

Facts about Psychosis

- Most severe mental disorder (2% life time risk including manic depressive and schizophrenia)
- Most are adolescents or young adults (less than age 25) at onset (25% before 18)
- Early symptoms and functional problems begin in early adolescence
- Negative consequences may follow if not treated adequately (high mortality through heart disease, suicide)

Facts about Psychosis

- Treatment is often delayed for months or even years
- Delay in treatment is strongly associated with poor outcome
- Delay in treatment could be reduced through early identification and optimum treatment
- This work has to be done with education and health sectors as well as with the community directly and not within the walls of hospitals

What do we do about it in our program?

- Go directly to all primary health centres and educational institutions and teach skills of early identification to health workers, physicians, counsellors and teachers using 'academic detailing'

How do we do it?

- Using our own two short films (12 minutes each) about how psychosis develops within the context of a family
- Face to face contact with our team, direct discourse with us to clear any doubts and answer questions
- Get to know our team face to face
- Follow-up (we seek new cases-paradox in the mental health system)

PEPP
MONTRÉAL

Prevention and Early Intervention
Program for Psychosis

Douglas Institute, McGill
University, Montreal

CAYR (SMD)

Centre for Counseling and Assessment
of Youth at Risk for Serious Mental
Disorders
(situated in a medical clinic on CDN)