Invited Keynote 1 - Robert J. McMahon (CAN)

Title

Long-Term Prevention of Conduct Problems and Associated Outcomes: Findings from the Fast Track Project



Robert J. McMahon

Description of the keynote

Children with early starting conduct problems are at significant risk for negative outcomes in adolescence and adulthood, including antisocial behavior problems and criminal offending, substance use, school dropout, risky sexual behavior, and other disorders (e.g., depression). These individuals cost society from 3.2 to 5.5 million dollars each in incarceration, adjudication, treatment, and victim costs. Increasingly, attention is focused on prevention as a more developmentally appropriate means of intervention rather than short-term and narrowly focused treatments.

Fast Track is a comprehensive, multisite, randomized controlled intervention trial designed to prevent serious and chronic conduct problems in high-risk youth. This collaborative project is being carried out at four sites in the U.S. The Fast Track intervention was based on a developmental model positing the interaction of multiple influences (child, family, school, peer group, neighborhood) on the development of early-starting conduct problems. The intervention was implemented from grades 1 through 10. The elementary-school intervention phase was unique in combining targeted interventions (parent training, home visiting, child social skills training, child friendship enhancement, academic tutoring) for the highest-risk children with a universal intervention directed to the promotion of social and emotional competence for all children in the intervention schools.

The high-risk sample consists of 891children selected at kindergarten based on high levels of conduct problems at both home and school. Children were randomly assigned to receive the Fast Track intervention (n=445) or services as usual in the schools (n=446). This sample is comprised of approximately equal numbers of Black and White children, 69% of whom are male, living in urban, semi-urban, and rural areas. More than half of the children lived with a single parent and were low in socioeconomic status. The sample was followed annually from kindergarten through 2 years post-high school and then in early and established adulthood.

After providing a summary of the developmental model, intervention components, and findings through elementary and middle school, the presentation will focus on findings during late adolescence and adulthood. These include broad-spectrum outcomes (e.g., criminal convictions, mental health, substance use, risky sexual behavior, education and occupation, health and well-being) as well as mediation and moderation of these outcomes. Implications for researchers, practitioners, and policy makers will be discussed.

About Robert J. McMahon

Bob McMahon (PhD) is a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Psychology and the B.C. Leadership Chair in Proactive Approaches to Reducing Risk for Violence among Children and Youth at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada. He is also the founder and Director of the Institute for the Reduction of Youth Violence at SFU and is an Investigator Emeritus at the British Columbia Children's Hospital Research Institute.

Dr. McMahon's research focuses on the assessment, treatment, and prevention of conduct problems and other problem behavior in children and youth, especially in the context of the family.

He is a principal investigator on the Fast Track project, which is a large, multisite collaborative study on the prevention of antisocial behavior in school-aged children since 1990. It is the largest prevention trial of its type ever funded by the U.S. government.

Dr. McMahon is co-author of Helping the Noncompliant Child: Family-Based Treatment for Oppositional Behaviour (Guilford Press, 1981, 2003) and of a variety of scientific articles, edited books, chapters, and reviews. He is a Past Editor-in-Chief of the journal Prevention Science.

Invited Keynote 2 - Henrik Andershed (SWE) & Olivier F. Colins (BEL)

Title

The (Acclaimed) Usefulness of Callous-unemotional (CU) Traits or DSM-5
Defined Limited Prosocial Emotions (LPE) for Subtyping Antisocial and Conduct
Disordered Children and Adolescents - A Constructive and Critical Reflection



Henrik Andershed



Olivier F. Colins

Description of the keynote

Professors Andershed and Colins have been working together for more than ten years on a common research quest; to test the role of Callous-unemotional (CU) traits in the development of youth antisocial behavior and the usefulness of Limited Prosocial Emotions (LPE) as a subtype of the Conduct Disorder diagnosis. They have done this in the form of more than 40 scientific studies/articles using various samples, countries, designs, and assessment methods. In this keynote lecture, they will summarize what their studies and the research field more broadly have shown and give critical and constructive answers to the question whether the inclusion of the LPE subtype of the Conduct Disorder diagnosis was premature or whether it is useful for sure.

About Henrik Andershed

Henrik Andershed is Adjunct professor of Criminology at Örebro University in Sweden. His research is primarily about CU traits, psychopathy and risk and protective factors for crime and psychosocial problems. He is the founder of the Swedish longitudinal research program SOFIA, the developer of multiple assessment tools, and has received several awards for his research. He is the author of more than 150 scientific articles and books.

About Olivier F. Colins

Olivier F. Colins is professor of Forensic Special Needs Education at Ghent University in Belgium. His research focuses on the identification of clinically and theoretically meaningful subgroups of juveniles with severe conduct problems; risk and protective factors of conduct problems, criminality, and criminal recidivism; and the etiology, development, and consequences of conduct problems and delinquency. He is the principal investigator of

several research projects focused on criminal justice-involved boys and girls and the author of more than 100 scientific articles and books.

Invited Keynote 3 – Sheilagh Hodgins (CAN)

Title

What do we know about the effective treatment of aggressive and antisocial behaviour among persons with schizophrenia and bipolar disorder?



Sheilagh Hodgins

Description of the keynote

The short answer is not much, but much, much more than we knew when community care was first implemented following the closure of the asylums. At this time, there was no knowledge of what effective community treatment entailed, limited knowledge of the multiple deficits associated with schizophrenia and of the vulnerability of people with schizophrenia and bipolar disorder to engage in aggressive and/or antisocial behaviour, to use substances, and to be physically victimized. Treatment was limited to first-generation antipsychotic medications and mood stabilizers, with little understanding of other patient needs. Violent and non-violent criminality was common. Since then, evidence has been produced about the deficits and needs of persons with schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, their vulnerabilities, and effective treatments for symptoms of the disorders. This talk will review the progress that has been made in effectively treating aggressive and antisocial behaviour among persons with these disorders and the challenges that remain.

About Sheilagh Hodgins

In the mid-1980s, as the large psychiatric asylums were being closed and community treatment of the mentally ill became policy, the public perception that the mentally ill were dangerous persisted. Yet, there were no empirical data to address the question. Sheilagh Hodgins recognized the need for epidemiological investigations examining the criminality of persons with and without severe mental illness within population samples. She conducted investigations of Swedish and Danish birth cohorts that demonstrated an increased risk of criminal violence among persons presenting severe mental illness, and studies of complete cohorts of homicide offenders that showed an increased risk of homicide. These studies also identified factors, such as childhood conduct problems and inadequate mental health care, that are associated with violence.

Her subsequent research has contributed to advancing knowledge about antisocial and violent behaviours by persons with severe mental illness, the causes, and the effective treatments. She conceptualized antisocial and violent behaviour of the severely

mentally ill firmly within two highly productive areas of scientific inquiry, one on the illnesses and the other on antisocial and violent behaviours. Using knowledge from these fields on the ways in which biological, psychological and social factors interact to determine behaviours, cognitions, and emotions, she developed novel hypotheses and tested these hypotheses using a diversity of methodologies. Prospective, longitudinal studies identified childhood antecedents of criminality and psychopathic traits. A study of school children identified those presenting the known antecedents of schizophrenia. Evaluations of treatments and randomized controlled trials assessed treatment effects for both the illnesses and aggressive/antisocial behaviour. All of the research was conducted with talented students and collaborators.

Invited Keynote 4 – Birgit Völlm (GER)

Title

Til death do us part: Long-stay in forensic settings



Birgit Völlm

Description of the keynote

Forensic psychiatric services are costly and highly restrictive for patients. Clinical experience and research available indicates some patients may stay for too long in these settings. A proportion of patients may, however, require long-term (potentially lifelong) secure forensic psychiatric care but their needs may not be met by existing service provision designed for faster throughput. This presentation will summarise the findings from the literature as well as own research on long-stay patients in secure settings, focusing in particular on older patients. It will pay particular attention to their needs and experiences as well as options for service models.

About Birgit Völlm

Prof Völlm has been Professor of Forensic Psychiatry and Director of the Hospital of Forensic Psychiatry at the University of Rostock since September 2018. Bevor then she was Professor in Forensic Psychiatry at the University of Nottingham, UK, and a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist in the enhanced service for personality disorders at Rampton high secure hospital.

Her main research interests include ethics in forensic psychiatry, reduction of coercion, service development and evaluation, patient participation, personality disorders and comparisons between services in different countries.

Prof Völlm has held national and European grants on long-stay, the effectiveness of Individual Placement Support and on Circles of Support and Accountability. She has published about 150 scientific papers and book chapters.

Prof Völlm was the Chair of the Forensic Section of the European Psychiatric Association from 2012 – 2016 the Chair of the Forensic Section of the World Psychiatric Association from 2020 - 2023. Prof Völlm is a regular expert for the Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhumane and Degrading Treatment (CPT).