

Melbourne



BEYOND THE BET: HEALTH PERSPECTIVES ON GAMBLING AND PARTY DRUGS

CRUISING TO MELBOURNE DEPARTING SYDNEY

02-08 NOV 2025



NURSES FOR
NURSES
NETWORK



EDUCATION *at* SEA

CONFERENCE SYNOPSIS

Join us at "Beyond the Bet: Health Perspectives on Gambling and Party Drugs," a conference designed for healthcare professionals and educators interested in exploring the significant issues surrounding gambling and party drug use. This event presents a unique opportunity to investigate the intersection of health, addiction, and recovery through a multidisciplinary lens, discovering the latest research, treatment modalities, and recovery strategies.

CONFERENCE LEARNING OUTCOMES

These learning outcomes are designed to increase healthcare professionals' knowledge and understanding of the complex issues surrounding gambling and party drug use and enhance their practical skills in dealing with these challenges, ultimately leading to better patient outcomes.

At this conference, you will leave with:

1. **Enhanced Understanding of the Health Risks:**

Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the physical, mental, and social health risks associated with gambling and party drug use. This includes an in-depth look at how these behaviours can lead to substance abuse disorders, mental health issues such as depression and anxiety, and the impact on physical health and wellbeing.

2. **Improved Skills in Identifying and Assessing Gambling and Substance Use Disorders:**

Attendees will learn to better identify signs and symptoms of gambling and substance use disorders in patients. This includes developing skills in conducting effective patient assessments, recognizing early warning signs, and understanding the nuances of how these issues manifest differently across diverse populations.

3. **Evidence-Based Intervention Strategies:**

The conference will equip healthcare professionals with evidence-based strategies and tools for intervening and providing care to individuals struggling with gambling and party drug use. This encompasses an overview of the latest research on effective treatment modalities, harm reduction strategies, and approaches for engaging patients in discussions about their gambling and substance use.

4. **Interdisciplinary Collaboration and Resource Sharing:**

Participants will learn about the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in the management and treatment of patients affected by gambling and party drug use. This outcome emphasizes building networks with other healthcare providers, understanding the roles of different specialists in treating these issues, and sharing resources and referrals to offer comprehensive support to patients.

YOU WILL ALSO LEARN

- Epidemiology of Gambling and Party Drug Use
- Neurobiology of Addiction
- The co-occurrence of mental health disorders with gambling and substance use disorders
- How cultural attitudes, social environment, and economic factors contribute to gambling and substance use behaviours
- Illicit Drug Use in Australia
- Pill Testing - A harm reduction initiative
- Overview of the legal issues surrounding gambling and the use of party drugs
- The impact of gambling and substance use on families and relationships
- Technological Advances in Treatment and Prevention
- Harm reduction principles and practices
- Drug Laws in Australia a state-by-state review
- Gambling Laws in Australia a state-by-state review

THE PROGRAM

DAY ONE: SUNDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2025 | DEPART SYDNEY

1600: We set sail

Make sure you are on deck for the set-sail festivities

1700 – 1800: Conference Registration and Drinks

Enjoy this opportunity to mingle with the other attendees at the complimentary drinks and Conference Registration function.

All delegates are required to attend the conference registration session to collect their conference pack & confirm registration details to ensure the correct issuing of their CPD certificate.

DAY TWO: MONDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2025 | CONFERENCE DAY

0830 – 0930: Epidemiology of Gambling and Party Drug Use

This session will provide insights into the prevalence, trends, and demographic patterns of gambling and substance use globally and within specific communities.

0930 – 1030: Neurobiology of Addiction

This will be an exploration of the neurological underpinnings of addiction, including how gambling and substance use alter brain chemistry and the implications for treatment.

1030 – 1100: Break

1100 – 1200: Mental Health and Dual Diagnosis

Discussion on the co-occurrence of mental health disorders with gambling and substance use disorders, challenges in diagnosis, and integrated treatment approaches.

1200 – 1300: Cultural and Social Determinants

During this session there will be an examination of how cultural attitudes, social environment, and economic factors contribute to gambling and substance use behaviours, and how these elements can inform prevention and intervention strategies.

1300 – 1500: Lunch

Afternoon Sessions:

Illicit Drug Use in Australia | Self-directed Webinar | Access via the online library

The use of illicit drugs can result in health complications and, in some cases, fatalities. It affects the individual using the substances and has implications for their family, friends, and the wider community. This category encompasses the consumption of controlled substances, non-prescribed use of pharmaceuticals, and the use of other substances, like inhalants, in ways not intended by manufacturers.

Pill Testing – A harm reduction initiative | Self-directed Webinar | Access via the online library

While the benefits of pill testing are significant, there are also challenges and criticisms. Some argue that it could implicitly encourage drug use or convey a message that drug use can be made safe. Others point out logistical challenges, such as the accuracy of tests and the complexity of interpreting results for users. Despite these concerns, many health experts and harm reduction advocates continue to support pill testing as a practical approach to reducing the negative consequences of recreational drug use.

These activities will be in the online conference library. You will have access to this library for two weeks before the commencement of the conference and two weeks after the conference.

1800 – 1900: Social Get Together – a bit of fun and get to know each other

Conference Facilitators and Presenters will be at the venue and would love to meet with you.

DAY THREE: TUESDAY 4th NOVEMBER 2025 | MELBOURNE

Today you will enjoy the race that stops a nation...The Melbourne Cup

DAY FOUR: WEDNESDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2025 | MELBOURNE

Explore this Fabulous City at your Leisure

Keep an eye out for optional tours.

1800 – 1900: Social Get Together – a bit of fun and get to know each other

Conference Facilitators and Presenters will be at the venue and would love to meet with you.

DAY FIVE: THURSDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2025 | MELBOURNE

Explore this Fabulous City at your Leisure

Keep an eye out for optional tours.

1800 – 1900: Social Get Together – a bit of fun and get to know each other

Conference Facilitators and Presenters will be at the venue and would love to meet with you.

DAY SIX: FRIDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2025 | CONFERENCE DAY

0830 – 0930: Legal and Ethical Considerations

This session will be an overview of the legal issues surrounding gambling and the use of party drugs, including regulatory challenges, ethical considerations in treatment, and the impact of legislation on public health.

0930 – 1030: Family Dynamics and Support Systems

Gain an understanding of the impact of gambling and substance use on families and relationships, strategies for involving families in the recovery process, and the role of support systems in facilitating change.

1030 – 1100: Break

1100 – 1200: Technological Advances in Treatment and Prevention

Presentation of emerging technologies, including digital therapeutics, telehealth interventions, and online support resources, and their efficacy in treating gambling and substance use disorders.

1200 – 1300: Harm Reduction Strategies

This session will have a focus on harm reduction principles and practices, including needle exchange programs, safe gambling guidelines, and the role of healthcare professionals in advocating for harm reduction.

1300 – 1500: Lunch

Afternoon Sessions:

Drug Laws in Australia a state-by-state Review | Self-directed Webinar | Access via the online library

This presentation offers a state-by-state review to provide a comprehensive understanding of Australia's drug laws, the diversity of approaches to drug issues, and the potential pathways toward more effective and compassionate drug policies.

Gambling Laws in Australia a state-by-state Review | Self-directed Webinar | Access via the online library

This presentation offers an in-depth examination of the intricate landscape of gambling laws across Australia, providing a detailed state-by-state analysis. As we dissect the regulatory frameworks that govern gambling activities, including casinos, sports betting, and online platforms, we will reveal the diversity and complexity of legal approaches used to manage and control gambling within the nation.

These activities will be in the online conference library. You will have access to this library for two weeks before the commencement of the conference and two weeks after the conference.

1800 – 1900: Conference Farewell Reception

Take this opportunity to enjoy a complimentary Drinks function as the conference draws to a close, and we say farewell to new friends and colleagues – safe travels home.

DAY SEVEN: SATURDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2025 | ARRIVE SYDNEY

0630: Disembark – Safe travels!

OUR PRESENTER

Sue Walker, RN, BN, BN (ADMIN), MPH, MACN, Specialist Nurse Educator

Sue is the director and co-founder of the Nurses for Nurses Network. Sue is a key contributor to the online education platform Nursing CPD – a Continuing Professional Development platform to assist Nurses in meeting their annual CPD requirements.

As a Registered Nurse, Sue holds Degrees in both Nursing and Health Administration, a Master's Degree in Public Health, as well as a number of certificate courses in Psychiatry of Ageing, Gerontology, Chemotherapy Administration, and Training and Assessment. She is also an Accredited Mental Health First Aid Trainer, Mindfulness Practitioner, and Clinical Supervisor.

Sue has extensive experience as a clinician, educator, and senior manager. She has presented at local and international conferences on many topics including, key issues in healthcare, such as the psychological impact of the work that Nurses do and how the work requirements to deliver healthcare impact the health of the clinician. Other topics presented comprise of Nursing Leadership, Emergency Management, Mental health, Aged Care, Advanced Life Support, Assertiveness, Grief and Loss, and Workplace Bullying.

Sue is passionate about making a difference in how the community and Nurses experience the healthcare system.

"Nurses are the backbone of the healthcare system and work in difficult environments that can take advantage of their commitment to ensuring the best possible care is delivered. To continue to meet professional and community expectations Nurses and Midwives need to acknowledge their unique contribution to health care delivery and assert their collective strength to safeguard the community and ensure their ongoing professional needs are recognised and met.

Healthcare should be delivered by competent, knowledgeable individuals to ensure the best possible experience for the recipient of that care. Nursing is a fabulous profession. The knowledge and skill of the individual Nurse will have the greatest influence on the happiness and health outcomes of each and every client".

CONFERENCE INCLUSIONS

- Race day general admission ticket into Flemington Racecourse on Lexus Melbourne Cup Day
- Transport to and from the racecourse
- General admission entry into Kennedy Oaks Day (transfers included)
- An extensive Conference program based on current best practice
- Education content that meets the same exacting standards as anything offered in an Australian land-based program
- Conference presenter who is excited to be able to share her skill, knowledge, and passion with Conference Attendees
- An online Conference library filled to the brim with educational content that allows you to create your own learning experience by completing pre-conference education activities
- A Registration Reception including complimentary drinks where you can meet other Conference Attendees and network with Conference Convenors and the Conference Presenter
- A Conference pack that includes a notepad, pen, lanyard (this is important on a cruise ship to attach your room key, which becomes your lifeline on a ship) and additional information to support a fantastic Conference experience
- The opportunity to meet as a group in various Conference open forums, in one of the many fabulous locations on the ship
- A complimentary Farewell Drinks Function held on the last night of the Conference to celebrate new friendships and information gained
- A Conference Transcript that identifies each session including the session synopsis and session presenter
- A Certificate of Completion identifying the CPD hours attached to the Conference Program for you to include in your CPD Evidence Portfolio

CONFERENCE VENUE

Carnival Splendor | www.carnival.com.au/cruise-ships/carnival-splendor

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION - \$820.00 *(Please Note: Conference registration does not include accommodation or travel costs)*

Conference registration and deposits are being handled by Education at Sea.

This is a fabulous program! To secure your place at this Conference you need to contact Education at Sea to find out about all the cabin options available. Once you have paid your deposit, your registration is confirmed, and you can start planning your Conference getaway.

EDUCATION AT SEA CONTACT DETAILS

02 7908 7774 | enquiries@educationatsea.com.au | www.educationatsea.com.au

The Nurses for Nurses Network strongly recommends customers take out travel insurance at the time of registration for an event, to cover any unforeseen circumstances that may prevent them attending and thus incur any financial loss.

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