Watch-house Assessment Liaison Nurse

- A joint initiative between Ministry of Health and New Zealand Police 2008

  - Christchurch Central Police Station
  - Adult Community Services SMHS
Objectives of the Pilot

- Improve access to services
- Improve skill in managing detainees
- Improve custodial management of detainees
- Reduce the risks of harm to detainees and staff
- Continuity of care for detainees
Intended Outcomes

- Reduced repeat detention of police detainees with MH &/or AOD problems
- Reduced imprisonment of police detainees with MH &/or AOD problems
- Reduced alcohol and drug use and related harm of detainees identified with AOD problems
- Improved health status of detainees with MH &/or AOD problems
WHY ARE WE HERE?

MINIMISATION OF THE POTENTIAL FOR

HARM TO PEOPLE IN CUSTODY, NZ

POLICE, AND CDHB, WHILE MAXIMISING

POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR ALL INVOLVED
WHO WE SEE:

- 40-60 Detainees a week
- Full range of charges
- 70% Male, 30% Female
- 80% Caucasian/ other, 20% Maori
- Increase in Migrant workers
- Age: 20-39yrs most common
- Youth
WHAT WE DO:

- Access information
- Discussion
- Decision: Assess or Not
- Assessment
- Advice: To Police, To PIC, To MHS, Family and Other Agencies
- Referrals: MHS, Central AoD, GP, ED
- Documentation
Challenges

- Clinical Isolation
- PIC presentation – angry, aggrieved, regressed, intoxicated, aggressive
  - magnitude and complexity of problems
- Police processes and environment
- Ethical and privacy issues
- Barriers to referrals
Successes

- Improved relationships
  - Information sharing
  - Education
- Improved interfaces and systems
- Improved health outcomes for detainees
WHAT NOW?

- Role Development
- PNHQ Mental Health Team
  - Police College Education
- Justice Precinct