



ABSTRACT FORM

Name/Nome	Silvia Raggi – Alberto Trimboli – Pablo Fridman – Juan Carlos Fantin – Gustavo Bertran – Liliana Moneta	Country/ Paese	ARGENTINA
Affiliation/Organizzazione <i>(University/Agency/NGO)/(Università/Azienda/ONG)</i>	HOSPITAL ALVAREZ – BUENOS AIRES - ARGENTINA		
Address/Indirizzo	MEDRANO 233 PB 2 – BUENOS AIRES - ARGENTINA		
Phone-mobile/Telefono	541158216866	Fax	
E-mail	raggi@fibertel.com.ar		
Title of the contribution/Titolo del contributo	Approach of socio-sanitary inclusion of mental health in the General Hospital		
Objectives/Obiettivi	We will describe the model that informs mental health services at the Hospital General de Agudos Dr. Teodoro Álvarez, which is located in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where we have worked for over thirty years.		

Contents-text/Contenuto-testo:
Max. 400 parole/words

This type of approach to mental health services is not very common in general hospitals. For us, it was an answer to confinement, to the stigma, and to the exclusion that people with mental illnesses frequently experience in mental hospitals. For us, a person with mental illness is, first and foremost, a person who possesses rights.

Strongly influenced by psychoanalytic trends that began in Argentina in the middle decades of the past century, we developed methods of giving patients and their families both understanding and a voice. We also turned the tide on professional attitudes opposed to this change, calling into question the top-down and authoritarian configuration of the traditional mental hospital, which

often leads to the violation of a patient's human rights.

Our services, the inheritor of these reforms, produced rights-focused treatments that are based in the community and feature an interdisciplinary approach, that is, psychiatric and psychotherapeutic treatment for individuals, families, and groups. Other mental health professionals, in addition to psychiatrists and psychologists, were also incorporated: our service features music therapists, occupational therapists, social workers, and educational psychologists.

With this approach, many patients who were previously hospitalized are treated as outpatients, avoiding hospitalization and reserving it for cases in which a risk to the patient or to others is observed, and then for short periods of time.

We will also talk about intermediary and specific methodologies, principally the day hospital model and methodologies for the treatment of problem drug use.

In particular, these types of methodologies deal with the socio-sanitary inclusion of patients in the community and their reintegration into society and the workplace, but without neglecting clinical practice and the processes associated with subjectivization or patients' wishes and histories.

Mental health services at our general hospital have the following resources at their disposal:

- Outpatient clinics for children, adolescents, and adults.
- Four day hospitals (two for psychotic patients, one for problem drug use, and another for autistic children).
- A ward with twenty beds for full-time hospitalization.
- An emergency mental health ward open twenty-four hours a day, three hundred and sixty-five days a year, with a psychiatrist, a psychologist, and a social worker on duty.
- In addition to being a general hospital, our hospital features a full range of medical specialties.

Lastly, we will reevaluate the results we have obtained in terms of our relationship with the community and our efforts to give our patients greater fulfillment in their lives.