

Highlights from the Blue Guidelines – using illustrative cases

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Margaret Stark is President of the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine (FFLM). She is the Chairman of the Forensic Science Sub-Committee, Lead Facilitator for the Faculty's course in General Forensic Medicine, and an educational advisor for the Faculty's examinations. She has been a forensic physician for over 31 years, currently working with the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS). She was the first Medical Director of the Forensic Healthcare Service in London and was also the Director of the Clinical Forensic Medicine Unit for NSW Police, based in Sydney, from 2011 – 2014.

She has a Master of Science in Medical Education from UCL, and a Master in Law from Cardiff and is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. She was the Founding Academic Dean for the FFLM and was awarded the David Jenkins Professorship in Forensic and Legal Medicine 2011/12 and was an Adjunct Professor at Sydney University from 2012-2015. She has written extensively in the field and is Editor of 'Clinical Forensic Medicine', the fourth edition published in January 2020. She has been the 'rapporteur' on the five editions of the 'Blue Guidelines' - Substance use disorders in detainees in police custody – guidelines on clinical management - Report of a medical working group.

She has been involved in a number of qualitative and quantitative research projects on a range of topics including custodial care, forensic science, death certification, education and training, injuries and the use of force, substance misuse, and traffic medicine, including the UK Government research into cannabis and driving.

Learning Objectives

- Outline the content of the updated guidance for the management of detainees in custody with substance use disorder (SUD)
- Describe the competencies for clinicians working with this group of detainees
- Demonstrate the management of detainees with SUD using case examples
- Recommend further reading

