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An APA and SAMHSA Initiative



Welcome to your quarterly update from SMI Adviser. Our team is proud to highlight our progress to advance evidence-based care for individuals who have serious mental illness (SMI).

We are happy to announce that our initiative is funded for a sixth year. This continues our work to transform care for people who have SMI so they can live their best lives. We have several new resources that were completed recently and we have other pivotal projects underway to address identified gaps. Our focus is to continue to support the mental health field through education, resources, and consultations.

This newsletter highlights some of the data and recent work from our initiative.

- ✓ Key metrics from our website, mobile apps, education, and more
- ✓ A recap of live education sessions led by SMI Adviser during the American Psychiatric Association's 2023 Annual Meeting in San Francisco
- ✓ A series of de novo resources on substance use disorders, recovery perspective, dosage planning for clozapine, and more

Please join our #MissionForBetter to improve care for individuals who have SMI. Use our [Partner Action Toolkit](#) to download and share our materials. You can also access all of our resources and education on the [SMI Adviser website](#). It is important to raise awareness for the education, tools, and resources that are needed by clinicians and others who provide care to people who have SMI.

Thank you for being an important part of this initiative.

For questions about SMI Adviser, please contact us at [SMIadviser@psych.org](mailto:SMIadviser@psych.org). Our team is here to help you.

**A BETTER TOMORROW**  
Find answers that help people with serious mental illness live their best lives.



**Clinicians  
& Providers**



**Individuals  
& Families**



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## Earn Credits and Find Guidance to Help People Who Have SMI

Our online course catalog is full of practical insights that frontline clinicians need. It now offers 200+ courses with evidence-based guidance that address gaps in skills and knowledge. They are completely free for anyone who works in mental health.

SMI Adviser partners closely with APA to leverage its Joint Accreditation status and offer credits for physicians, nurses, psychologists, and social workers – and starting in August of 2023, pharmacists.

In May 2023, SMI Adviser relaunched its course catalog with a new learning management system (LMS). It is easier than ever to search and find courses by topic, format, and type of credit.

**220,000+**  
Total  
Registrations

**70,000+**  
Total  
Learners

**98,000+**  
Education  
Credits Issued

Data as of May 2023

[SEE THE CATALOG](#)

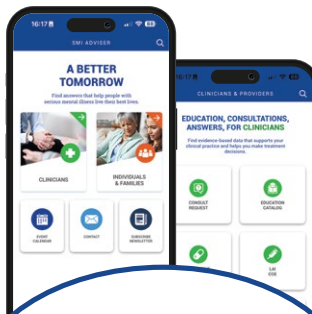
## Content for All Devices

A lynchpin of our strategy is to meet clinicians where they are across desktop, tablet, and smartphone.



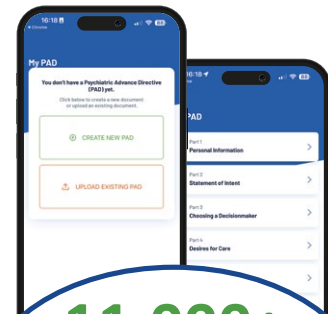
**1,700,00+**  
Total Website  
Users

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)



**26,000+**  
Downloads for  
SMI Adviser App

[GET SMI ADVISER APP](#)



**11,000+**  
Downloads for  
My Mental Health  
Crisis Plan

[GET MY MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS PLAN](#)

Data as of May 2023





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## SMI Adviser Leads Dynamic Sessions during APA's 2023 Annual Meeting

The APA Annual Meeting is the premier event in psychiatry and took place in San Francisco from May 20-24. Clinical experts from SMI Adviser took the lead on three general sessions and two interactive learning labs. 430+ clinicians attended these sessions.

### Meaningful Community Participation: An Essential Aspect of Recovery for Persons With Serious Mental Illness

This session provided an overview on how to promote community inclusion for persons with SMI. It covered fundamental concepts, theoretical frameworks, evidence for community inclusion, and an innovative peer delivered intervention for individuals who have SMI and are part of underserved groups located in urban settings.

### Clozapine 101: Everything You Need to Know to Start a New Patient on Clozapine

This session focused on how to initiate patients on clozapine, use clozapine in combination with other medications, obtain and interpret clozapine levels, manage both common and complex side effects, navigate Clozapine REMS, and much more.

### How to Safely Manage High Level Escalations: Applied Engagement Skills While Intervening in Crisis Situations

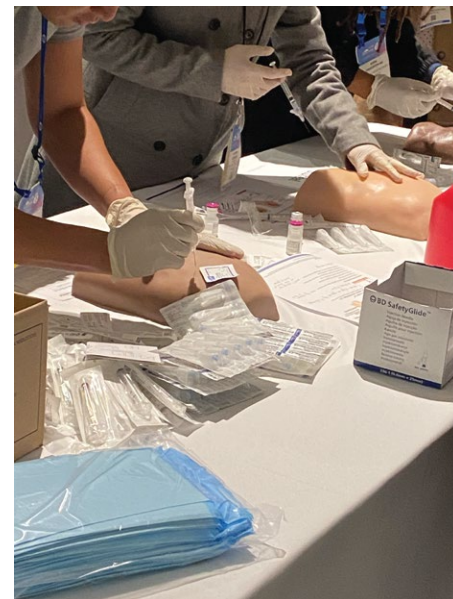
This session focused on how to best assist individuals who are in crises and other individuals involved. It highlighted the importance of skills such as nonverbal communication, active listening, awareness of power struggles, and engagement strategies.

### Supporting Person-Centered Care: A Simulation of Hearing Voices

This hands-on learning lab was an authentic and powerful learning experience on the impact of auditory hallucinations on functioning. It served as an opportunity for both early-career and experienced clinicians to optimize care around the challenges and strengths of people who experience psychosis.

### Give It Your Best Shot: Learning How to Administer Long-Acting Injectable Antipsychotics

This dynamic learning lab answered key questions, detailed specific techniques, and offered simulated practice on how to administer long-acting injectable (LAI) medications.





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## Virtual Learning Collaboratives Focus on Hands-On Skills

2,700+ clinicians registered across our ten 12-week, interactive courses in Spring 2023. Each course was led by SMI Adviser clinical experts and focused on hands-on, real-world, peer-to-peer skill-building. Course topics included trauma-informed care, motivational interviewing, safe and effective use of long-acting injectables, mastering the use of clozapine, foundational skills in the care of those with SMI, psychiatric mental health nursing assessment, and more.

### Top Five Professions by Registrations

**1,080+**

Social Workers

**350+**

Psychiatrists

**310+**

Nurses

**195+**

Peer Specialists

**90+**

Psychologists

*“Even though there were 300+ people it did not feel like it. We got the chance to be in smaller break out groups and practice what was spoken about in the big group.”*

*“It was well organized, informative, and gave us a great intro and chance to try out open-ended questions. Having a live session really helps me engage with the content!”*

*“Excellent information and practice with test cases. Loved that we were getting questions answered in real time.”*

*“Every training and trainer brought forth information that had components of knowledge that can be utilized to improve our daily approach to helping others.”*



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## Clinical Experts Provide Consultations to All Professions

SMI Adviser continues to see growth in the use of its clinician-to-clinician consultation service. Our team of clinical experts provide technical assistance (TA) to the field across professions and practice settings. We respond to any consultation requests within one business day and can engage with practices, sites, and health systems for in-depth consultations around systems change.

**4,600+**  
Total Number of  
Consultations

**SUBMIT A QUESTION NOW**

*“This service is of great benefit to those of us who practice in socially disadvantaged communities who have a higher incidence of people with chronic illness, due to lack of access to care. I am grateful for your help.” – Psychiatrist*

*“I very much appreciate this consultation resource for clinicians. The consult was completed in a timely fashion. The resources provided were helpful.” – Nurse*

*“I knew my request was not typical - the whole point is that I was looking for resources for persons who are stable but for some reason not able to be employed. This is very different than the usual emphasis on urgent crisis for acute issues. The response was helpful, prompt, on target.” – Psychiatrist*





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## Live Trainings on Digital Literacy and Digital Health

In support of our online Digital Health Navigator Training, SMI Adviser held three live trainings to pilot the education and collect important data and feedback. They took place in Boston, Houston, and New York in late April and early May 2023. Participants included 80+ total attendees across professions.

The Digital Health Navigator Training is an interactive, self-paced curriculum. It supports digital literacy and helps advance clinical care, health equity, and recovery. For the live training, attendees had to complete six online modules in advance. The live training provided context and real-world, practical examples to bring key concepts to life. It also offered opportunities to engage with peers, ask questions, find solutions to implementation barriers, and identify implementation facilitators.



[SEE THE ONLINE TRAINING](#)

## Share Resources from Our Partner Action Toolkit

Access flyers and other materials to share with your colleagues, staff, family members, and individuals in your care. Help us raise awareness and connect people with guidance that improves care for people who have SMI.

Join our Mission for Better today.  
Post on social media and use our hashtag  
**#MissionForBetter**

[VIEW THE TOOLKIT](#)



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## New Resources for the Field

Take a minute to check out the new resources that SMI Adviser recently developed and launched.

### Clozapine Dose Planner

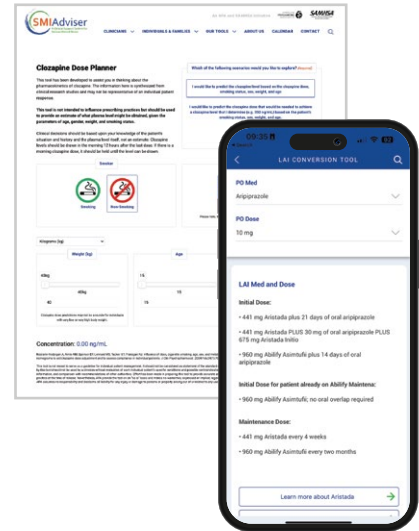
Use this interactive tool to help estimate plasma levels of clozapine based on variables such as age, sex, weight, and smoking status.

TEST IT OUT

### LAI Dose Conversion Tool

Located in the SMI Adviser app, this tool helps you convert long-acting injectable (LAI) medications that are used for people who have SMI from oral dose to LAI delivery.

USE THE TOOL



### 10 Tips to Use a Recovery Perspective in Your Practice

This guide provides valuable tips and insights on how to embrace and use a recovery perspective.

SEE THE GUIDE

### Fact Sheets on Comorbid Substance Use Disorders and SMI

Find background details and review key information on screening, treatments and more for alcohol, benzodiazepines, cannabis, opioids, stimulants, and tobacco.

LEARN MORE



### Videos on Peer Support

These short videos feature established peer specialists who offer specific advice they would give to early career peer specialists.

WATCH VIDEOS





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## Webinar Collaboration with E4 Center

In May 2023, SMI Adviser collaborated on a unique webinar with the E4 Center and the Illinois Department of Aging. It addressed the concept of valued social roles for older adults who have SMI. Presenters focused on how to address the impact of social role losses and gains and help clinicians work with people who have SMI to identify valued roles as they age.

Catalog / Valued Social Roles in Older Adults with Serious M...

**Valued Social Roles in Older Adults with Serious Mental Illness**

**Overview**

Social roles are broadly defined as the parts that we play within society. Roles can be relational—like daughter, partner, or friend—others more clearly communicate status, activity, or identity—like manager, worker, or teacher. Roles are also linked to different levels of acceptance or status within our communities. Our opportunities to hold various roles changes as we age and our circumstances change and we often gain and lose social roles over time. Role losses and gains can impact individual mental health, life satisfaction, and access to resources. Presenters describe how the concept of valued social roles can shape our work with older adults coping with serious mental illness. We focus on how people providing health care and assistance to older adults with mental illness can best partner with them to address the impact of social role losses and gains and work together to help these adults enact desired and valued social roles. This event is hosted in collaboration with SMI Adviser.

**Format**

Recorded webinar, non-interactive, self-paced distance learning activity with post-test.

This presentation was recorded on May 3, 2023.

**Learning Objectives**

- Describe how different levels of opportunity, power, and respect tie to the status or value of a given social role.
- Identify how ageism, bias, and stereotypes about aging and serious mental illness can limit valued social role opportunities.
- Explain how social roles are gained or lost over the lifespan and how that differs based on characteristics like age or serious mental illness.
- Discuss what to understand about the lives and experiences of older adults with serious mental illness when creating working with them to create opportunities for valued social roles.

**Target Audience**

Counselor, Nurse/Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatrist, Physician Assistant, Psychologist, Social Worker, Peer Specialist/Peer Support

**Instructional Level**

Introductory, Intermediate, Advanced

**Estimated Time to Complete**

**Summary**

**Availability:** On-Demand  
Expires on May 12, 2026

**Credit Offered:** 1.5 CME Credits  
1.5 NCPD Credits  
1.5 Psych CE Credits  
1.5 SW CE Credits  
1.5 COP Credits

[Create Account](#) [Login](#)

**On-Demand**

**1.5 CME**

**1.5 NCPD**

**1.5 Psych CE**

**1.5 SW CE**

[LEARN MORE](#)

## SAMHSA Partner Spotlight: E4 Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Disparities in Aging

*This section highlights other programs and resources from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)*

The mission of the E4 Center is to engage, empower, and educate health care providers and community-based organizations for equity in behavioral health for older adults and their families. E4 achieves this through education, implementation resources, and technical assistance on mental health, substance use, and their intersection with physical health.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS CENTER](#)

