



ADAHPT (formerly the AIDS Dementia & HIV Psychiatry Team) is a statewide team that has been accepting referrals since March 1997. It is a multidisciplinary outreach service comprising specialities such as nursing, social work, psychology and case management.

The team is committed to issues of confidentiality and overcoming stigma often associated with HIV/AIDS, and has altered its name to reflect this philosophy. In addition, the team has broadened its referral criteria to include a wider range of HIV positive clients with complex needs.

ADAHPT is one of five components of the AIDS Dementia and HIV Psychiatry Service (Adahps), providing a state wide tertiary service for people with AIDS dementia and HIV-related psychiatric conditions, and the services involved with these clients.

The integrated five component service has been developed and implemented by the former Central and South Eastern Sydney Area Health Services (now respectively, Sydney South West Area Health Service and South Eastern Sydney & Illawarra Area Health Service).

ADAHPT is the single entry point for clients to access the service. The other components of the service are:

- a residential facility – 'The Bridge' (Glebe - Royal Prince Alfred Hospital)
- respite/step down facility (Sacred Heart Hospice - St Vincent's Hospital)
- psychiatric support services (St Vincent's Mental Health Services and Royal Prince Alfred Hospital)
- an acute stabilisation unit (St Vincent's Hospital)

ADAHPT and the other components of the integrated service were developed in response to a widely perceived need across NSW for improved ways of dealing with the complex issues related to AIDS dementia and HIV psychiatric conditions.

The service comprises a combination of medical, psychiatric, palliative, psychosocial and community care skills. It aims to enhance the capacity of existing services, clients and their carers to make the most positive response possible to frequently complex situations.

With the transition of Community Health Services and Programs into hospital structures in January 2001, ADAHPT has now become part of the Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital team.

ADAHPT is based at St Vincent's Darlinghurst Community Health Centre located at 301 Forbes Street, Darlinghurst, NSW 2010.

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