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Monday, 30 September
19.00

The Impact of Cultural Analysis on Mental Health and Psychosocial Services Programmes in Complex Emergency Settings

The lecture is focused on the different ways in which Cultural Analysis is understood, included and operationalized in mental health programming and evaluation in complex emergency settings and situations. The overall framework used is that of Public Mental Health Promotion, an inter-disciplinary area of research and clinical application underway at Uppsala University. This framework begins from a starting point of wellbeing and mental health for assessing mental dysfunction and illnesses as well as for treatment and programme planning; and, integrates societal, group, and individual levels of analysis. Selected findings from

Uppsala University's evaluation of the Mental Health and Psychosocial Programme (MH PSS) for Iraqi and other refugee groups in Syria, coordinated through UNCHR Syria from 2008-2012, serve as the primary illustration source.

Attention is given to the importance of the philosophy of approach to mental health, with special attention to both external and internal dimensions of cultural and meaning-making information. A systems-model, ADAPT, is presented for mental health programming and evaluation in such complex situations and contexts. The model includes a multi-level analysis of both cultural and existential meaning components for the identification of both problem (risk) and resource (protective) areas for addressing mental health concerns. Illustrations of the model in action are drawn from the MH PSS programme data.

Refreshments are served after the lecture



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