

# Prescription drug dependence as a "gateway" to chronic physical or mental health problems and to the overuse of the health care system

Thursday **January 15, 2004** 3 – 5 pm

## ***A presentation by:***

Janet Currie, Director of Focus Consultants, Member of the Board of PharmaWatch, and Member of the Benzodiazepine Awareness Network

The presentation will address the following questions:

- How common is prescription drug dependence?
- What are the personal and physical characteristics of prescription drug dependence? What is tolerance withdrawal and how is it manifested?
- What is the usual response by the health care system to prescription drug dependence?
- To what degree is prescription drug dependence a gateway to the mental health and health care systems?
- What are the factors that maintain the "gateway?"
- What needs to be done to address the issue – , acknowledgement, attitude shift, approach, screening and treatment/recovery response

## **Location: BCCEWH**

Room E311

Women's Health Centre of BC

Street Address: 4500 Oak Street

Vancouver

*(Note: Entrance to the Women's Health Centre is at Heather and 29<sup>th</sup> Streets, Parking Lot 3)*

## **Information**

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**Admission is FREE. Everyone welcome!**

**Please RSVP to [bcewh@cw.bc.ca](mailto:bcewh@cw.bc.ca) or 604-875-2633.**



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