



Consumer Position Position Number CNP 090048

Volatile Substance Use (VSU) Guideline Development Committee National Health and Medical Research Council

The Role of the Committee

The role of the committee will be to assist in the development of guidelines for health and medical staff to treat people who are suffering the affects of using volatile substances. Volatile substances are products that when inhaled can cause a person to feel intoxicated or 'high'. There are many different types of products people can inhale, usually household items, such as petrol, glue and paint thinner.

The development of the guideline has been funded by the Federal government and will be developed by a committee of experts from around Australia, including doctors, nurses, drug and alcohol workers and consumers (e.g. a carer of a volatile substance user or a reformed volatile substance user).

The Role of the Consumer

The consumer representative will be required to attend the guideline development committee meetings, which will focus on developing recommendations for medical and health professionals to follow when treating people who are suffering the affects of using volatile substances.

The committee plans on involving consumers in the development of this guideline in a number of ways. Firstly, by appointing a consumer representative to the guideline development committee.

Additional advice will be sought through targeted consultation with groups/individuals who have suffered the effects of volatile substance use, either as a carer or as a user. The groups/individuals approached will be those guideline development committee members are familiar with through their work in this area (e.g. Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Women's Council).

Our approach to involving consumers is flexible and one that is evolving as we learn more about consumer participation and the area of volatile substance use itself. Consumer participation is a standing agenda item at the guideline committee meetings and we wish to have consumers involved not only in the development of the guideline but also in the implementation and evaluation of the guideline.

The guideline development committee meetings that the consumer representative will attend will focus on:

- Developing a clinical practice guideline for the management of volatile substance use
- Developing summary documents for the target audience
- Providing advice for related documents, plans for implementation, review and update
- Ensuring that the guideline is a useful resource for health and medical staff, and that the guideline is relevant to the Australian healthcare context

Commitment Required

Duration of appointment	12 months
Date of first meeting	30 March 2010
Time of first meeting	9am - 5pm
Meeting location or first meeting	Alice Spring

Subsequent meetings:

Date	Time	Location
31 March 2010	9am - 5pm	Alice Springs
11 May 2010	9am - 5pm	Melbourne
13 July	9am - 5pm	Melbourne
TBC Nov/Dec	9am - 5pm	Melbourne

Selection Criteria

The role of the consumer representative is to provide a consumer or carer perspective to the committee. The consumer will be either a former user, or more likely a carer of someone who has or is using volatile substances. Applicants should:

- Be 18 years of age or over
- Be able to represent the perspective of either a former user, or more likely a carer of someone who has or is using volatile substances
- Be from or have an understanding of the experiences of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in using health services
- Be able to discuss possible issues that affect volatile substance users and their families and carers
- Be able to work constructively with other committee members and NHMRC staff

Recruitment Procedure

1. Briefly respond to the above points in section 9 and complete a short application form
2. Meeting with staff members to discuss application form.
3. Formal appointment to committee (representative required to complete paperwork e.g. sign conflict of interest statement and confidentiality statement).

Support Offered

Sitting fee/payment (per meeting)
Reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses
Orientation

If you are interested in applying for this position please complete attached application form and forward to Assunta Morrone at Health Issues Centre.

a.morrone@healthissuescentre.org.au

If you would like more information please contact Assunta Morrone
☎ (03) 9479 3520

EOI close: 4 March 2009

Consumers who respond to positions advertised by HIC participate as a general consumer/carer nominee and NOT as a representative of Health Issues Centre. (Hence, the views they express will be their own, not necessarily those of Health Issues Centre).

Office use only:

Applications received:
Consumers Nominated:
Action Taken:



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