



"Depression in the Community:

Is it really increasing?"

A/Professor Graeme Hawthorne

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Graeme Hawthorne's research includes depression prevalence and associated excess health service consumption, social isolation, suicide prevention, antipsychotic medication, incontinence, patient satisfaction, and the assessment of participant-reported outcomes, including quality of life (QoL).

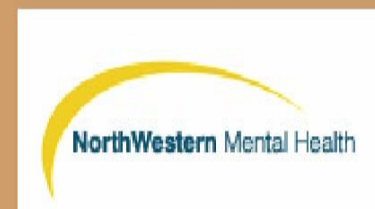
Current research includes the QOLIBRI Project (QoL after traumatic brain injury), the long-term mental health of Australia's peacekeepers, international medical graduates in the medical workforce, and health care use by veterans with PTSD.

His measurement work includes population norms for the SF-36 Version 2 (health status), the WHOQOL-BREF (life satisfaction), and the AQoL (health-related QoL). Recent co-authored instruments include the AQoL, VISQOL (vision impairment); Friendship Scale (social isolation), DAR5 (anger) and the Short Assessment of Patient Satisfaction (SAPS).

Since the 1960s it has been widely believed that depression prevalence has been increasing – although this is a controversial belief.

Australian rates, based on the 1997 National Mental Health and Wellbeing Survey, suggest the period prevalence (last year) of depression is between 6-8%.

This presentation examines South Australian community prevalence data for the years 1998, 2004 and 2008 and explores some of the underlying measurement issues, correlates and consequences relevant to the increasing depression hypothesis.



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY MONDAY COLLOQUIUM Monday
16th February 2009 / 1North, Main Block, Royal Melbourne Hospital,
Victoria **Lunch: 12.15-12.30 Presentation: 12.30-1.30 pm**

Monday Colloquia are a joint presentation between the University of Melbourne Department of Psychiatry & North Western Mental Health. For more information contact Dr Simon Jones tel +61 3 8344 6337 (sgjones@unimelb.edu.au)