The Center for Correctional Health Networks (CCHNet) is a practice-based research center designed to support the interdisciplinary network members who study and test health care innovations and quality improvement strategies in real world practice settings to determine effectiveness, efficiency and equity of outcomes upon persons with incarceration experiences.

We are looking to expand our network. Please contact us to join in our monthly research interest group discussion. We would love to share your news and professional celebrations. To join or to share your news items, send your name and contact information to our email address: CCHNet@uconn.edu

For the latest information regarding CCHNET research, meetings and events, please visit our website at: http://cchnet.uconn.edu or follow us on Twitter, @cchnetuconn!
Denise Panosky Retires!

The faculty and students at the Center for Correctional Health Networks would like to congratulate Denise Panosky on her retirement after 10 ½ years at the UConn School of Nursing.

Dr. Panosky has been instrumental to the development and current success of the Center for Correctional Health Networks (CCHNet) as the Director of Academic and Professional Development since its inception in 2012. As one of the founding members of the Board, Dr. Panosky has taken a leadership role, assuring that our students have been prepared for their clinical and research work in prisons, jails and halfway houses by providing detailed orientations bi-annually. Dr. Panosky provided clinical supervision to students in the York Women’s Correctional Institute.

She began her career at UConn in 2006, and has taught in the MEIN/CEIN, Undergraduate, and Doctor of Nursing Practice nursing programs. Dr. Panosky’s focus of practice has been in forensic nursing and correctional nursing. In this role, she enhanced clinical rotations in the Connecticut Department of Correction (CDOC) from 1 student/semester to 8 – 16 students/semester. Summer nursing student internships were developed in the CDOC in collaboration with Correctional Managed Health Care (CMHC), specifically Dr. Weiskopf and Dr. Trestman. Dr. Panosky earned her Doctorate in Nursing Practice in 2010 with mentorship from Dr. Shelton. This professional collaborative relationship led to translating research into clinical practice with numerous grants focusing on: Leadership, Education, Achievement and Development for Adolescent Offenders; Advancing Correctional Nurse Competencies for Quality Care; and Correctional Nursing Stress.

Over her career, Dr. Panosky authored numerous publication in the field, presented nationally and internationally and participated on the American Nurses Association Task Force to revise the Scope and Standards of Practice for Correctional Nursing in 2013. Dr. Panosky played a vital role in the success of the development and implementation of the HRSA grant funded mobile simulation laboratory designed specifically for the Connecticut Department of Corrections and the education of its nurses. Dr. Panosky was awarded the Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing in 2012

Dr. Panosky has been most passionate about advocating, supporting, and increasing learning, for every one of her students she has taught and advised over the years. Her future plans include spending more time with family, traveling with her husband, as well as increasing volunteer work with Abby, her Certified Therapy dog. Organizations of particular interest include Hospice and the American Red Cross.

We will truly miss her!
Journal for Evidence-Based Practice in Correctional Health
NOW OPEN ACCESS

The Journal for Evidence-based Practice in Correctional Health would like to proudly announce the launch of our inaugural issue. The journal is open access so that all of those interested in innovate topics in the evidence based practice in correctional health can retrieve the latest information.

As many of our editors and authors can attest, this issue has been in the works for some time. We could not be prouder to finally launch with a strong group of six articles on the topic of self-care management among persons with an incarceration experience, highlighting a new theory entitled the Rediscovery of Self-care among persons with an incarceration experience or RSC. We hope you will visit our journal at the link below.

We would like to thank all those authors who submitted their hard work to us over the past year while also encouraging new authors to submit their articles through our journal homepage. Also, the Journal would like to give a final thanks to our subscribers. Without your help and support, we would have never seen this issue come to fruition. Thank you all again! For support in gaining access to our journals or any questions or concerns, feel free to email our support.

Readership Distribution and Outreach

In the past 30 days alone, the JEPCH open access journal has received 28 downloads from 6 different countries. There have been 69 total downloads since the first issue was launched. The above global map shows the some of the locations of universities and institutions that have sought or referred to the evidence-based practice information found in the JEPCH journal in the month of November. We hope to continue our goal in providing an open and free journal to all of those looking to improve correctional health practices!
The Journal for Evidence-based Practice in Correctional Health consists of data-driven articles, systematic reviews (qualitative and quantitative), program evaluations, quality improvement projects, education, and research.

Our Editorial Board includes:
Dr. Deborah Shelton, UCONN School of Nursing; Dr. Megan Ehret, UCONN School of Pharmacy; Dr. Louise Reagan, CCHNet/NYU School of Nursing; Dr. Sarah Willen, UCONN Human Rights Institute; Dr. William Barta, CCHNet, UCONN School of Nursing; Dr. Marc Stern, Medicine, University of Washington.

Our Reviewers include:
Dr. Annette Maruca, UCONN School of Nursing; Dr. Denise Panosky School of Nursing; Dr. Mazen El Ghaziri, UCONN Health, Division of Occupational Medicine & Environmental Health; Dr. Theresa Kapetanovic, CCHNet, Washington, DC; and Dr. Donna Zucker, UMass, School of Nursing.

CALL FOR REVIEWERS: If you have the expertise, the interest and time to act as a reviewer, please contact Dr. Shelton at Deborah.Shelton@uconn.edu.

CALL FOR PAPERS: If you would like to write something for us, our contact information is listed on the website link (http://cchnet.uconn.edu) and our email is cchnet@uconn.edu.

Future topics: Do you have ideas and suggestions? Let us know.
Research and Development

Implementation of CareLink-C in Hartford and Windham Counties

A small grant has been received from the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science (CICATS) at UCONN Health to establish a nurse-designed transitional care model (CareLink-C) in Hartford and Windham Counties with four residential facilities for persons reentering the community from jail or prison.

CareLink-C seeks to teach self-care management (SCM), an evidence-based practice that improves outcomes for people with chronic diseases, to the reentry population. CareLink-C’s approach to SCM is to communicate evidence-based information and teach/practice skills so that people can take better care of themselves. We would be seeking to determine if self-care outcomes improve following implementation of CareLink-C; and, if the service system is strengthened following implementation of CareLink-C.

CareLink-C shares core features of transitional care and is delivered individually and in group format. Person-level outcomes of self-care management such as goal-attainment, client satisfaction, and treatment engagement are included. System strengthening is expected to occur through adequate treatment of chronic and co-occurring disorders in conjunction with social determinants of health within this community-based and patient-centered paradigm of care.

Plans for the implementation of CareLink-C include:

- Outlines for standard protocol
- Student procedures, training and involvement
- Community procedures to seek insight into ways to improve programmatic functioning and system strengthening
- Inclusive sample criteria
- Specific measurement of outcomes that include: appropriate recognition of symptoms, making and following up on appointments, medication adherence, use of positive coping strategies and more.
- Seek additional funding

**PARTNERSHIP/INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT**: A ten-year practice-based research partnership with the CT Department of Correction and UCHC's Correctional Managed Health Care Program and the UCONN CICATS Core Interest Group in Correctional Health has evolved into an inter-professional (nursing, medicine, pharmacy, psychology, human rights) Center for Correctional Health Networks (CCHNet). Over 25 academic and agency partners participate in CCHNet including growing relationship with the Connecticut Reentry Roundtable in both Hartford and Windham Counties-CT.
Simulation in the Correctional Nursing Competency Program©
Collaborative Study: UCF/UCONN/CMHC
Educator Day

With support from the The Debra Spunt INACSL Grant, the University of Connecticut and the University of Central Florida, the nurses at Connecticut Managed Health Care (CMHC) attended an educational booster day regarding the use of simulation in correctional nursing settings.

Correctional nursing requires communication skills unlike other healthcare delivery systems. Adult incarcerated patients are at-risk for poor outcomes and the care atmosphere may be physically challenging and emotionally charged. Also, in a regulated custodial environment, the risk for communication errors and gaps between healthcare workers and custodial officers (CO) during care delivery, hand-off between nursing teams, discharge and follow-up care is alarmingly high (Tanguay, Trestman, & Weiskopf, 2014). The goal of this research is to incorporate the use of human patient simulators in a secured environment within the existing Correctional Nursing Competency Program© which was lead by Dr. Diaz and has been instituted in a state wide system with positive outcomes (Shelton, Weiskopf, & Nicholson, 2010).

Currently, Dr. Desiree Diaz, Dr. Deborah Shelton and Candace Pettigrew are in the final stages of data collection for Mobile TeamSTEPPS™ (AHRQ, 2006) and simulation training intervention to improve healthcare worker education and communication in a correctional health environment.
From Prison to the Community: Opportunities for Pharmacists to Support Inmate Medication Adherence

Elliott Bosco, School of Pharmacy

Elliott Bosco, an Honor student in the School of Pharmacy has been mentored for his research project by Dr. Shelton. Elliott, who is graduating this year presented his research at the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Midyear Clinical Meeting on December 5th.

Working with Dr. Shelton, Elliott analyzed data from the Inmate Self Care study to investigate inmates' perceptions of medication adherence and self-care management as a part of their treatment plan with the goal of providing ways pharmacists to directly impact medication adherence. Education and management of side effects emerged as critical factors in inmate adherence. Elliot concluded that pharmacists are well suited to perform comprehensive medication therapy management for those with psychiatric illnesses in prisons and jails. In an outpatient setting, the community pharmacist with training regarding their needs is poised to supply medication information and additional health guidance to inmates in transition. Overall, the pharmacist’s adept medication knowledge and availability allow for medication management and support of inmate medication adherence.

Collaboration Study in Final Stages

Through a collaborative effort between Dr. Annette Maruca at UCONN and Dr. Donna Zucker at UMASS, the Focus Group Study on Self Care Management for Correction Populations is nearly complete. Data are currently being validated. An abstract has been accepted for presentation at the 10th Academic and Health Policy Conference on Corrections Spring 2017. Congratulations Drs. Maruca and Zucker!

CCHNet Partnership with Intervention Core of InCHIP

Center for Correctional Health Networks (CCHNet) director, Dr. Deborah Shelton was invited to join the newly developed Intervention Core of UCONN’s Center Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy (InCHIP). The goal of the Intervention Core is to develop effective research collaborations in the area of health behavior interventions. Health behavior intervention research strives to create lasting positive changes in a person’s health and has relevant impacts in the field of correctional health. Strong and theory-based research is the cornerstone to developing concrete and effective health behavior intervention methods and models. The Intervention Core’s goal to make connections and form research collaborations will be a key component to helping increase external funding and implement innovative research development projects. For more information, please review the InCHIP Intervention Core website.
CCHNet at the 14th Biennial International Conference on the Nurse's role in the Criminal Justice System
Saskatoon Canada; October 7-9, 2016

Members of the Center for Correctional Health Networks were pleased to have the opportunity to travel internationally and present research findings to improve education and insight in the professional correctional health nursing sphere.

Psychopathy: What does the evidence say about treatment?
Deborah Shelton, PhD, RN, NE-BC, CCHP, FAAN
Chasity Bailey, BS
With special thanks to the University of Connecticut research team: Rahul Sehgal, Student, College of Liberal Arts, Biological Sciences; Adian Coscia, Student, Molecular and Cellular Biology

Psychopathy is defined by a lack of empathetic responding toward others, callousness, and a lack of remorse. Psychopathic criminals are often violent and predatory; many reside in prisons and psychiatric forensic hospitals. Hare (2012) noted that among the general population, one percent of adults are psychopathic compared to the estimated 10 to 15 percent among the prison population. The often violent behaviors combined with the high tendency to reoffend with violent behavior (Hildebrand, de Ruiter & Nijman, 2004) suggest the importance of finding efficacious treatments for this disorder.

This presentation, at the 14th Annual Biennial International Conference on the Nurse’s role in the Criminal Justice System, in Saskatoon, Canada, provided the results of a systematic literature review conducted across settings to identify effective treatment options for psychopathy. Settings explored included prisons, forensic hospitals, and mandated in-patient or outpatient treatment programs. Treatment options included Dialectic Behavioral Therapy, Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing, Metallization Based Therapy, Scheme-based Therapy, and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy along with its many derivatives such as enhanced thinking skills, multi-systemic therapy and aggression control therapy. Evidence for these treatments and clinical implications are discussed.

The learning objectives achieved were as follows:
- Describe characteristics of psychopathic persons with offending behaviors
- Review methods for systematic literature reviews
- Compare efficacy of treatment interventions upon psychopathic disordered individuals
The Link between Correctional Nurse Competencies and Clinical Outcomes
Deborah Shelton, PhD, RN, NE-BC, CCHP, FAAN
Louise Reagan, PhD, ANP-BC, APRN

Dr. Shelton and Dr. Reagan provided an overview of the design and educational tools utilized in this correctional nursing competency program implemented in one state in the US. The presentation at the 14th Annual Biennial International Conference on the Nurse’s role in the Criminal Justice System, in Saskatoon, Canada, was an evaluation of clinical outcomes assessed through interviews, observations, self-report and chart reviews provides information linking correctional nurse competencies with clinical care outcomes.

The learning objectives achieved were as follows:
- Explore the link between clinical competency and clinical outcomes
- Review components of program design for reinforced learning
- Discuss ways to maintain fidelity of correctional nurse competency programing

Post-Incarceration: A new consumer movement in self-care
Deborah Shelton, PhD, RN, NE-BC, CCHP, FAAN

Dr. Deborah Shelton presented the results of a pilot study the 14th Annual Biennial International Conference on the Nurse’s role in the Criminal Justice System, in Saskatoon, Canada. It sought to understand individual level knowledge deficits and informational preferences of post-release persons in an effort to create targeted strategies to assist these highly vulnerable persons to successfully access needed health care. Gender-specific focus groups led to development of consumer informational tools (a bi-lingual flier and a bi-lingual CD) which were later pre and post-tested in the community. Thematic analyses revealed that previously incarcerated persons have both computer literacy and reading-comprehension literacy problems, limited access to computers and cell phones, and limited understanding of how the health care system works. Releasees discussed having to memorize information due to the effects of these barriers to literacy and technology. Lack of knowledge regarding the healthcare system increased their experience of frustration and defeat. Most comfortable with person-to-person assistance, participants described a willing but slow learning style, with a need for repetition and support to reduce their anxiety and strengthen their confidence in their self-care skills.

The learning objectives achieved were as follows:
- Illustrate the use of the framework Rediscovery of Self-care among Incarcerated Persons
- List three methodological approaches utilized to support participatory processes
- Identify factors affecting information messaging and uptake among post-incarcerated populations
Awards and Acknowledgments

Dr. Deborah Shelton: Honored by CICATS

The Correctional Health Research CIG is under the direction of Dr. Deborah Shelton. The main thrust of the research has focused on the creation of or adaptation of interventions for incarcerated and reentry populations in response to clinical need. The goal is to improve the health care and service delivery across the 17 facilities and 34 half-way houses throughout CT which hold over 19,000 offenders. The work of the CIG includes, but not limited to the following areas:

- Treatment for offenders with behavior problems
- Global assessment of functioning instrument for the prison environment (the Corrections Modified-GAF) for safety and security of staff and inmate patients
- Medication algorithms to examine impact upon symptom management for persons with mental disorders.

For more information: Deborah Shelton, Ph.D., R.N., N.E.B.C., C.C.H.P., F.A.A.N., deborah.shelton@uconn.edu

Research Grant Award: Sigma Theta Tau International Mu Chapter

Congratulations to Dr. Louise Reagan for her $750 research grant award from Sigma Theta Tau International Mu Chapter for Facilitators and Barriers to Self-Management of Diabetes Among Persons Recently Released from Prison. She will continue to engage formally incarcerated individuals and facilitators in evaluating barriers and identifying tactics to diabetes self-care management. She will use a qualitative descriptive design with semi-structured interviewing.

Louise Reagan PhD, ANP-BC, APRN
Assistant Clinical Professor
Publications, Presentations, and Grants

Journal Publications:


Reagan, Louise; Shelton, Deborah; and Anderson, Elizabeth (2016) "Rediscovery of Self-Care for Incarcerated Persons with Diabetes," *Journal for Evidence-based Practice in Correctional Health: Vol. 1: Iss. 1, Article 5.*

Books and Chapters:


Presentations:


Trestman, RL, Plenary Speaker, Nasional Association of State Mental Health Program Directors, START NOW: a skills training therapy for forensic hospital patients with impulsivity and emotional lability. Nashville, TN, October 3, 2016


Grants:

Received:

Dr. Donna Zucker, UMASS Amherst College of Nursing received The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services $870,000 to develop a program to train student nurses in screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT). The project is one of only 12 to be funded nationally by the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment.

Dr. Deborah Shelton received a $3,000 grant for RESEARCH IN AN ERA OF MASS INCARCERATION from the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science. The funding was used to sponsor a Core Interest Group conference grant with the goal of highlighting opportunities for cross-disciplinary collaboration in correctional health.

Dr. Deborah Shelton received a $15,000 grant from the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Sciences for SELF-CARE MANAGEMENT AMONG POST-INCARCERATED PERSONS.

Dr. Deborah Shelton received a $2,000 UCONN Faculty Scholar Award which was used to assist with transcriptions of the interview data generated from the inmate medication adherence study.

Submitted:

Dr. Deborah Shelton was invited by the Hillman Foundation to submit a proposal for the transitional care model- CareLink-C; $600,000. A top ten finalist, the proposal was unfunded.

Dr. Deborah Shelton and Dr. Lisa Barry (UCHC) submitted SELF-CARE IN SOON-TOBE-RELEASED OLDER PRISONERS: A PILOT STUDY for a CHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grant for Collaborative Research in Mental Health and Health Behavior. The goal of the project is to develop and test educational materials regarding self-care for older prisoners who are transitioning to the community. The central hypothesis is that these educational materials will increase older prisoners’ knowledge regarding self-care in the community and will ultimately influence self-care behaviors. The request is for $34,927 for the two year project.
Final Reminders

JEPCJ Reviewer Board and Article Submissions:
The Journal for Evidence-based Practices in Correctional Health (JEPCJ) has grown across state and national lines in the past few months. We have attained reviewers from across the academic and professional spectrum in hopes creating a flourishing community centered around correctional health research. Please come join us as a peer reviewer or submit articles to us via cchnet@uconn.edu.

Online Presence in CCHNet:
Please visit our dedicated website found at http://cchnet.uconn.edu/ and twitter account @cchnetuconn for an update on CCHNET and the activities of our many academic network members in New England and beyond. It is our goal to more readily provide avenues for research into public health practice and policy to the next generation of academics and policymakers. Over the past year, we have networked with many diverse organizations from around the country including but not limited to, Rebuilding Re-Entry, Prison Reform Movement, Academic Consortium on Criminal Justice Health and The Correctional Association of NY. We will continue our efforts in outreach and partnerships into the future.

Secondary Sources:
As part of The Center of Correctional Health Network's continuing pursuit of a far reaching network of researchers and scholars in the field of correctional health, we have developed a list of secondary data resources to provide guidance for those planning on conducting research in the field. Users will find valuable census data about prisoners past and present as well as data corresponding to juveniles, race, gender, drug use, lifestyle, prison assault, and more. Access levels, pricing data and application requirements are listed for all resources. It is our hope that this list will help encourage researchers to pursue work within this often overlooked field. http://tinyurl.com/cchnetsources
Save the Dates!

Upcoming Conferences and Call for Papers

- American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) 69th Annual Scientific Meeting. **February 13-18, 2017.** Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Orleans, LA.
- 10th Academic & Health Policy Conference on Correctional Health. **March 16-17, 2017.** Atlanta, Georgia.
- ACA’s 65th Annual Conference. **March 17-19, 2017.** San Francisco, CA.
- Global Status of Women and Girls. **March 24-26, 2017.** Christopher Newport University.
- 2017 APA Annual Convention. **Aug. 3-6, 2017.** Washington, D.C.
- NCCHC Spring Conference on Correctional Healthcare. **April 29-May 2, 2017.** Hyatt Regency Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Custody and Caring: Biennial International Conference on the Nurse’s Role in the Criminal Justice System. **October 4-6, 2017.** Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

CCHNet will release its Next Edition of the peer-reviewed Journal of Evidence-Based Practice in Correctional Health

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Please Support the Research Fund

The Donald R. Squier Memorial Scholarship fund has been established to develop a source of funding for future correctional health research scholars. We are soliciting tax deductible donations on an ongoing basis. Send your donation to:

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