

DNP: THE CHALLENGE

- multi-disciplinary clinical service delivery and research program
- focused on understanding the aetiological risk factors
- applying best practice assessment and treatment methodologies
- enhances the integration of psychological strategies with
- targeted psychopharmacology across key developmental phases
 - evaluates treatment effects pre- and post-treatment
 - informs randomised controlled trials of synergistic treatments
 - informs new medication algorithms and psychological treatment
- manuals being developed

DNP Patient characteristics

IMHP cases will have been assessed and had a trial of two or more defined medication and/or psychological treatments through a specialist multidisciplinary team (Tier 3) that have not adequately alleviated impairing symptoms and signs

Non-IMHP cases will have been assessed, diagnosed and treated by a paediatrician and have failed an appropriate trial of medication and/or psychological treatment

DNP – management process

- each case will receive a developmental biological, psychological and social assessment using state-of-the-art standardized instruments.
- further, each case will receive a comprehensive developmental neuropsychiatry history, examination and investigations, as required, to determine a diagnosis and formulation
- a DNP staff member will meet with the referring case manager to systematically feed back this information. Together, the DNP staff member and referrer will synthesize an updated bio-psycho-social-developmental formulation and diagnosis. This will specifically focus on how any co-morbid conditions and their treatment may affect the management of disruptive behavioural problems
- a DNP staff member and the referring case manager will target specific bio-psycho-social-developmental factors for specific/targeted interventions
- the case manager team provides the required resources to deliver specific treatments or, if unable, the DNP provides manualised parent and child group interventions +/- medication algorithms
- the case will be reviewed from a clinician, child and parent perspective at 1 week, 4 weeks and 12 weeks by phone/in person. A complete annual re-assessment will be offered.

DNP-Summary

The DNP will apply modern neuroscience, neuropsychiatry, psychopharmacology and psychotherapy knowledge to help comorbid developmental and/or organic difficulties that impair emotional, behavioural, psychological and social functioning.