

- 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 requirement 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 case manager or the Forensic Team Manager **or**

The Patient Affairs Office, Southern DHB
Phone: 03 470 9534 **or**

Health & Disability Advocacy Service South Island
Phone: 0800 555 050 or www.advocacy.org.nz

Community Forensic Mental Health Team

Address: Southern DHB Mental Health Addictions and Intellectual Disability Services
Wakari Hospital
Taieri Road
Private Bag 1921
Dunedin

Phone: (03) 476 9680

Freephone: 0800 44 33 66

Facsimile: (03) 476 9681

Web: www.southerndhb.govt.nz

If you are in a crisis and need urgent assistance please phone the Emergency Psychiatric Service (EPS) who provide 24 hour a day, 7 days a week service on:

0800 467 846

Community Forensic Mental Health Team (Otago)
Southern DHB V1 100752 V1 Released 21/03/2018

Mental Health, Addictions and Intellectual Disability Service

Community Forensic Mental Health Team (Otago)

Monday to Friday

8:30am – 5:00pm

“Better Health, Better Lives, Whānau Ora”

Community Forensic Mental Health Team (Otago)

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 Dunedin consists of a multidisciplinary team delivering forensic, court liaison, prison liaison and community mental health follow-up services.

The team includes:

- Forensic Mental Health nurses
- Psychiatrists
- Psychologists
- Social Workers
- Occupational Therapists

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 collaboration 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 collaboration with forensic psychiatrist.
- Support and education to clients and family (whānau).
- Cultural input/consultation.
- 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.
- Arrange court ordered psychiatric assessments.
- Treatment and follow-up in collaboration with the Forensic psychiatrist.
- Support and education to clients and family (whānau).
- Cultural input/consultation through Te Oranga Tonu Tanga and Kai Tiaki.
- Provide liaison, support and education for prisoners and staff within the Department of Corrections.
- 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.

The Case Manager Service

The Service provides:

- Clinical assessments and interventions consistent with their professional role including monitoring of the consumer's mood and mental state.
- Facilitation of mental health and addiction recovery, and continuity of treatment and service coordination, in order to meet the ongoing and changing identified needs of the consumer (tangata whaiora).
- Coordinates the development of a multidisciplinary treatment plan and ensures that treatment is planned in a manner that is least restrictive (taking account of safety considerations) and sensitive to the recovery needs, cultural and social beliefs, values and practices of the consumer and family / carer.
- Encourages and supports the consumer to be enrolled with a GP and access him or her for their physical health needs.
- Manages the interface with other agencies related to the recovery of the consumer with a knowledge of (and links with) community services, agencies and/or resources, and accurately conveys or provides copies of understandable information to the consumer (tangata whaiora) and family (whānau).