

Oral presentation

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Proposal for a risk management axis in psychiatric classifications

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Address: Waikato Clinical School, Waikato Hospital, Hamilton New Zealand
from WPA Thematic Conference. Coercive Treatment in Psychiatry: A Comprehensive Review
Dresden, Germany. 6–8 June 2007

Published: 19 December 2007

BMC Psychiatry 2007, **7**(Suppl 1):S114 doi:10.1186/1471-244X-7-S1-S114

This abstract is available from: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-244X/7/S1/S114>

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Risk assessment and management are central issues in many compulsory treatment legislations. Comprehensive clinical assessment and patient management plans have been enhanced by the development of multi-axial classificatory systems. Assessment of risk is an essential clinical task for which the conclusions are not currently reflected in the multi-axial schemata and so have a diminished ability to influence the clinical management plans. Developments in the understanding of risk and its management make it an appropriate time to give consideration to having a risk assessment axis in the future classificatory systems. A model axis designed to inform the patient management plan is presented. This could contribute to a reduction in the need for compulsion.