

Terry Holmes, M.D., MH & TM

Session: The Chicken or the Egg: Co-occurring Disorders

Dr. Holmes has more than twenty years of psychiatric experience. He currently works as the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Chief Medical Officer. He has worked the last fifteen years as Clinical Director at Moccasin Bend Mental Health Institute. Prior to joining the department, Dr. Holmes spent 23 years in the U.S. Air Force, retiring in 1994 with the rank of Colonel. In addition to his Medical Degree from Baylor University, Dr. Holmes holds a Master of Public Health and Tropical Medicine from Tulane University. His distinguished Air Force medical career includes Aerospace Medicine, Occupational Medicine, and Psychiatry. During his tenure at Andrews Air Force Base, Dr. Holmes was Officer in Charge of the Alcohol Recovery Center and was promoted to chairman of the department several years later. Following retirement from the Air Force, he engaged in the private practice of psychiatry for several years and became involved in part-time forensic work, testifying as an expert witness in a number of high profile cases. His personal interests revolve around the interface between psychiatric disorders and substance use disorders. This interest was intensified by his four year experience as psychiatric consultant to the Council for Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services in Chattanooga. Additionally, Dr. Holmes was honored to participate in a task force effort with TDMHSAS and the Tennessee Hospital Association to decrease Emergency Department boarding times for psychiatric patients. That initiative is now demonstrating that early administration of a standard protocol is safely and effectively treating patients in psychiatric crisis.