

## Alcohol and Other Drugs Psychosocial Interventions Practice Guide

**Summary** This Information Bulletin advises all people who work in an alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment setting [public, non-government organisations (NGOs) and private] about the release of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Psychosocial Interventions. The Practice Guide has broader application for professionals in other settings providing Psychosocial support to people who may experience harm from AOD use.

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**Applies to** Local Health Districts, Board Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Chief Executive Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Specialty Network Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Affiliated Health Organisations, NSW Health Pathology, Public Health System Support Division, Cancer Institute, Government Medical Officers, Community Health Centres, Public Hospitals

**Distributed to** Ministry of Health, Public Health System, Divisions of General Practice, Government Medical Officers, Private Hospitals and Day Procedure Centres

**Audience** Allied Health Staff;Nursing Staff;Clinical;Drug and Alcohol Staff;Clinical Staff;Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services

## **Alcohol and Other Drugs Psychosocial Interventions Practice Guide**

### **PURPOSE**

This Information Bulletin advises all people who work in an alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment setting [public, non-government organisations (NGOs) and private] about the release of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Psychosocial Interventions - [Practice Guide](#).

### **KEY INFORMATION**

The Practice Guide summarises the guiding principles, professional practice, psychological processes, and psychosocial interventions used within AOD treatment settings. It provides updated evidence on psychosocial interventions, guidance on responding to people with co-occurring concerns and resources for education on AOD service provision.

The Practice Guide states that specialist AOD psychosocial interventions be underpinned by:

- a person-centred, trauma-informed, and evidence-based approach to AOD treatment
- an appreciation for the strengths of each patient through AOD psychosocial interventions, including the recognition of the strength of diversity
- A commitment to engage in ongoing professional development, curiosity, and openness to feedback on patients' experiences of treatment.

The Practice Guide applies to the whole AOD workforce providing psychosocial interventions for people accessing specialist AOD treatment in NSW. The Practice Guide has broader application for professionals in other settings providing Psychosocial support to people who may experience harm from AOD use.

### **Local Implementation**

Local implementation of the Practice Guide is the responsibility of Service Executives and Senior Clinicians and will be supported by the Centre for Alcohol and Other Drugs (CAOD). Key to implementation is a local approach that accounts for how local protocols, models of care or medical procedures are aligned with this Practice Guide.

### **Further Information**

For further information please contact the Centre for Alcohol and Other Drugs Branch via email - [MOH-CAOD@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:MOH-CAOD@health.nsw.gov.au).

### REVISION HISTORY

Version	Approved By	Amendment Notes
IB2024_008 February 2024	Deputy Secretary, Population and Public Health	The Practice Guide has broader application for professionals in other settings providing Psychosocial support to people who may experience harm from AOD use
GL2008_009 May 2008	Deputy Secretary, Population and Public Health	New Guideline