

General Information

- The Forensic Team has links with Mental Health advisors which include consumer & family advisors.
- Information collected is treated in a confidential manner. In the case of significant risk to yourself or others some essential information may have to be shared with other treatment services etc.
- Some demographic data is entered on computer as a requirements of the Ministry of Health for planning purposes.
- Mental Health clinicians receive supervision, which means that they may discuss some aspects of your treatment with a senior staff member (who is also bound by confidentiality). This is Southern DHB policy to ensure you receive quality treatment.
- If you are unable to attend an appointment, please let us know as soon as possible.
- It is essential that people do not present for appointments under the influence of alcohol or non-prescribed drugs.
- Students have clinical placements with our team. Permission is obtained before a student is involved with treatment. You have the right to decline student involvement.
- Southern DHB is a smoke free site. If you require help stopping smoking please ask your treatment team.

Feedback

If you have a complaint or compliment about the service you are receiving please contact:

Your key worker or the Forensic Team manager or

Quality and Risk (03) 213 5738 or
feedback@southerndhb.govt.nz

Health & Disability Advocacy Service South Island
Phone: 0800 377 766 or www.advocacy.org.nz

Contacts

Community Forensic Mental Health Team

Address: Southern DHB Mental Health,
Addictions and Intellectual
Disability Services
Southland Hospital
Kew Road
PO Box 828
Invercargill

Phone: (03) 214 5786

Freephone: 0800 44 33 66

Facsimile: (03) 214 5795

Web: www.southerndhb.govt.nz

Future Directions Southland Mental Health Network Website:

www.futuredirections.org.nz

If you are in a crisis and need urgent assistance please phone the Southland Mental Health Emergency Team who provide 24 hour a day, 7 days a week service on:

0800 467 846

Community Forensic Mental Health Team Southland
Southern DHB 100467 V1 Released 09/08/2017

Mental Health, Addictions and Intellectual Disability Service

Community Forensic Mental Health Team (Southland)

Monday to Friday
8:30am – 5:00pm

“Better Health, Better Lives, Whānau Ora”

The Community Forensic Mental Health Service

Forensic psychiatry deals with the assessment, treatment and long term management of those patients whose mental disorder affects their behaviour to such a degree that they are liable to or have offended against the law. Southern DHB Forensic Service, based in Invercargill consists of a multidisciplinary team delivering forensic, court liaison and prison liaison services.

The team includes:

- Community support worker
- Forensic Mental Health nurse
- Māori Health advisor (Kaumatua)
- Psychiatrist
- Psychologist
- Social Worker

Referrals

Referrals can be received from: the Prison Service; the Probation Service; the Courts; Lawyers; the Police; other Mental Health services.

We welcome previous clients and their family (whānau) or support people contacting us to discuss re-referral if problems arise. The service is for people 17 years and older.

Assessment and Treatment

This is a mental health assessment and sometimes it may be a court ordered report. In conjunction with the client, a treatment plan will be developed to meet their specific needs.

Support and Treatment

Ongoing support and education will be provided to clients, their family (whānau) caregivers as well as community organisations.

Discharge

Regular reviews are held and discharge is planned with the client to ensure that sufficient support is available.

The Court Liaison Service

The Service provides:

- Initial informal Court reports that include mental state examination and risk assessment.
- Support/guidance on relevant legislation.
- Provide recommendations to the Courts.
- Arrange formal Court reports with the Forensic psychiatrist.
- Treatment and follow-up in conjunction with Forensic psychiatrist.
- Support and education to clients and family (whānau).
- Cultural input/consultation.
- Provide liaison, support and education if appropriate, e.g.
 - Child & Family Therapy Service
 - Alcohol & Drug Service
 - Psychological counselling
- Liaison with Prison liaison nurse for sentenced/remand inmates who require support.

The Prison Liaison Service

The Service provides:

- Access to Forensic psychiatrist on weekly basis.
- Mental Health assessment and risk management.
- Access, if appropriate, to a Forensic social worker for support and information gathering for family (whānau).
- Arrange court ordered psychiatric assessments.
- Treatment and follow-up in conjunction with the Forensic psychiatrist.

- Support and education to clients and family (whānau).
- Cultural input/consultation via Te Korowai Hou Ora.
- Provide liaison, support and education for prisoners and staff within the Department of Corrections.
- Liaise with prison medical staff and letter sent to medical officer after each outpatient appointment with Forensic psychiatrist.
- Liaison with prison medical staff and medical officer.
- Liaison with other agencies if input for inmate useful, i.e. Child & Family Therapy Services, Alcohol and other drug services, psychological counselling.
- Liaison with the Court Liaison Service for remand inmates who require support.
- Relevant documentation in prison medication notes.

Referrals

Referrals are for those inmates whose behaviour or mental health is causing concern. Referrals can be received from: Prison medical staff or medical officer; Corrections staff; Lawyers; Community Probation Service; other Mental Health Services; organisations associated with the Department of Courts.

Inmates will be seen within 24 hours of referral or the next working day.