Neurocognitive Profiles of People Receiving Cognitive Behaviour Therapy

Chief Investigator Name: Sally Hunt
Other Investigators: Amanda Baker, Pat Michie
Admin Institution: University of Newcastle
Start Year: 2006
End Year: 2010
Total funding: $25,000
Priority area: Alcohol
Grant Type: Research Grant

Lay description
The DAISI project is investigating treatments for comorbid depression and alcohol use disorders. Specifically, Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) interventions with varying emphasis on depression and alcohol use are being compared. It is hypothesised that one factor which may significantly impact on an individual's ability to benefit from CBT is their cognitive functioning. To assess this, it is proposed that participants in the DAISI project receive comprehensive neuropsychological assessment upon entering the study. The degree of correlation between cognitive impairment in a range of domains and symptom reduction at the end of treatment will be calculated. The knowledge obtained through this research would assist counsellors in the field of alcohol and other drug treatment and mental health professionals to choose the most appropriate treatment for their clients who present with this comorbidity. Primarily, funding is sought to employ a research assistant who would contribute to the collection of the neuropsychological data.

Research achievements
Data have been collected, entered and cleaned.
Baseline data have been published.
Project yet to be completed.

Expected future outcomes
A paper describing neurocognitive functioning at follow-up and association with therapy response.

Publications & Key Presentations

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