

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES OF MUSKEGON COUNTY
POLICY

Prepared by:

No. 06-017

Effective Date: September, 2003

Ronald Kidder, PhD, chairperson
Practice Guidelines Workgroup

Approved by:

Subject: Clinical Practice Guidelines

James Elwell, Director

I. Policy

It is the policy of Community Mental Health of Muskegon County to provide the best quality mental health services available with available resources. To enable this, the agency will either adopt the most current clinical practice guidelines developed by the American Psychiatric Association, the American Society of Addiction Medicine, the American Association on Mental Retardation, and/or other nationally recognized professional organizations or draft practice protocols that are evidenced-based.

II. Application

All contracted clinicians and other pertinent mental health employees of Community Mental Health Services of Muskegon County.

III. Purpose

To assist mental health professionals in clinical decision-making in order to improve treatment outcomes. These guidelines may also be used for utilization management and for determining educational needs of the agency.

IV. Definitions

A. Practice Guidelines/Protocols:

Descriptive tools or standardized specifications for care of the typical individual in the typical situation, developed through a formal process that incorporates best scientific evidence of effectiveness with expert opinion.

V. Procedure:

A. All relevant clinicians will have access to these guidelines for referencing via the CMH Intranet.

- B. Clinicians will become knowledgeable with the content of relevant practice guidelines and demonstrate competence in the application of the guidelines.
- C. Licensed Independent Practitioners will periodically educate clinical staff regarding any pertinent guidelines applicable to the treatment of the populations they serve.
- D. Clinical staff will consult the approved guidelines when making treatment decisions.
- E. For those clinical issues not addressed in the APA/AAMR/ASAM guidelines, clinicians will consult and follow the CMH Practice Protocols.
- F. The practice guidelines/protocols will be reviewed by the Licensed Independent Practitioners on an annual basis and/or updated as new information becomes available.
- G. The practice guidelines/protocols will be reviewed and recommended by the Doctor's Work Group to include the Medical Director, and brought to the Quality Council on an annual basis for approval.

References:

JCAHO Standards for Behavioral Health

Michigan Department of Community Health

American Journal on Mental Retardation: Volume 105, number 3, March, 2000

Practice Guidelines for the Treatment of Psychiatric Disorders: Compendium 2002
from the American Psychiatric Association

American Society of Addiction Medicine ASAM PPC-2R- Patient Placement Criteria for
Substance Related Disorders. 2nd Edition revised 2001

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