

After Hours Emergency Mental Health & Problem Gambling Service

The objective is to provide a clinical service to assist people in acute psychiatric crisis in relation to problem gambling and suicidal behaviour, through the provision of screening, assessment, formulation, and brief targeted intervention to individuals presenting to the Alfred Accident and Emergency Department and CATT triage. The intervention model relates to a 3-tier model of care encompassing primary, secondary and tertiary consultation.

Primary Consultation

- Direct interventions between service worker and individual who presents with problem gambling and suicide risk.
- Treatment based upon an initial comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment framework.
- Identify broad range of problems and address these by facilitating referral to other specialist agencies where appropriate.
- Provide one to six sessions of therapeutic intervention will be offered based upon initial assessment and goals set.

Secondary Consultation

- Assist problem gambling services and/or other healthcare providers in identifying and accessing appropriate mental health services for people with problem gambling and co-morbid mental health problems.
- Assist clients being case managed by mental health services to access Gamblers Help Southern for targeted interventions regarding their gambling behaviour.

Tertiary Consultation

- Provide education and training to health professionals on co-morbid problem gambling and mental health issues.
- Provide training for Gambler's Help Southern around specific mental health issues.
- Provide training regarding identification and treatment of individuals with gambling problems to Mental Health Services staff.

Referrals can be made by contacting Alfred CATT triage on 1300 363 746. For consultation contact Michael Field on 0400-047169.