### Alberta Addiction Education Sessions (AAES) 2020/2021

AAES run September through to June, from 9 am – 12 pm (MST). Each session consists of didactic lectures from subject matter experts and individuals with living/lived experience, followed by facilitated de-identified case reviews with clinicians specializing in the field. Every case review invites audience participation, offering the opportunity to engage in treatment decisions through the use of interactive online polling software. Each session concludes with a question and answer period via text, email or chat box options.

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<tr>
<th>September 25, 2020</th>
<th>October 30, 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recovery: A Process of Change</strong></td>
<td><strong>Recovery 101</strong></td>
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This session focuses on a comprehensive understanding of recovery. Upon completion of this session, the learner will be able to:
- Define recovery and its guiding principles.
- Explain what a recovery-oriented system of care entails including prevention, intervention, treatment, and monitoring.
- Describe the various evidence-informed pathways to recovery.
- Identify recovery as a strength-based process that is unique to the individual.

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<tr>
<th>November 27, 2020</th>
<th>December 18, 2020</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Substance-Induced or Primary Psychiatric Disorders? How Does It Impact Treatment?</strong></td>
<td><strong>Opioid Agonist Treatment: A Recovery Tool</strong></td>
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This session focuses on how to differentiate between a substance-induced vs a primary psychiatric disorder. Upon completion of this session, the learner will be able to:
- Identify how to differentiate between substance-induced disorders and primary psychiatric disorders.
- Explain the similarities/distinctions in recovery pathways for substance-induced vs primary psychiatric disorders.
- Practice the process of differential diagnosis and treatment planning for both a substance-induced disorder and a primary psychiatric disorder.

This session explores the most current evidence-informed practices in converting full opioid agonists (methadone) to partial opioid agonists (BUP-NLX). Upon completion of this session, the learner will be able to:
- Explain how initiating OAT is a treatment strategy for OUD.
- Describe novel practices for the initiation of OAT.
- Practice educating/initiating a client on Sublocade.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| January 29, 2021| Recovering From Opioids for Those with Chronic Non-Cancer Pain     | This session focuses on the de-prescribing of opioids as an effective strategy to support recovery from opioid use disorder. Upon completion of this session, the learner will be able to:  
  - Explain risks associated with chronic opioid therapy.  
  - Identify the various guidelines and protocols for safe and effective opioid de-prescribing.  
  - Practice how to therapeutically guide your client throughout the de-prescribing process. |
| February 26, 2021| Methamphetamine Use Disorder: What Can We Do?                     | This session focuses on strategies to support recovery from methamphetamine use disorder, including pharmacological and behavioural interventions. Upon completion of this session, the learner will be able to:  
  - Explain the implications of methamphetamine use.  
  - Describe the stages of, and how to safely manage methamphetamine withdrawal.  
  - Discuss behavioural and pharmacological recovery pathways for methamphetamine use disorder.  
  - Apply a home detoxification protocol with a person experiencing methamphetamine withdrawal. |
| March 26, 2021  | Alcohol Use Disorder: The Overlooked Addiction                    | This session explores both behavioural and pharmacological paths to recovery for AUD. Upon completion of this session, the learner will be able to:  
  - Describe current trends and impacts of alcohol use in Alberta/Canada.  
  - Identify effective treatment pathways for recovery in alcohol use disorder, including psycho-social and pharmacologic interventions.  
  - Practice how to start a client on pharmacotherapy with naltrexone. |
| April 30, 2021  | Cannabis Use Disorder: What Can We Do?                            | This session focuses on how to identify and treat cannabis use disorder. Upon completion of this session, the learner will be able to:  
  - Describe the risks/therapeutic benefits of cannabis use.  
  - Identify diagnostic criteria for cannabis use disorder.  
  - Discuss treatment pathways for cannabis use disorder including behavioural and pharmacotherapy interventions.  
  - Practice the assessment and treatment planning for cannabis use disorder. |
| May 28, 2021    | Opioid Agonist Therapy: Lessons Learned and New Concepts          | This session explores the most current and evidence-informed practices in converting full opioids agonists (methadone) to partial opioid agonists (BUP-NLX). Upon completion of this session, the learner will be able to:  
  - Describe the advantages and disadvantages of full (methadone) and partial (BUP-NLX) OAT  
  - Describe protocols and practices for a successful conversion from full to partial OAT.  
  - Practice applying strategies for a successful conversion using SROOM and micro-dosing. |
| June 25, 2021   | Triple diagnosis: When substance use disorder, intellectual disability and psychiatric disorders intersect | This session explores the current research and treatment interventions for individuals with triple diagnoses. Upon completion of this session, learners will be able to:  
  - Describe current research recommendations in the field of triple diagnosis  
  - Describe how substance use disorder affects and is affected by mental health and developmental disability  
  - Explain the bio-psycho-social approach to recovery and treatment for triple diagnosis |

To join the livestream please click here: [https://livestream.com/accounts/3923053/events/8457082](https://livestream.com/accounts/3923053/events/8457082)

Participants are invited and encouraged to submit related topic case examples via email in advance for review during the live question and answer periods. Contact concurrent.disorders@ahs.ca for more information.