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BIOGRAPHY

Ann Marie Leonard-Zabel received her Doctoral Degree in Child and Youth Studies-Special Services and exceptional education with a focus on attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and neuropsychology from Nova Southeastern University, a Certificate of Advance Graduate Studies in School Psychology from the University of Massachusetts in Boston, a Masters of Education in Clinical Counseling coupled with a Paralegal Studies concentration from Bridgewater University

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THE OPIOID CRAVING BRAIN: UTILIZING ADOLESCENT NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND PSYCHOLOGICAL- BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION APPROACHES FOR IMPROVED TREATMENT OUTCOMES

Aim: Adolescents are being diagnosed on daily basis with substance use disorder involving opioid. This presentation will explore the impact of Opioid addiction from a brain-based perspective and propose various neuropsychological assessment and psychological-behavioral approaches from a school neuropsychological perspective. Substance use involving Opioid addiction is a very complex, multifaceted, dynamic problem that cannot be explained by any single neuropsychological factor. This presentation will explore the broad range of neuropsychological issues involving addiction, focusing on various neuropsychological assessment approaches including, but not limited to, learning and memory. Evidence-based practices will be examined with regards to on-going interventions to promote home school/school/life adjustment and achievement. A case study will be reviewed throughout the presentation.

Objective: Explore the impact of opioid addiction on adolescent neurobiological brain development; understand the neuropsychological effects and consequences of substance use on the adolescent opioid addicted brain utilizing a school neuropsychological assessment model; Review the various psychological-behavioral interventions focusing on treatment outcomes and evidence-based practices involving home, school and community as an outgrowth of the neuropsychological assessment profile.

Result: As a result of addressing the above objectives, professionals will learn a "Best practices" approach for treating adolescent opioid addiction.