period. Indices of alcohol related harm increased. Government has ignored its own evidence based reports and recommendations.

Whereas the suppliers of illicit drugs rightly have no place in policy formulation, alcohol producers are centre stage, having more influence with Government than public health practitioners. The reasons for these different approaches will be explored and suggestions for improvement will be made.

**Quotes about 2005 DTCS Seminars:**

"Excellent and very informative day"

"Papers and topics delivered in a very listener friendly and educational manner"

"A very stimulating and thought provoking conference."



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**Speaker**      **Dr Brion Sweeney**

Dr Brion Sweeney is a Consultant Psychiatrist at The Drug Treatment Centre Board where he provides a range of specialist clinical services in the area of substance misuse. This includes the assessment and management of co-morbidity in drug misuse. Dr Sweeney is also a Consultant Psychiatrist in substance misuse at The Mater Hospital, Clinical Director of Substance Misuse Services in the Health Service Executive Northern Region and holds a Masters Degree in Psychotherapy.

Dr Sweeney has extensive experience in the further training of Non Consultant Hospital Doctors at The Drug Treatment Centre Board through the Royal College of Psychiatry and has contributed significantly to drug treatment policy and the development of addiction services in Ireland over many years.

**Paper**      **The Four Tier Model of Addiction Services in Ireland**

The misuse of substances has become entrenched within Irish Society in recent decades. All our cities are affected by drugs, which include opiates, cocaine and cannabis while there are increasing reports of alcohol causing problem behaviours and health harms. Each region of the HSE needs to develop comprehensive drug and alcohol treatment services in order to deal with the treatment demand from this increasing cohort of substance misusers. This talk will focus on a four-tiered approach to service development so that regional policy makers and planners can map their service against such a template and identify gaps which can assist in planning adequate services for the increasing drug and alcohol problem affecting all parts of Ireland."

## Special Focus: The Young Persons Programme

**Meeting the Needs of Young People – Life Beyond Methadone.**

This presentation will give an overview of the Drug Treatment Centre Board's Young Person's Programme, which was established in March 2001 to respond to the needs of adolescents experiencing opiate related issues. It will outline the team involved, the assessment and treatment processes and future plans, with frequent use of visual aids such as photographs and video clips together with client quotations, to highlight the unique spirit of the Young Person's Programme (YPP). Therefore the presentation will discuss and outline how the YPP has attempted to holistically address the diverse needs of adolescents who are experiencing addiction problems, through a multidisciplinary team approach. Key topics covered will include a brief history and background to the establishment of the YPP, the YPP client profile and an overview of the role played by various members of the multidisciplinary team in addressing (the often very diverse) needs of clients. In this regard the referral, assessment, intervention, care plan review, consultation- liaison and aftercare phases of treatment will be outlined. Treatments include psychiatric, medical, psychological, social and counselling interventions as well as activities such as Reiki, art and music groups as well as considerable interagency work. Challenges for the future as well as areas identified for future development will also be discussed.

**Kevin Ducray**

Kevin Ducray is the Senior Clinical Psychologist at the Drug Treatment Centre Board. He obtained his Masters Degree in Clinical Psychology with Distinction from the University of Natal, South Africa. He has worked as a lecturer and as a clinician in a number of areas including adult mental health, medical psychology and has worked with young people in the capacity of a police and military psychologist. He also holds qualifications in Education and in Human Resource Assessment.

**Seamas Noone**

Seamas Noone is the Clinical Operations Manager at the Drug Treatment Centre Board. Qualified as an RGN, R.N.I.D, his other qualifications include a Diploma in Management and Employee Relations. Seamas was involved in initiating and developing Community Drug Teams within the Eastern Region before taking up the role of Clinical Operations Manager in the Drug Treatment Centre Board in 2001.

**Speaker**      **Dr Bobby Smyth**

Dr Bobby Smyth is a Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist, working full time with adolescents who have addiction problems, based at the Addiction Service of the HSE, Dublin Mid-Leinster and the Drug Treatment Centre Board. Dr Smyth completed general psychiatry training in St John of God Hospital, Dublin before undertaking higher specialist training on Merseyside in England. Also currently lecturing in Trinity College on addiction with the Department of Public Health & Primary Care. Dr Smyth previously sat on the Executive Committee of the Child Psychiatry section of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. In addition to his current post, Dr Smyth sat on the Department of Health working party examining treatment services for under 18s with serious addiction problems in Ireland. He was on the addiction advisory subgroup reporting to the Expert Group on Mental Health Policy. He has been involved in addiction research for past ten years and has published a dozen research papers in national & international peer reviewed journals.

**Paper:**      **Adolescent Drug & Alcohol Abuse in Ireland – Developing a Coherent Treatment Response**

Irish teenagers demonstrate high rates of both alcohol and drug abuse compared to their European counterparts. There are many diverse routes into addiction. There are an enormous number of agencies and services, both statutory and voluntary, which come into contact with substance abusing teenagers. These services vary in their skill to identify and manage substance problems. The Working group on treatment services for under 18s with serious drug problems recently produced their report (Department of Health & Children, 2005) and outlined a proposal to develop community based specialist adolescent addiction treatment services across Ireland. This service will include staff competent in individual therapy, family therapy, assessment & treatment of co-morbid psychiatric disorder and assessment of adolescent development. In view of the multiple and complex needs of young people with serious drug & alcohol problems, the adolescent addiction service will need to work collaboratively with a wide range of other services from areas such as education, criminal justice, community and voluntary sector and other health service providers.

### Quotes about 2005 DTCTB Seminars:

"Great to have these speakers presenting locally – keep coming back."

"Excellent Event ... I learned a lot, seminar notes are very helpful to bring back to the work place and share information with colleagues."

"I found this seminar an excellent learning tool, not "basic" as so many seminars are. A really valuable learning experience".



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## Seminar Application Form

### Personal Details:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Tick:	Venue:	Date:	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/>	Newgrange Hotel, Navan, Co. Meath	18th September 2006	€150.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mill Park Hotel, Donegal Town, Co. Donegal	4th October 2006	€150.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kilkenny River Court, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny	17th October 2006	€150.00

### Payment Details:

Cheque \_\_\_\_\_ (Please detail cheque number)

Invoice My Organisation \_\_\_\_\_ (Please detail purchase order number)

### Signature:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Terms and Conditions:

- Places are strictly limited at each venue.
- One application form per delegate. Additional forms may be downloaded from [www.addictionireland.ie/events](http://www.addictionireland.ie/events)
- All applications should be completed and returned to: 2006 Seminar Series, The Drug Treatment Centre Board, Trinity Court, 30-31 Pearse Street, Dublin 2.
- Only applications accompanied by a purchase order number or payment in full shall be accepted. Cheques should be made payable to "The Drug Treatment Centre Board". We regret we cannot accept credit card payment.
- Upon receipt and processing of each application, a booking confirmation shall be sent by e-mail/post.
- Seminar Fee includes attendance, speaker notes, refreshments and lunch.
- Cancellations received one month prior to the Seminar shall be refunded.
- Cancellations received after this time are non refundable.
- Substitute - A substitute may attend the Seminar in place of the original applicant however The Drug Treatment Centre Board must be notified by e-mail in advance.

### Further Information:

To learn more about the services of The Drug Treatment Centre Board or to download a copy of the current Annual Report and Publications please visit our website: [www.addictionireland.ie](http://www.addictionireland.ie)

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