

The ClubsNSW Chaplaincy Program and Psychiatric Comorbidities in Gambling

Presented by

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Outline

1. Gaming environment in Australia



2. What is the Chaplaincy program?



CLUB CHAPLAINCY

3. Why is it important?



4. Chaplaincy program outcomes- what we know so far



Background: The Gaming Environment in Australia



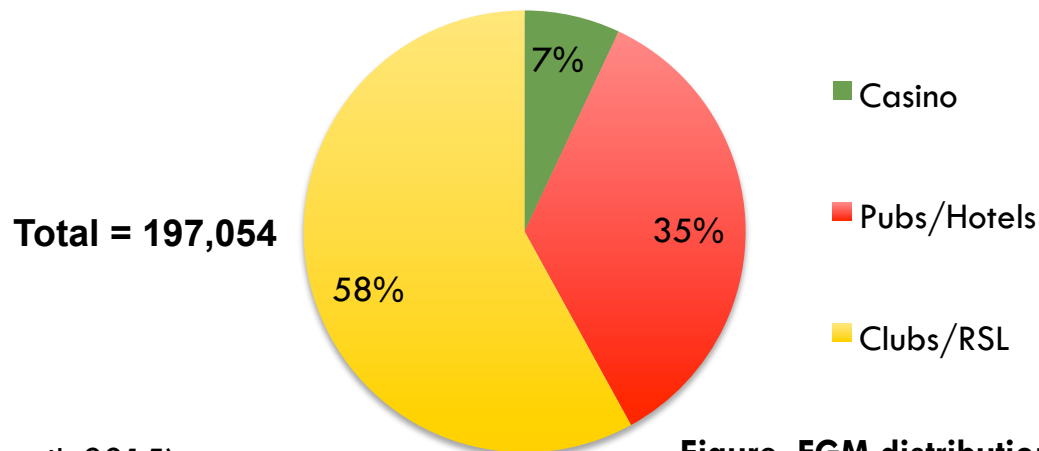
Casino (N = 12)



Pub/Hotel (N = 3202)



Club/RSL (N = 2088)



(Australian Gaming Council, 2015)

The University of Sydney

Figure. EGM distribution by venue type

Background:

What is a Club?

Sports bars



Family areas



Cafes/ Restaurants/ Bars



Clubs

Gaming areas



Support programs



Entertainment

What is the Chaplaincy Program?



CLUB CHAPLAINCY

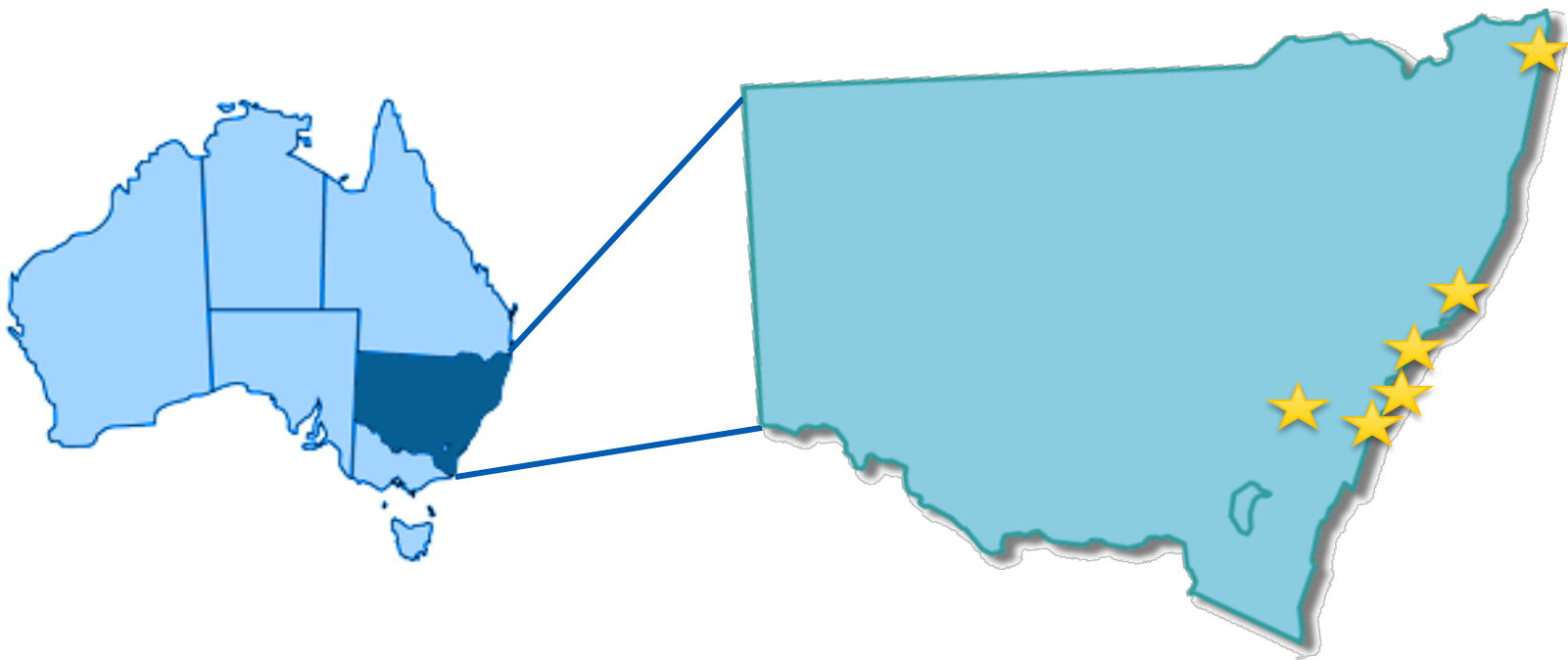
Provide practical and emotional support to club visitors, members and staff

What is the Clubs Chaplaincy Program?



What is the Chaplaincy Program?

- Currently running in 6 clubs in NSW, Australia



What is the Chaplaincy Program?

Twin Towns
CLUBS + RESORTS

PITTWATER
RSL CLUB

BankstownSports

WESTS

MINGARA
Life's Great!

Dee Why
RSL Club

What is the Chaplaincy Program?



Chaplain David Slee



North Coast Club

- Chaplains interact with patrons and staff in a variety of ways

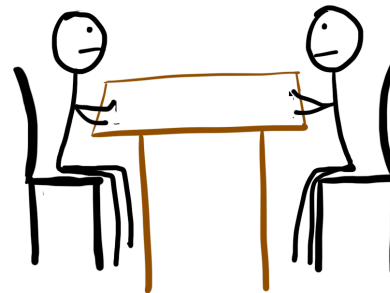
What is the Chaplaincy Program?

Typical interactions:



Mrs. B

- Female
- Pensioner
- Variety of interactions



Mrs. K

- Female, 20s
- Long one-on-one sessions
- Staff referral

Why is the Chaplaincy Program important?

Comorbidity

Cross sectional findings:

Recent systematic review:

- 60% nicotine dependence
- 58% substance use disorder
- 38% any mood disorder
- 37% any anxiety disorder

(Lorains, Cowlshaw, & Thomas, 2011)

Why is the Chaplaincy Program important?

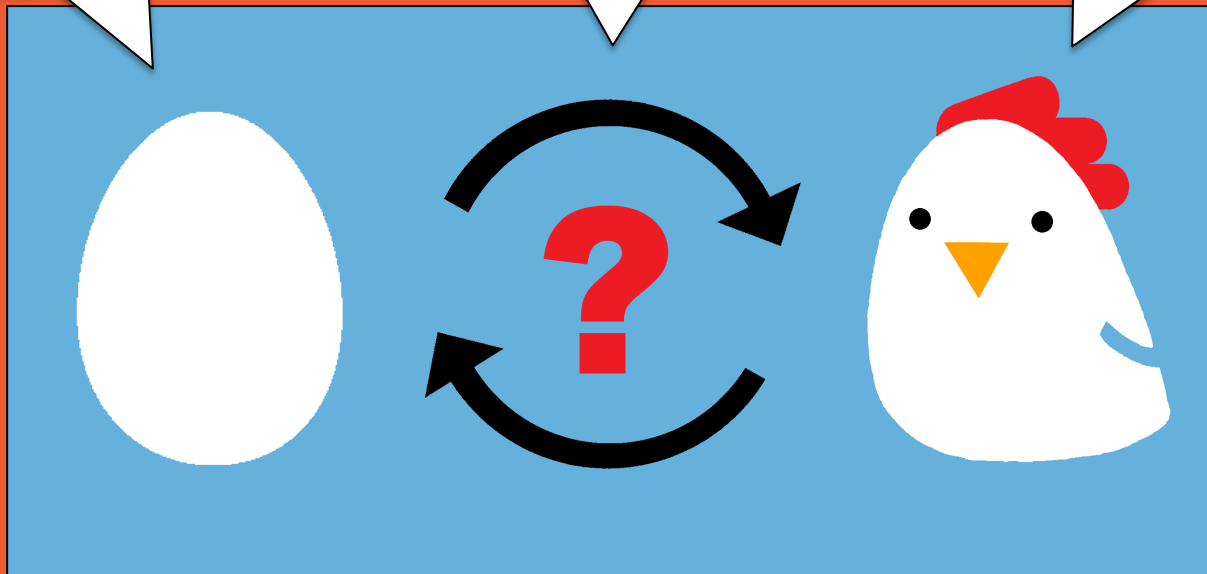
Comorbidity

Longitudinal Findings:

Comorbid conditions are present before gambling disorders

Common interactive factor that drives both

Comorbid conditions occur after gambling disorders



Chaplaincy program: A new way to assist?

Current methods:

Formal Therapy Sessions



Informal group support



Staff Training for Employees



Gambling Telephone Helpline



The Chaplaincy Program: Potential benefits

1. Holistic approach
2. Targets all difficulties
3. “Soft” approach
4. Less stigma
5. Alternative/ compliment to staff training
6. Prevent gambling disorders



CLUB CHAPLAINCY



**Evaluate the
program and its
outcomes**

The Chaplaincy Program: What we know so far

12 month trial of the Mingara Chaplaincy Program:

- Data collected by The Salvation Army in 2013
- Salvation Army client database
- Surveys handed out to patrons and staff

(More, 2013)

The Chaplaincy Program: What we know so far

Database findings



(More, 2013)

The Chaplaincy Program: What we know so far

Database findings

32 referrals:

1. Formal therapy (e.g., counselling, psychologist)
2. Pastoral care
3. Welfare organisations
4. Practical support
5. Group support

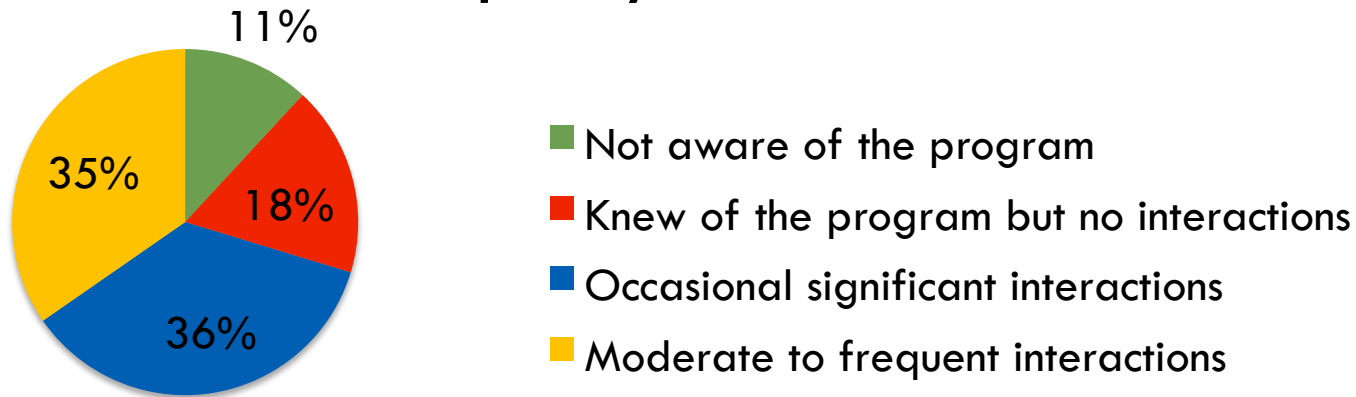


(More, 2013)

The Chaplaincy Program: What we know so far

Survey Findings - Patrons

Chaplaincy Awareness



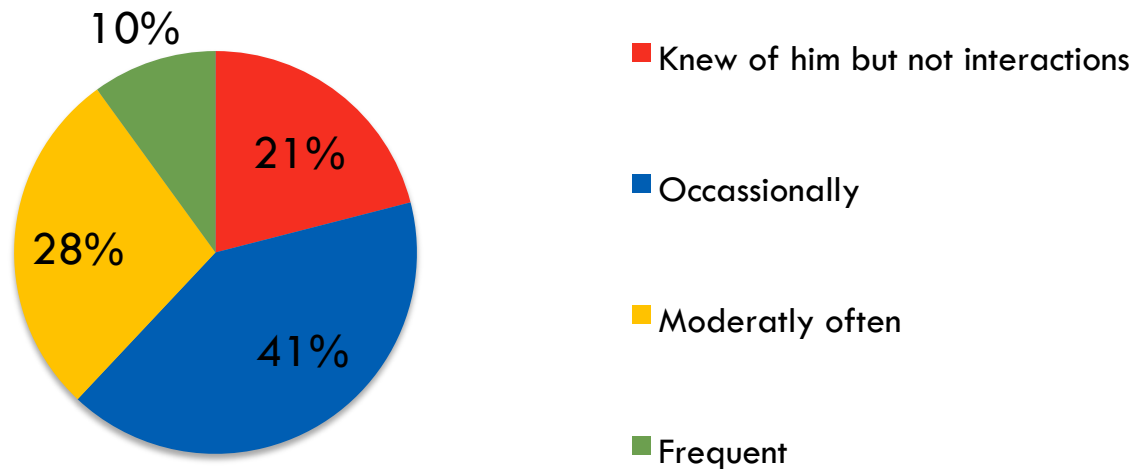
82% of respondents found their interactions with the Chaplain helpful (1% unhelpful; 17% neutral)

(More, 2013)

The Chaplaincy Program: What we know so far

Survey Findings - Staff

Interactions with Chaplain



83% of staff reported their interactions with the Chaplain as helpful

(More, 2013)

The Chaplaincy Program: Why the apparent success?

- Chaplain is suited to, and a part of, the community
 - Familiar face
 - Intermediary
 - The Salvation Army- trusted and recognised brand
- = Independent and non-threatening way to assist community members



The Chaplaincy Program: Next Steps

Empirically assess the outcomes from the program:

Interviews



- Personal Experience of running the program
- Any specific challenges they face/d?
- Any differences between staff and Club patrons?
- Do you see many people with gambling problems?
- How do you approach someone with a gambling problem?

The Chaplaincy Program: Next Steps

Empirically assess the outcomes from the program:



Physical/ Online
Survey



Formal measures:

- PGSI

Informal measures:

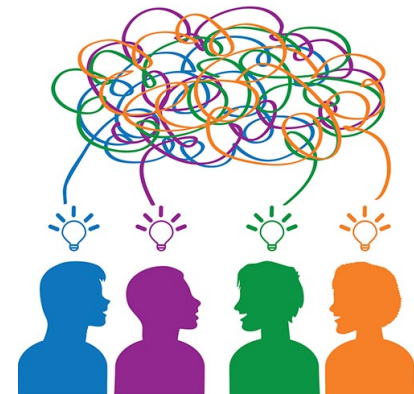
- Demographics
- Chaplaincy program experience
- Helpful/ unhelpful
- Help seeking behaviour
- Referrals
- Gambling problem experiences

The Chaplaincy Program: Next Steps

Empirically assess the outcomes from the program:



Focus Groups



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