Document Title: World Psychiatric Association – Section on HIV/AIDS Psychiatry: 2024 Annual Report
Document Type: Section Annual Report (Calendar Year 2024)
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Date Created: 16 May 2025

Summary of Intra-Section Communications in 2024:

Since our last report, we have engaged in regular meetings, video conferences, and email communications. These discussions focused on advancing our key projects, sharing research, and fostering collaborations between members.

Summary of Accomplishments in 2024:

1. **Major Publications:**
   - Clinical Manual of HIV Psychiatry: A significant accomplishment is the forthcoming publication of the Clinical Manual of ***HIV Psychiatry***, which is on track to be finalized and published mid-2025. This will serve as a key resource for clinicians and marks our fifth publication as a section.
   - Comprehensive Textbook of HIV Psychiatry: We are preparing to begin work on the third edition of ***Cohen's Comprehensive Textbook of HIV Psychiatry***, one of the gold standard texts in HIV psychiatry, with an expected publication date in 2027.

2. **Workgroups:**
   - Substance Use Disorders Workgroup: Led by Dr. John Wells, this group has focused on addressing critical topics such as the intersection of substance use and HIV, with special attention to chemsex and related challenges.
   - Psychotherapy Workgroup: Led by Dr. Guida da Ponte, this group is preparing to publish an important article on the diagnosis and treatment of HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders (HAND) in distressed systems. This work will serve as a foundation for future explorations of psychotherapeutic interventions for people living with HIV.
   - Telepsychiatry Workgroup: Led by Dra. Gabriella Marzani, this group has focused on outpatient HIV psychiatry and organized a symposium at the 2024 ACLP Conference: "Integrative Approaches for people living with HIV/AIDS: Enhancing whole-health through ketamine, esketamine and psychedelic therapies"

3. **Manuscripts and Collaborative Research:**
   - The Section continues to produce a wide range of peer-reviewed manuscripts, articles for ***Psychiatric News*** and ***Psychiatric Times***, and podcasts to disseminate high-quality knowledge. Our group is developing numerous projects, including an article on how to diagnose and treat ***HAND in Distressed Systems*** led by Dr. Guida da Ponte and lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic to the HIV Pandemic led by Dr. Sales.

4. **International Collaboration:**
   - We have presented at international forums, such as the WPA 2024 Annual Meeting (Mexico City, Mexico), ACLP 2024 Annual Meeting (Miami, USA), and the APA 2024 Annual Meeting (New York, USA) with symposia focused on the intersection of HIV Psychiatry, addiction, culture, and social determinants of health.
   - We are developing an international project to improve awareness and foster more studies in ChemSex, particularly in Asian countries while also contrasting with the realities observed in the Southern states of the United States led by Drs. Kristiana Siste and John Wells.

- We will present a symposium at the annual conference of the World Psychiatric Association (WPA), which takes place in October 2025 in Prague, Czechia. It will include speakers from Indonesia, Spain, and the USA.
- Members of our section will also present at the APA 2025 annual meeting.

5. **Membership Growth:**
   - Our membership continues to grow: we currently have 738 members - a notable achievement in expanding the scope and impact of our section.

Vision for 2025:

1. **Continued Focus on Research and Publication:**
   - Begin work on the third edition of ***Cohen's Comprehensive Textbook of HIV Psychiatry***.
   - Continue to promote and finalize the ***Clinical Manual of HIV Psychiatry***, which is a milestone project for the section.
   - Develop manuscripts for peer-reviewed journals, including more submissions to ***Psychiatric News***, ***Psychiatric Times***, and other leading publications.

2. **Expansion of Workgroups:**
   - Further development of the (1) ***Substance Use Disorders Workgroup; (2) Psychotherapy Workgroup***; and (3) ***Telepsychiatry Workgroup***, all of which are critical areas of psychiatric care for people living with HIV.

3. **Facilitating Access to Educational Resources:**
   - Increase the dissemination of educational content through podcasts and webinars, focusing on issues such as HIV stigma, prevention, and comprehensive care. We are currently developing an online resource for PrEP and PEP.

4. **Collaborative Projects:**
   - Foster more collaborations with other sections of the WPA.

Ideas to Further the WPA's Mission:

1. **Guideline Development:**
   We aim to produce our first guideline/consensus statement on depression treatment in HIV psychiatry, which will lay the groundwork for future guidelines, such as those focusing on substance use disorders.

2. **Expanding Educational Outreach:**
   By creating more content such as podcasts, book chapters, and interactive webinars, we will increase accessibility to the latest developments in HIV psychiatry and improve care for individuals in resource-limited settings.

3. **Addressing HIV Stigma and Mental Health:**
   One of our core missions remains the reduction of HIV stigma and the improvement of mental health outcomes through educational programs and clinical practice innovations. This includes advocacy for equitable care in both high-resource and resource-limited environments.

Respectfully submitted,

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