

# Defending Your Knowledge: Preparation for serving as a forensic psychiatrist in legal issues about addictions and substance use.

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|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Submission ID</b>   | 3004075                                          |
| <b>Submission Type</b> | Workshop                                         |
| <b>Topic</b>           | Other                                            |
| <b>Status</b>          | Submitted                                        |
| <b>Submitter</b>       | Avram Mack                                       |
| <b>Affiliation</b>     | Nemours Childrens Health                         |
| <b>Participant(s)</b>  | Avram Mack (Chairperson), Avram Mack (Presenter) |

## SUBMISSION DETAILS

**Workshop Summary** The Committee on Addiction and Law presents this workshop:

Functioning as a forensic psychiatrist should not be mysterious or daunting: what is necessary is a combination of your knowledge, attitudes and skills in addiction psychiatry with preparation for the hazards of the adversarial American legal framework. This workshop will provide review and discussion about selected pitfalls in the provision of expert opinions in addiction and substance use. Focus on specific examples will lead to wider discussion about testimony and how to prepare and protect it. The format will include a presentation by members of the Committee (each an experienced forensic expert) about a specific difficult situation and then the chairs and other presenters will lead a discussion with the audience about how to protect one's opinions from adversarial-based attempts to impeach. For each example the chairs will have role plays to use with volunteers from the audience to learn methods of effective communication in the adversarial setting.

**Workshop Interaction and Engagement Methods** Practical training and problem solving (Role play/Real play) - Presenters or prepared audience members take on various roles to practice techniques/skills., Multi-media usage - If you are considering integrating video clips or other media platforms, please inform AAAP staff prior to your workshop to ensure that the room and AV are adequately set up., Case Discussion - Use of cases to engage the audience in brainstorming about diagnosis, treatment planning, clinical issues.

**Interactive Plan Description** Role plays will be used in this workshop to demonstrate how to communicate effectively in a courtroom or deposition setting. 3-4 setups will have been printed to include the physician and a cross-examining attorney (played by the chair or one of the presenters). This can occur using 2 chairs and 2 microphones at the front of the room. each one will be allotted around 5 minutes for the role play and up to 10 minutes for discussion. These activities will demonstrate the need to hew to basic models of forensic testimony. Overall these will comprise around 45-60 minutes of the workshop. A short mock trial , involving several Committee members,

will be prepared and applied depending on the number of volunteers.

### Writing Educational Learning Objectives

Please list at least three (3) brief learning objectives below.

**Learning Objective 1** The learner will understand basics of the adversarial process

**Learning Objective 2** The learner will be aware of courtroom and deposition situations that have the potential to defeat one's opinion

**Learning Objective 3** The learner will adopt attitudes about statements in forensic settings that will improve the clarity of opinions