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2018 ATSA Conference | Thursday October 18 | 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

T-21

Manualized Programs: What Happened to Sexual Self-Regulation and Risk, Needs, Responsivity?

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Manualized approaches to sexual offense specific treatment have increasingly become an option for criminal justice agencies. There is a growing trend by referral sources to require that manualized curricula replace and/or be incorporated within existing sexual offense specific treatment programs. Such approaches are frequently presented as providing cost-benefit, fidelity, and cognitive-behavioral benefits. However, manualized approaches often solely focus on general criminogenic factors while excluding foundational aspects integral in the treatment of sexual abusers. Specifically, incorporation of empirically validated sexual abuse specific risk/need factors within the curriculum is often limited despite manualized curriculum suggesting that clients be separated according to risk. While manualized curricula may be designed for moderate to high risk clients, there is also no identified protocol or guidance for lower-risk clients. The “one size fits all” nature of manualized treatment and concerns about fidelity frequently conflict with client responsivity issues. Additionally, therapists who incorporate a manualized program as a primary intervention may feel restricted from employing other cognitive-behavioral interventions and strategies not specifically identified in the curriculum. This workshop will provide an overview of the pros and cons of manualized interventions for sexual abusers; identify ethical dilemmas related to the use of manualized curriculum for licensed mental health professionals; and offer practical strategies for the integration of manualized curriculum within the empirically-guided frameworks and accepted practice standards for the treatment of those that commit sexual harm.

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Learning Goals:

- Participants will learn about the pros and cons of manualized interventions for individuals convicted of sexual crimes.
- Participants will learn about the ethical dilemmas facing licensed mental health professionals when required to implement a manualized curriculum within their treatment program.
- Participants will learn practical ways to address these ethical dilemmas and strategies for applying the risk, needs and responsivity principles when integrating manualized programming into an overall treatment program.

Seth L. Wescott, LMHP is a Licensed Master's Level Psychologist. He has been working in the forensic mental health field since 2002. He has worked in maximum security prisons for both adults and juveniles. In addition, he has worked with offenders in various community-based settings. In 2009, he was appointed by the State of Kansas Secretary of Corrections to the State's Multi-Disciplinary Team, responsible for evaluating potential sexually violent predators. In addition to his work with adult offenders, Mr. Wescott has served as the Chief Psychologist and Director of Mental Health at the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex. Mr. Wescott has been employed at Clinical Associates as the Director of the Sex Offender Treatment Program since 2011. In 2016 the program began providing psychosexual evaluation and treatment services to youth adjudicated of sexual offenses. In addition to his work with the sexual offender treatment program, Mr. Wescott provides forensic evaluation and treatment services for United States Probation, and private attorneys. Mr. Wescott is a clinical member of ATSA and has presented at numerous conferences throughout the years. He provides training to various agencies and organizations upon request.

Katherine "Katie" Gotch, LPC, CSOT earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Boston University and a master's degree in forensic psychology from the University of Denver. She has worked in the field of sexual abuse since 2000 as a clinician, evaluator, trainer, educator, and in legislative/policy development. She currently maintains a private practice which provides specialized clinical and consultation services related to adults with sexual behavior problems and other forms of abusive and/or violent behavior. She is a Clinical Member & Public Policy Executive Board Member – ATSA, Board Member & Policy Representative – Oregon ATSA, and Board Member & Public Policy Action Team Co-Chair – NPEIV. She frequently provides training to correctional agencies, treatment providers, policy makers, and other community partners on sexual offense specific management and treatment, static and dynamic risk, incorporation of the risk/need/responsivity principles into practice, public policy, public engagement, and related topics. She is a certified Static-99R/STABLE & ACUTE-2007 trainer.

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Tiffany Looney, MS, CASOT earned a master's degree in clinical psychology from Pacific University, where she conducted her master's thesis research on assessment of sexual abusers. She has worked in the field of sexual abuse since 2011 as a clinician and evaluator. She is currently one of the partners at McKenzie Counseling, where she conducts sexual offense-specific evaluation and treatment services. In addition to her clinical work at McKenzie Counseling, she provides sexual offense-specific evaluation services for the Oregon Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision, child welfare services, and private attorneys. Ms. Looney is a clinical member of ATSA, and a regular presenter at the Oregon ATSA chapter's annual conference.

Marc A. Schlosberg, Ph.D. is a licensed psychologist (Kansas) with a doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology from the University of Kansas. He is a Clinical Member of ATSA. Since 2002, Dr. Schlosberg has contracted and consulted with the Kansas Sexual Offender Civil Commitment Program. He provides therapy to individuals transitioning to community living from the state's secure treatment facility at Larned State Hospital. He provides consultation and training to staff at one of three Intermediate Care Facilities in the state for civilly committed sexual offenders. Dr. Schlosberg also consults with clinical staff involved in the Kansas Sexual Offender Treatment program. He maintains a private practice at Clinical Associates in Lenexa, KS where he provides therapy and assessment services. Dr. Schlosberg is a past president of the Kansas Psychological Association.