Centre for International Health

Methodological Challenges in Cross-Cultural Research around Alcohol and Drug use with Women of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Background

Presented by

Susan Lee

Centre for International Health Doctoral student Susan Lee, from the Women’s Health Services (WHS) in Perth, works with women from over sixty different nationalities, including many newly arrived migrants and refugees. New arrivals access a wide range of WHS programs, but few ethnic women attend the alcohol and other drug services offered by the organisation. Staff attribute the low numbers of women accessing the alcohol and other drug (AOD) services to service delivery not matching women’s needs, particularly around concepts of prevention and treatment, rather than to lack of need. To explore some of the AOD issues and concerns of newly arrived women, WHS in conjunction with Curtin University of Technology conducted a needs assessment with newly arrived women (0 to 5 years in Australia). This presentation will look at some of the methodological issues involved in doing this needs assessment including working with women from many language and cultural groups, using interpreters and bilingual workers, interviewer safety especially with high rates of disclosure of domestic violence, and getting consumer involvement in the project. Preliminary results of the project will also be discussed.

When: Tuesday 14th August 2007
Time: Lunch from 12pm, presentation from 12.20-1.30pm
Where: Building 109 Room 201
RSVP: by 10th August- essential for catering purposes
Natasha Forde n.forde@curtin.edu.au or 9266 7468

Light lunch and refreshments will be available

About Susan

Susan Lee is a Program Manager at Women’s Health Services Perth, an organisation that was established through the joining of services originally provided by Women’s Health Care House and Perth Women’s Centre. The services provided by the organisation include medical and clinical services, counselling and provision of health information as well as alcohol and drug services. Susan Lee is in the final year of a Doctorate which is looking at problems related to alcohol, drugs and tobacco for newly arrived women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.