

Centre For Health Economics Seminar Series 2017

MENTAL HEALTH, WELFARE REFORM AND THE DISABILITY SUPPORT PENSION

Presenter: Prof Peter Butterworth, University of Melbourne
Date: Wednesday 25 October 2017
Time: 12.00pm - 1.00pm
Venue: RB Scotton Room
Centre for Health Economics



Abstract

Mental disorders are a leading cause of disability in Australia and internationally, and are the most common primary medical category of new Disability Support Pension (DSP) recipients. Proposals to reform the DSP often discuss the need to better align policy with community views and reflect upon the episodic nature of mental illness. Public discussion commonly questions the deservingness of people claiming DSP, particularly those receiving payment on the basis of their mental ill-health. In this presentation I will report initial findings from a program of research comprising attitudinal surveys, social psychology experiments, content analysis of media reports, and longitudinal trajectory analysis using 15 waves of the HILDA Survey. I will examine stigmatizing attitudes towards people receiving DSP, examine psychiatric morbidity amongst those receiving DSP, and consider mental health of individuals in the period of time leading and subsequent to their transitions onto the DSP.

Presenter

Peter Butterworth is a Professorial Fellow and ARC Future Fellow at the University of Melbourne where he holds a joint appointment with the Centre for Mental Health in the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health and the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research. His broad research interests are in the social causes and social consequences of common mental disorders.

VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME

The Seminar Series is free of charge. For further information please phone 9905 0733 or email che-enquiries@monash.edu

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