

Partners in Prevention: Understanding and enhancing first responses to suicide crisis situations

Presenter: Dr Carla Meurk

Thursday 26th October 12.30-1.30pm
Room 410, Level 4, 207 Bouverie Street



Emergency service agencies including police, ambulance and mental health are frequently required to be at the frontline of responding to mental health crises in the community, where people may have significant mental health, emotional, or substance misuse problems and may be suicidal.

Partners in Prevention, funded by the Queensland Government's Suicide Prevention Health Taskforce, is a research informed, implementation focused suicide prevention initiative. The project seeks to better understand the characteristics of individuals who make suicide related calls to emergency services, the types of responses that could best serve their needs, the capacity of services to deliver appropriate responses, and how to improve the continuity of care following a suicide crisis that results in a call to emergency services.

In this presentation, Dr Carla Meurk will outline the Partners in Prevention project, its objectives and its associated programme of research, which includes a major data linkage study. Formative feedback will be welcomed.

Dr Carla Meurk is a project manager for *Partners in Prevention: Understanding and Enhancing First Responses to Suicide Crisis Situations* at the Queensland Forensic Mental Health Service, honorary senior fellow at The University of Queensland, and Principal Researcher at Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research. Carla's research interests are in mixed methods approaches to enhancing the translational validity of research and in improving the use of evidence in mental health and addiction services and policy.