



The VDDI website:

Dual Diagnosis Australia and New Zealand at

www.dualdiagnosis.org.au

News and Resource repository

VDDI - NEXUS provides a **central contact number and e-mail** for specific requests for consultation for all the VDDI

03 9231 2083

nexus@svha.org.au

Please use this number or e-mail if you cannot contact your local VDDI Team / service.

Victorian Dual Diagnosis Initiative (VDDI)

Information & Contact Details



VDDI Rural Services		
Barwon	Contact: Tel: Email:	
Barwon South-West	Contact: Tel: Email:	Jill Reid 03 5561 9189 jreid@swh.net.au
	Contact: Tel: Email:	Dean Rooke 03 5150 3444 DRooke@lth.com.au
	Contact: Tel: Email:	Marisha Jarecki 03 5320 4100 Marishaj@bhs.org.au
Gippsland	Contact: Tel: Email:	David Murray 03 5823 6000 david.murray@gvhhealth.org.au
	Contact: Tel: Email:	Gary Croton 03 5722 2677 gary.croton@awh.org.au
	Contact: Tel: Email:	Paul Hurnall 03 5454 7608
Hume	Contact: Tel: Email:	Jill Gleeson 03 5018 7901 jgleeson@ramsayhealth.com.au
	Contact: Tel: Email:	
Loddon Mallee	Contact: Tel: Email:	
	Contact: Tel: Email:	

In Victoria, as in other parts of the world, mental health and alcohol and other drug (AOD) services are working with increasing numbers of people who are experiencing both mental health and substance use conditions. The co-occurrence of these conditions (often referred to as 'dual diagnosis') can add complexity to engagement, assessment, treatment and recovery.

The identification of strategic directions for working with people with co-occurring conditions is and ongoing priority for workers, agencies and catchments within Victoria's MH, MHCSS & AOD and other health and welfare service areas. This focus on DD capacity will ensure that we respond effectively to people where DD is a key component of their complex needs presentation.

The goal remains focused around the following priority areas which will ensure that the mainstreaming of Dual Diagnosis(DD) which has been occurring in Victoria over the past decade is actively translated and consolidated in the new and evolving service system which is focused on complex needs service users where DD is a key component.

Victorian Dual Diagnosis Initiative (VDDI)

The Victorian Dual Diagnosis Initiative (VDDI) is a cross-sector (Alcohol and Drug, Mental Health Community Support and Clinical Mental Health) initiative funded by the Victorian Department of Health to contribute to the further development of mental health and drug and alcohol clinicians, agencies and sector's capacity to recognise and respond effectively to people with co-occurring mental health and substance use concerns (dual diagnosis). The VDDI's structure includes four metropolitan agencies with links to VDDI workers embedded in each rural region. The VDDI, in its state wide workforce development role, has developed, promoted and supported industry relevant Dual Diagnosis capability building activities & competency based training and education products. The VDDI is coordinated by the **VDDI Leadership Group (VDDILG)** and the **VDDI Rural Forum (VDDIRF)**.

VDDI Contact details:

Department of Health Region	AOD MHCSS catchment	VDDI Service / Contacts
Eastern Metropolitan	Eastern Melbourne	Eastern Dual Diagnosis Service <i>Contact:</i> Gavin Foster <i>Tel:</i> 03 9843 1288 <i>Email:</i> gavin.foster@easternhealth.org.au
	Inner East Melbourne	
North West Metropolitan	Inner North Melbourne	NEXUS <i>Contact:</i> Chris Hynan <i>Tel:</i> 03 9288 2353 <i>Email:</i> Chris.HYNAN@svhm.org.au
	North Melbourne	
	North Western Melbourne	SUMITT Substance Use Mental Illness Treatment Team <i>Contact:</i> Shane Sweeney <i>Tel:</i> 03 8387 2202 <i>Email:</i> shane.sweeney@mh.org.au
	South Western Melbourne	
Southern Metropolitan	Bayside	Southern Dual Diagnosis Service <i>Contact:</i> Wayne Wright <i>Tel:</i> 03 9556 5255 <i>Email:</i> wayne.wright@monashhealth.org
	Frankston-Mornington Peninsula	
	South-Eastern Melbourne	

VDDI - available services:

The VDDI is funded to provide services to Victorian mental health (both clinical and MHCSS) and AOD services and workers. By negotiation VDDI services are also available to other workers and organisations that also encounter people with dual diagnosis and other complex needs.

Available services include:

Promotion of best practice for co-occurring mental health and substance use problems via provision of a range of specialist clinical services including primary, secondary, tertiary consultations.

Provision of mentoring and change management strategies to stakeholder services and individual staff members in the implementation of integrated practice and the further development of levels of dual diagnosis capability.

Facilitation of agency self-assessment of the agency's dual diagnosis capability and development of a plan to further develop the agency's capability (including identification of training needs).

Education and training within a workforce development context.

Engagement of consumers and carers in developing integrated dual diagnosis practice and related policy and resource development.

Strategic directions for dual diagnosis practice

Why do we need strategic directions?

There is a high prevalence of co-occurring mental health and substance use conditions amongst people receiving treatment for either a mental health or a substance use condition

An array of harms and unwanted outcomes are strongly associated with having both mental health and substance use conditions together
 Recognition of and effective responses to co-occurring conditions often leads to better outcomes.

Strategic directions:

Promote consistency of practice across the service systems and support continuous service improvement

Support mental health (both clinical and community support services) and alcohol and other drugs services to further develop their capacity to recognise and respond effectively to people presenting with co-occurring conditions.

Strategic directions for dual diagnosis practice

Strategic Direction 1	Improve outcomes for people with co-occurring mental health and substance use conditions. This should include their families and significant others
Strategic Direction 2	Provide integrated screening, assessment, treatment and care for people experiencing co-occurring mental health and substance use conditions
Strategic Direction 3	Facilitate integration of the systems and services responding to people with co-occurring mental health and substance use conditions and their families and significant others
Strategic Direction 4	Further develop dual diagnosis capability of Victorian clinical mental health, AOD and mental health community support services sector organisations and workforce

Implementing strategic directions for dual diagnosis

All AOD and MHCSS treatment providers, and clinical mental health services are encouraged to note the strategic directions for dual diagnosis practice.