



Dear Doctor,

As a result of a fatal accident on Hamilton Island in 2004, the Australian Government directed CASA to develop a testing regime for Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) in the aviation sector for aviation safety sensitive personnel. Under regulation an aviation sector employee who returns a positive AOD test must undergo a comprehensive assessment with a suitably qualified health professional prior to returning to safety-sensitive activities. To meet the standard of the regulation, the comprehensive assessment requires thorough examination of physiological and psycho-social indicators of problematic AOD use.

The need for training in Comprehensive Assessment arises for three reasons:

1. There will be an increasing requirement to have medical practitioners who are available and knowledgeable in the assessment of AOD problems to meet the projected demand.
2. It is essential to have a standardised and effective assessment and management initiative in place so that all affected workers receive the same standard of care.
3. Treating professionals need to be aware of the particular issues relating to AOD use in the aviation industry and be knowledgeable of CASR Part 99 regulations.

A comprehensive assessment may be conducted by:

1. A psychiatrist
2. A medical practitioner who is a Fellow of the Australasian Chapter of Addiction Medicine (FACHAM)
3. Jointly by
 - a. A person entitled to practice as a medical practitioner under the law of a State or Territory, and
 - b. An appropriately qualified drug and alcohol professional

An appropriately qualified drug and alcohol professional is a person who:

1. materially works as a provider of clinical drug and alcohol treatment services, and
2. holds a bachelor degree or a postgraduate degree in at least one of the following fields:
 - a. health sciences
 - b. medical science
 - c. social sciences
 - d. behavioural sciences

Workshops will be convened by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority at multiple capital city locations across Australia over a 4 month period beginning in March 2010. Lectures, case presentations and group tutorials will be presented by subject matter experts. A schedule of planned workshops is given below. **Registration for the Sydney Workshop is now open.**

For information about registration please contact:

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These sessions are fully funded by CASA (no cost to the participant).

Location	Date	Venue
Sydney	Saturday 6 March 2010	Holiday Inn, Sydney Airport
Canberra	Saturday 20 March 2010	TBA
Melbourne	Saturday 10 April 2010	TBA
Adelaide	Saturday 1 May 2010	TBA
Darwin	Saturday 15 May 2010	TBA
Perth	Saturday 29 May 2010	TBA
Brisbane	Saturday 5 June 2010	TBA
Hobart	Saturday 26 June 2010	TBA