Priorities for child and adolescent mental health research and services in South Africa

11 March 2022 - 12:30 (SAST)

PROGRAMME

Moderator: Professor Crick Lund, King’s College London and University of Cape Town

12:30 - 12:35 Welcome and Introductory Remarks
Professor Crick Lund

12:35 - 12:55 Mapping out multilevel and multisectoral strategies for improving child and adolescent mental health services
Dr Gbotemi Babatunde, Centre for Rural Health, School of Nursing and Public Health, University of KwaZulu-Natal

12:55 - 13:10 Child and adolescent mental health services and systems: From mapping to strengthening
Dr Simphiwe Simelane, Centre for Autism Research in Africa, University of Cape Town

13:10 - 13:25 Innovations to strengthen child and adolescent mental health services in low resourced communities
Dr Stella Mokitimi, Western Cape Department of Health

13:25 - 13:45 Where is the child in child and adolescent mental health? Priorities for the next 50 years
Professor Mark Tomlinson, Institute for Life Course Health Research, University of Stellenbosch

13:45 - 14:00 Q&A

14:00 Concluding Remarks
Professor Crick Lund
Priorities for child and adolescent mental health research and services in South Africa

BIographies

Dr Gbofemi Bukola Babatunde has a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from the Obafemi Awolowo University, an Honours degree in Psychology, a master’s degree (cum laude) in Health Promotion and recently a doctoral degree in Public Health from the University of KwaZulu – Natal, Howard College. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the Centre for Rural Health, College of Health Science, University of KwaZulu-Natal. Dr Babatunde’s area of research interest includes Mental Health Promotion, Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH), Community and school-based health services, Mental health systems strengthening and intervention planning. She has published articles in local and international journals and has presented at local and international conferences. Her future research will focus on strengthening CAMH systems and developing community and school-based psychosocial interventions to improve mental health literacy, facilitate early identification and effective management to mitigate the lifelong impact of CAMH conditions.

Dr Stella Mokitimi holds a PhD in Psychiatry from the University of Cape Town. Her thesis is entitled: Child and adolescent mental health services in the Western Cape of South Africa: situational analysis, policy evaluation, stakeholder perspectives, and implications for health policy implementation. She has 23 years’ experience working in mental health services. She is currently working for the Western Cape Department of Health as a Clinical program Coordinator (Mental health and Chronic diseases) at Khayelitsha Eastern Substructure (KESS). Her focus is on coordinating, strengthening mental health and child and adolescent mental health services, and coordinating the integration with chronic diseases. She is implementing innovations for strengthening of services at KESS. Dr Mokitimi is very passionate about strengthening child and adolescent mental health services, especially in low resourced communities.

Dr Simphiwe Simelane is a PhD student at the Centre for Autism Research in Africa at the University of Cape Town (UCT). She joined the Department of Psychiatry as a researcher in 2021 after being selected for the SAMRC Clinician Researcher Programme and the UCT Accelerated Transformation Programme thereafter. She qualified as a medical doctor in 2016 and completed her internship at Karl Bremer Hospital, Cape Town, and her community service in the rural community of Tonga, Mpumalanga. Her experience as a junior doctor is what drove her passion for strengthening child and adolescent mental health services and systems. Her project uses an implementation science framework, and she hopes that it will be a catalyst towards creating a functional integrated mental health service for children and adolescents in South Africa.

Professor Mark Tomlinson is the Co-Director of the Institute for Life Course Health Research in the Department of Global Health at Stellenbosch University. He is also Professor of Maternal and Child Health in the School of Nursing and Midwifery, Queens University, Belfast, UK. His scholarly work has involved a diverse range of topics including how to improve early childhood development, child and adolescent mental health, maternal mental health, and developing life course approaches to build human capital in the first two decades of life. He is currently a member of the World Health Organization (WHO) Strategic and Technical Advisory Group of Experts (STAGE) for Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health & Nutrition. He was elected as a member of the Academy of Science in South Africa in 2017. He has published 326 papers in peer-reviewed journals, edited two books and published numerous chapters.
2022

Priorities for child and adolescent mental health research and services in South Africa

Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)

https://youtu.be/CoOEpzHJs

Downloaded from ASSAf Research Repository, Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)