

New developments in patient care, clinical practice and education highlighted at annual Kingston Nursing Research Conference

March 1, 2018

Does one-on-one, street-level assistance to at-risk individuals in Kingston help them navigate life after hospital or prison?

Registered nurse Kyal McCallum, a case manager with the Forensic Outreach Program at Providence Care Mental Health Services, and his colleagues, led by Psychiatrist Dr. Tariq Hassan, undertook research to find out.

“We decided to look at the numbers behind two factors, re-hospitalizations and re-incarcerations, and determine whether we are making an impact,” says McCallum, who has been working with program clients for eight years.

Their study, *The Effects of a Forensic Community Treatment ‘At Risk’ Program on Re-hospitalization and Re-incarceration Rates*, looked at statistics over four years, from 2013-16. While they are still compiling data, the results so far are very encouraging, he says.

Mr. McCallum will share the details of his group’s study at the annual Kingston Nursing Research Conference, **Thursday, March 8** at the Donald Gordon Centre. He will join more than 20 other speakers and presenters exploring a broad spectrum of nursing research topics, including the pending legalization of marijuana.

Other presentations include an overview of a new team approach to better addressing the needs of patients in Kingston Health Sciences’ KGH Emergency Department who don’t need to be hospitalized but have challenges to be addressed before going home.

“It’s made a massive difference,” says Heather Jenkins, Patient Flow Specialist and physiotherapist at KHSC. She will talk about how using the expertise of a multi-professional team to plan and support patients’ safe release from the Emergency Department has had positive effects for patients and their families, as well as Emergency Department staff.

Conference keynote speaker is Colin MacRae, mental health nurse, addiction specialist and Professor, Humber College. He will speak on “Substance Use: What Works?”, followed by a plenary session on the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario’s 2015 Best Practice Guideline project, *Engaging Clients Who Use Substances*.

Conference details and the day’s agenda are available at <http://www.kgh.on.ca/learning/KingstonNRC>

Contact:

Barbara Patterson,
Conference Organizer
E: pattersb@kgh.kari.net