Dual Diagnosis

Navigating between Disability and Mental Health Services
THE WAY FORWARD...

A priority score is an assessment of level of need and ability to benefit from treatment compared to other people.

Your GP or Primary Care Practitioner assesses you:
- Referral to a specialist
- Specialist referral not required
  - Specialist assessment is not available
  - Specialist treatment not needed
  - Priority score is close to threshold. Reassessed in 6 months.
  - Priority score not high enough for public treatment

Your GP continues to care for you:
- Returned to the care of GP when process complete
## Tips from families…

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<th>Get to know your pharmacist</th>
<th>Be aware that not ALL medications interact well</th>
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<td>Let the clinical team know ALL the medications your family member is on</td>
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Support via your District Health Board may include:

- **Carer Support** for people with age-related support needs, mental health and long-term medical conditions is funded by district health boards.

- **Prescription Subsidy Cards**, **High Health User Cards** and **Community Services Cards** can assist with costs related to managing your health.
Support with living costs - Work and Income (WINZ) may include:

Your local WINZ office is the first point of contact for financial support.

- **Disability Allowance** (which can include financial support to access [counselling](#) and cover other medical expenses)

- You can get a Disability Allowance for a number of different things, including counselling. The maximum you can get for a Disability Allowance is $65.36 a week.

- You don't have to be on a benefit to qualify for a Disability Allowance.
• **Supported Living Payment** (which is meant to cover your living expenses, but does not oblige you to look for work or have frequent meetings with your case worker)

• **Accommodation Supplement** (which helps with paying for rent or board)
Terms used by Mental Health services are often unfamiliar to those of us who are more used to the Disability Sector.

We have prepared a glossary and you will find it on our website https://carematters.org.nz/

We would like to add to our resource with input from you – please add your suggestions.....