



Lee Knight trained in the UK as a registered mental health nurse and spent two years consolidating this experience as a staff nurse on an acute mental health inpatient unit. After arriving in Australia in 2000, Lee worked for an acute care mental health team and in case management in community mental health. By 2004, Lee had become a clinical nurse consultant for the Court Liaison Service of Justice Health. This role primarily involves the diversion of offenders suffering from a mental illness into appropriate community mental health services. Where a community disposition is not appropriate, referral is made to the mental health services at the receiving custodial setting. For offenders suffering from a wide range of mental health issues, a comprehensive assessment is carried out. A court report is then provided to the local court, identifying mental health issues and diversion recommendations made where suitable.

In 2009 Lee was awarded a scholarship from Justice Health to undertake the Master of Forensic Mental Health program at UNSW. 'I am able to consolidate my current area of practice with relevant, up-to-date resources delivered by engaging and interesting lecturers. I've noticed a significant improvement in my knowledge of forensic mental health matters, particularly in relation to Deviant & Criminal Sexual Behaviours, Violence and Civil Law in Relation to Psychiatry. This is assisting me in my career path and will open up a wide range of opportunities within forensic mental health upon completion. My confidence in speaking on these subjects has significantly improved and I am often used as a resource by the community mental health services. I would strongly recommend the course to anyone considering a career in forensic mental health, or anyone with a strong interest in this area.'