

Mr Rory O'Connor B.A., M.Sc..



Rory O'Connor began a long association with the British Doctors & Dentists Group in 1974 when he was working in the Addiction Unit run by Dr Max Glatt at St Bernard's Hospital, Ealing, and where he met several of our founding members.

Rory's introduction to people affected by addiction was in Ireland when he was a volunteer in the **Simon Community**. Many of the people being supported by the Simon Community had problems related to addiction.

It is the process of extraordinary change, which occurs in an addicted person when they enter the process of recovery, that motivates Rory. His motivation also comes from being part of the change in the addict as

recovery progresses with the restoration of personal, family, and professional relationships.

This interest in the consequences of addiction and the changes in recovery led Rory into a professional career in the field of addiction.

He qualified as a **Registered Psychiatric Nurse** and went on to complete a **Diploma in Counselling**, a **B.A. Psychology**, and **M.Sc. Addictions**.

Rory has worked for over 50 years in mental health and addiction and has extensive experience in managing recovery programmes for **Health Professionals** Doctors, Dentists and Veterinary Surgeons with mental illness and addictive disorders.

He has been:

- Clinical Lead at Foxleigh Grove, Specialist Treatment Centre.
- Clinical Lead at Birdsgrove House, Special Treatment Centre.
- Clinical Lead at NHS Practitioner Health.
- Clinical Advisor to NHS England - Commissioners to Practitioner Health.
- National Co-Ordinator for the Dentists' Health Support Programme.
- National Co-Ordinator for the Veterinary Surgeons' Health Support Programmes.

So many of us in **BDDG**, and in the **BDDG Families Group** owe Rory a debt of gratitude for his advice and counsel over so many years.

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