

INTERNATIONAL ASSERTIVE COMMUNITY TREATMENT (ACT) AND FLEXIBLE ACT CONFERENCE

MONDAY, AUGUST 14 – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2023

ROBERT H. LEE ALMUNI CENTRE
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
6163 UNIVERSITY BLVD, VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA

GET DETAILS Including navigating the university campus and accommodations [here](#)

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**REGISTER
\$250**

DISCUSS

Evidence-based interventions to support people living with severe mental health and substance use disorders, including those who have frequent interactions with the justice system.

HEAR

From experts and special guests at plenary and workshop sessions with a special evening for networking with colleagues

CONNECT

With speakers and colleagues at an evening networking event on August 15th

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

*subject to change

Sessions will be held at:

Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre- Jack Poole Hall
Keynote, Presentations and Panel Discussions

Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre- Polygon Homes Classroom

Breakout sessions are concurrent to plenary sessions at a limited capacity. Reserve your seat at a breakout session between July 24-Aug 7.

Full program details will be available to registrants at the conference. There are no virtual options but most session recordings will be available after the conference.

Monday, August 14

Time	Min	Location	Format	Presentation Title	Speaker
08:15				Registration	
08:40		Jack Poole Hall		Opening Remarks / Welcome Ceremony	
08:55	90	Jack Poole Hall	Keynote	Resisting Burnout with Collective Care Solidarity & Transformation	Vikki Reynolds
10:40	30	Jack Poole Hall	Presentation	Hearing the Indigenous Voice	Qwiyahwult-hw Pauline Karch Jai Mills
11:15	45	Jack Poole Hall	Presentation	A Review of the New York State ACT Fidelity: The NYSAF Pilot	Luis Lopez Hessu Chae
11:15	45	Polygon Homes Classroom	Breakout Session	Cardiovascular Risk in Serious Mental Illness	Gaurav Mehta Bilal Hussain
12:00-12:45 LUNCH / POSTER VIEWING					
12:45	60	Jack Poole Hall	Keynote	Evolution of the Flexible ACT Model: Integrated Care at the Consumers' Level	Niels Mulder
13:50	60	Jack Poole Hall	Presentation	Advanced Practice Initiatives in BC- Cognitive Remediation Therapy and Psychosocial Rehabilitation	Mahesh Menon Melissa Yeung Regina Casey
13:50	60	Polygon Homes Classroom	Breakout Session	Connecting Indigenous and Western Worldviews: The Indigenous Client Journey	Qwiyahwult-hw
15:05	20	Jack Poole Hall	Presentation	Forensic ACT in New York City	Jessica Klaver Erica Kwan
15:05	20	Polygon Homes Classroom	Breakout Session	Fostering Institutional Accountability and Inclusion: The ACT Institute's DEI Assessment Tool	Heesu Chae Tania Hameed
15:30	60	Jack Poole Hall	Panel	Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) and Mental Illness Discussion Panel	John Maher Ashok Krishnamoorthy Daniel Vigo (facilitator)
16:30		Jack Poole Hall		Closing Remarks	

**** Breakout Sessions are concurrent to plenary sessions**

Tuesday, August 15

Time	Min	Location	Format	Presentation Title	Speaker
08:15				Registration	
08:30		Jack Poole Hall		Opening Remarks	
08:35	90	Jack Poole Hall	Keynote	"That's Just Crazy Talk"	Victoria Maxwell
10:15	55	Polygon Homes Classroom	Breakout Session	Connecting Indigenous and Western Worldviews: The Indigenous Client Journey	Qwiyahwult-hw
10:20	45	Jack Poole Hall	Presentation	Supporting ACT Staff & Clients: The Role of Police Involvement & Policies Impacting Staff Stress	Catherine Costigan Erica Woodin
11:15	45	Jack Poole Hall	Presentation	Assertive Community Recreation	Kiara Shibley Melissa Jugdeo Cyndi Dallow Emily Warzonek
11:15	45	Polygon Homes Classroom	Breakout Session	Discussion About Integrated Care at the Consumers' Level	Niels Mulder
12:00-12:45 LUNCH / POSTER VIEWING					
12:45	45	Jack Poole Hall	Panel	Integration of Peer Support Specialists on ACT Teams Discussion Panel	Allison Dunning Peer Specialists
13:35	20	Jack Poole Hall	Presentation	Integration of Primary Care into ACT Teams	Sara Pape-Salmon Shauna Archer
13:35	20	Polygon Homes Classroom	Breakout Session	Family Perspective on Spirituality & ACT	Nigel Haggan
14:00	90	Jack Poole Hall	Keynote	Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT): An Essential Component of a Comprehensive System of Care for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness	Mark Munetz
15:45	45	Jack Poole Hall	Presentation	Clozapine Use on ACT Teams: Why, How and Who?	Sean Flynn
15:45	45	Polygon Homes Classroom	Breakout Session	Writers' Right: My Experiments with Writing as a Recreational and Therapeutic Activity	David Lafraniere
16:30		Jack Poole Hall		Closing Remarks	
19:30		Pit Pub		Networking Event with musical guest: The Hairfarmers Free entry with name badge, light snacks provided, cash bar.	

Wednesday, August 16

Time	Min	Location	Format	Presentation Title	Speaker
08:15				Registration	
08:30		Jack Poole Hall		Opening Remarks / Welcome Ceremony	
08:45	60	Jack Poole Hall	Keynote	Supervision During Turbulent Times: Navigating Trauma	Luis Lopez Helle Thorning
09:55	60	Jack Poole Hall	Panel	Relevance of ACT/FACT Programs in addressing complex mental illness and concurrent disorders: A Family Perspective	Daniel Vigo (facilitator)
11:00	75	Jack Poole Hall	Panel	Role of Mandated Care in the Treatment of People with Severe Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Panel Discussion	Mark Munetz Judge Elisabeth Burgess Amy Salmon Daniel Vigo (facilitator)
12:15-12:45 LUNCH / POSTER VIEWING					
12:45	45	Jack Poole Hall	Presentation	From Behaviour Managers to Partners in Healing: Taking the 'Spiritual' Seriously on F/ACT Teams	Kendall Atterbury
13:35	30	Jack Poole Hall	Presentation	Recovery and Strength-Based Language	Luis Lopez
14:10	45	Jack Poole Hall	Presentation	Recovery is Working! Piloting the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Model of Supported Employment	Noah Lipton Gary Scannevin Tania Hameed
14:55		Jack Poole Hall		Closing Remarks	

Keynote

08:55–10:25

Vikki Reynolds (PhD, RCC): Resisting Burnout with Collective Care Solidarity & Transformation

- Explore and define professionalism capitalism, psychology and their impact on the workplace
- Recognize the impacts of structural and targeted abandonment and necropolitics
- Describe transformative work collaboratively to engage and support members of the ACT team and clients

Presentation

10:40–11:10

Qwiyahwult–hw, Pauline Karch, Jai Mills Hearing the Indigenous Voice

- Describe the role of the Indigenous Support Worker in a Mental Health setting
- Review the development and intention of the Fire Circle Sessions
- Describe Indigenous world views and relationship building within the context of Mental Health and ACT Teams

Presentation

11:15–12:00

Luis Lopez (MA MS), Hessu Chae (MSW): A Review of the New York State ACT Fidelity: The NYSAF Pilot

- Describe the development of the New York State ACT Fidelity
- Describe challenges of navigating stakeholders in the development, outside of the (including city/state officials, clinicians, academics, and administrators) Fidelity platform
- Review the essential components of the ACT Team model

Breakout Session

11:15–12:00

Gaurav Mehta (MBBS DCP DLM, MSc (Psych & Diabetes, FAcadMED, FRCPC, FAPA), Bilal Hussain (BSc, Doctor of Medicine): Cardiovascular Risk in Serious Mental Illness

- To understand the risk of CVD (cardiovascular disease) Mortality in our patients with serious mental illness
- To review the evidence-based literature and guidelines on CVD risk monitoring
- To discuss about the management of psychiatric patients from physical health perspective

Keynote

12:45–13:45

Niels Mulder (MD, PhD): Evolution of the (F)ACT model: Integrated Care at the Consumers' Level

- To understand the development of ACT and FACT model,
- To describe the challenges of integrated care, involvement of significant others and empowerment of consumers,
- To present a new model (within (F)ACT) of integrated care and consumer empowerment.

Presentation

13:50–14:50

Mahesh Menon (PhD R. Psych), Melissa Yeung (MSW, RSW), Regina Casey, (PhD MA, OT): Advanced Practice Initiatives in BC- Cognitive Remediation Therapy and Psychosocial Rehabilitation

- Present overview of four Advanced Practices, the model and the network
- Describe the Intersections of the Cognitive Remediation Therapy (CRT) Advanced Practice and the Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR) Advanced Practice to support ACT clients
- Provide further resources from how CRT and PSR can support ACT clients

Breakout Session

13:50–14:50

Qwiyahwult-hw (Elder Facilitator) Connecting Indigenous and Western Worldviews: The Indigenous Client Journey

- Discuss the healing methods (tools) from Indigenous view vs Western view tools through participation
- Explore how these healing tools from both perspectives can be blended to support Indigenous clients' healing journey

Presentation

15:05–15:25

Jessica Klaver (PhD), Erica Kwan (LMHC): Forensic ACT in New York City

- Participants will know the eligibility criteria for Forensic ACT in New York City
- Participants will learn the specialized staffing and services on a Forensic ACT team
- Participants will understand how ACT services are funded in New York

Breakout Session

15:05–15:25

Hessu Chae (MSW), Tania Hameed (MPH, MSW, BSc): Fostering Institutional Accountability & Inclusion: The ACT Institutes' DEI Assessment Tool

- Explore the possible components of DEI principles for creating a person-centered and inclusive system.
- Understand the importance of institutional accountability in discussing DEI principles.
- Recognize the benefits of integrating DEI content into training resources and curricula.

Panel

15:30–16:30

John Maher (MA, MD FRCPC), Ashok Krishnamoorthy (MD FRCPC), Daniel Vigo (MD, Lic. Psych, DrPH): Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) and Mental Illness Discussion Panel

- Describe the law and ethical issues related to MAiD for mental illness.
- Recognize the clinical challenges that are already emerging in Canada.
- Describe the fundamental conflict between suicide prevention goals and state sanctioned suicide.

Keynote

08:35–10:05

Victoria Maxwell (BFA): "That's Just Crazy Talk"

- Illustrate symptoms of mania, depression, psychosis and anxiety
- Describe various experiences and consequences of self-stigma and external stigma.
- Improve skills of empathy and insight into mental illness, treatment and recovery. Explore effectiveness of humor as a recovery tool

Breakout Session

10:15–11:10

Qwiyahwult-hw (Elder Facilitator): Connecting Indigenous and Western Worldviews: The Indigenous Client Journey

- Discuss the healing methods (tools) from Indigenous view vs Western view tools through participation
- Explore how these healing tools from both perspectives can be blended to support Indigenous clients' healing journey

Presentation

10:20–11:05

Erica Woodin (PhD, R Psych), Catherine Costigan (PhD, R Psych): Supporting ACT Staff and Clients: The Role of Police Involvement and Policies Impacting Staff Stress

- Explain rationale for involving police officers on ACT teams
- Explain the core features that ACT staff and clients identify as helpful for police involvement
- Explore themes of criminalization or stigmatization of ACT police officers
- Describe the impact of police involvement impacting staff stress
- Explore organizational policies which are helpful for responding to ACT staff experiences of secondary traumatic stress

Presentation

11:15–12:00

Kiara Shibley, Melissa Jugdeo, Cyndi Dallow, Emily Warzonek (Vancouver ACT Recreation Therapy Team): Assertive Community Recreation

- Utilize methods in recreation therapy
- Describe the role of recreation therapy within the ACT model
- Describe the benefits of recreation therapy for ACT clients

Breakout Session

11:15–12:00

Niels Mulder (MD, PhD): Discussion about integrated care at the consumers' level

- Describe the Resource Group method into the (F)ACT model
- Identify how to work in collaboration with consumers, significant others and professionals in the medical and social domain

Panel

12:45–13:30

Allison Dunning (BA), Peer Specialists: Integration of Peer Specialists on ACT Teams

- Explore the nuances of working with a Peer Support Worker on an ACT Team
- Describe benefits of working with Peer Support in both a community and inpatient context
- Describing the Peer Support Role in both a community and inpatient context

Presentation

13:35–13:55

Sara Pape-Salmon (NP(F)), Shauna Archer (NP(F)):
Integration of Primary Care into ACT Teams

- Describe the operational components of an integrated system of primary care embedded within ACT services
- Describe the rationale for integrating primary care into ACT services
- Describe learnings and challenges of an integrated primary care service into ACT, and how this could inform other ACT Teams considering a similarly integrated system.

Breakout Session

13:35–13:55

Nigel Haggan (MSc, MA, PhD) Family Perspective on Spirituality & ACT

- Describing past and present factors that exclude spirituality from science and medicine.
- Distinguishing spiritual as essential to the flourishing of clients and families.
- Discuss bringing our common language of love and relationship into ACT practice, and how it contributes to holistic well being of clients & families.

Keynote

14:00–15:30

Mark Munetz (MD): Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT): An Essential component of a Comprehensive System of Care for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness

- Identify the three major contributors to the over-representation of serious mental disorders in the US criminal legal system.
- List the five intercept points at which a person with serious mental illness may be identified and diverted from the criminal legal system to treatment.
- Recognize the essential elements and building blocks of an AOT program other than the civil court order.
- Appraise the strengths and gaps in the research on AOT.

Presentation

15:45–16:30

Sean Flynn (MD, FRCPC): Clozapine Use on ACT Teams: Why, How and Who?

- Recognize why we provide medications to people who may not want them
- Recognize the challenges clozapine use entails.
- Describe how clozapine can help improve our Patients' lives

Breakout Session

15:45–16:30

David Lafraniere (Registered Psychotherapist): Writers' Right: My Experiments with Writing as a Recreational and Therapeutic Activity

- Introduce ACTT workers to writing activities which could be used in group or individual sessions.
- Provide information about how to structure these activities.
- Provide information about therapeutic/rehabilitation benefits of these activities.

Wednesday, August 16

Keynote

08:45–09:45

Luis Lopez (MA, MS), Helle Thorning (PhD, MS, MCSW-R): Supervision During Turbulent Times: Navigating Trauma

- Gain knowledge about the increase of hate crimes and the impact that these crimes have on ACT Teams' providers and participants.
- Learn supervisory skills in leading a trauma-informed team.
- Gain skills on how to navigate stigma and prejudice in our work, as well as uncomfortable conversations.

Panel

09:55–10:55

Daniel Vigo, MD, Lic. Psych, DrPH (facilitator): Relevance of ACT/FACT Programs in addressing complex mental illness and concurrent disorders: A Family Perspective

- Describe the importance of the inclusion of family perspective in the care of clients

Panel

11:00–12:15

Mark Munetz (MD), Judge Elisabeth Burgess (K.C., Provincial Court Judge, Retired), Amy Salmon (PhD), Daniel Vigo (facilitator): Role of Mandated Care in the Treatment of People with Severe Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders

- Describe benefits and drawbacks of mandated care for mandated mental health and substance use care

Presentation

12:45–13:30

Kendall Atterbury (LMSW, PhD): From Behaviour Managers to Partners in Healing: Taking the 'Spiritual' Seriously on F/ACT Teams

- Articulate how the case for 'taking the spiritual seriously' fundamentally shifts the starting ground of the clinical encounter for staff and ACT participants.
- Express how "taking the spiritual seriously" is critical, for both epistemological & ethical reasons, in the delivery of person-centered care
- Clearly state how a 'spiritual specialist' could fill a unique role on ACT teams, and how this role could allow for a more robust, holistic, and therapeutic recovery-orientation for team and team participants alike.
- Name and recognize the challenges, risks, and benefits inherent in attending to a person's spiritual experiences in the context of ACT services - including past spiritual harms and injuries.

Presentation

13:35–14:05

Luis Lopez (MA, MS): Recovery and Strength-Based Language

- Learn why language matters in all aspects of life and is particularly important in the context of behavioral health and recovery based services.
- Gain access to how language can carry and perpetuate bias, prejudice, and judgment.
- Learn how to apply trauma informed, person centered, recovery based language.

Presentation

14:10–14:55

Noah Lipton (LCSW, MPA), Gary Scannevin (MPS, CPRP), Tania Hameed (MPH, MSW, BSc): Recovery is Working! Piloting the Individual Placement & Support (IPS) Model of Supported Employment

- Become familiar with the principles of the Individual Placement and Support model of Supported Employment
- Learn about a pilot project in NYS in which six ACT teams implemented IPS over a period of one year
- Learn about the changes resulting from the pilot including higher levels of work/school engagement, culture shift toward embracing employment, Vocational Specialist competence & confidence, and improved IPS fidelity
- Learn what adaptations ACT teams made to implement IPS, including IPS task sharing

Presenter	Poster Presentation
Steven Bidd	Assertive Outreach Services on Prince Edward Island: Strengths and Challenges
Catherine Costigan, Erica Woodin et al.	Secondary Traumatic Stress among Interdisciplinary Healthcare Workers on Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams
Nick Delva et al.	Development of an Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team Dashboard to Drive Service Planning & Quality Improvement Initiatives
Bilal Hussain and Gaurav Mehta et al.	Nutritional Deficiencies in ACTT Patients
Tracey Kubera	ACTT Transition Project