

Psychiatry Grand Rounds

WCM Department of Psychiatry Psychology CE Announcement Faculty Council

(Non) Civil Commitment: An Exploration of Involuntary Psychiatric Treatment

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Sharon Hird, MD

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Weill Cornell Medicine, Chief of Service, Weill Cornell Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program

Lisa Sombrotto, MD

Vice Chair for Integrated and Collaborative Care, Department of Psychiatry, WCM

Michael Turgeon

Peer Specialist

Wednesday, February 1st, 2023

11:00am – 12:30pm

<https://weillcornell.zoom.us/j/92812036154>

Meeting ID: 928 1203 6154

Password: 12345

*1.5 CE credit available to full time and voluntary faculty psychologists and Social Workers who sign in with their full name, attend the majority of the lecture and complete a survey which will be emailed following the completion of the lecture

SPEAKER DISCLOSURE: Nancy J. Needell, MD, Barrie Huberman, PhD, Sharon Hird, MD, Nicholas P. Kambolis, JD, Emily Menand, MD,

Lisa Sombrotto, MD, and Michael Turgeon have no relevant financial relationship(s) with ineligible companies to disclose and DO NOT INTEND to discuss off-label or investigational use of products or services.

***Biographical Information:**

Dr. Needell is a graduate of the Payne Whitney Psychiatry Residency, where she served as chief resident from 1999-2000. After residency, she completed a fellowship in Forensic Psychiatry at the (then) combined Cornell-Columbia Program in Psychiatry and the Law. She has worked in forensic psychiatric hospitals, in the New York State prison system, and as an evaluator at the Brooklyn Mental Health Court, an alternative-to-incarceration program for people with mental illness. For two years, she was an evaluating and testifying psychiatrist in the New York State Assisted Outpatient Treatment program (commonly known as AOT). She continues to maintain an active forensic psychiatric consultation practice. Dr. Needell currently works as an attending psychiatrist in the Weill Cornell Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program and is Medical Director for the Weill Cornell Mobile Crisis Team

Sharon Hird, MD is a psychiatry specialist in New York, NY. Dr. Hird completed a residency at Nyu Hospitals Center. She currently practices at Psychiatry and is affiliated with New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Dr. Barrie Huberman, PhD, is the Clinical Director of Medical Ethics, and Assistant Professor of Medical Ethics at Weill Cornell Medical College. Her training is in Clinical Psychology and prior to moving to current position, she was the Director of Clinical Ethics at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City since 1992. Dr. Huberman is also directly involved in training future clinical ethicists through the 2-year clinical ethics fellowship in the Division of Medical Ethics at Weill Cornell Medical College and the New York Presbyterian Healthcare System

Nicholas P. Kambolis, JD is an Associate General Counsel that represents the Hospital in Mental Hygiene Law matters brought in New York State Supreme Court including petitions for treatment over objection, involuntary retention, court ordered assisted outpatient treatment and other related proceedings

Emily Menand, MD is a psychiatrist in New York, New York. She received her medical degree from Weill Cornell Medicine and has been in practice between 3-5 years.

Lisa Sombrotto, MD is a Psychiatry Specialist in New York, NY and has over 35 years of experience in the medical field. She graduated from George Washington University/School of Medicine and Health sciences in 1988.

Michael Turgeon: In addition to receiving his NY State Peer Certification and comprehensive training in peer advocacy in NYC, Michael received his formal education (BA) from Northeastern University in Boston, MA, the global leader in experiential education. As a result, he acquired four different international experiences for a total of two years working and studying overseas before graduating. Additionally, during his senior year, he completed a six-month co-op at the White House in Washington, DC, during a sitting president's re-election campaign. After graduating from university, he spent many years on and off working in business and in information technology, including stints at IBM in Manhattan and at Harvard University in Cambridge, MA. However, today, as a person living with Bipolar Disorder, he devotes his time helping peers with mental health conditions as a Peer Counselor/Peer Specialist in the CPEP at NYP at Weill Cornell Medical Center. The benefits of a Peer Counselor are clear. Peer Counselors promote hope that recovery is possible through the life they live and through positive self-disclosure i.e. sharing their recovery journey with patients.

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***Bio: see above**

Abstract: Many patients on inpatient psychiatric units in New York State, including at our hospitals, are admitted on an involuntary basis, over their objections, having been found to be in need of treatment and at risk of harm to themselves or others. Recently, Eric Adams, the Mayor of New York City, has proposed that psychiatrists expand the criteria used to determine the need for involuntary psychiatric admission. This roundtable discussion addresses the clinical, legal, educational, and ethical impact that such changes might have on our profession.

Learning Objectives:

1. Discuss the history of involuntary inpatient psychiatric commitment over the past fifty years
2. Describe the proposed changes in the criteria for inpatient commitment in New York State
3. Determine the challenges posed by these proposed changes

References:

1. O' Connor v Donaldson, 422 U.S. 563, 95 S. Ct. 2486 (1975)
2. Jablonski by Pahls v United States, 712 F.2d 391 9th Circuit (1983)
3. Scopes v Shah, 59 AD 2d 203, 398 NYS 2d 911 (1977)
4. In the Matter of Harry M, 96 AD 2d 201 NY Appellate Division (1983)
5. Boggs v Health and Hospitals Corporation, 132 AD 2d 340 NY Appellate Division (1987)