**Behavioral Intervention Team** at Yale–New Haven Hospital (New Haven, CT)

**Overview**

The Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) is an interdisciplinary team of psychiatrists, advanced practice registered nurses, clinical nurse specialists and social workers who work with the hospital’s physicians and nurses to manage hospitalized patients who have actual or potential psychiatric and behavioral issues.

**Goals**

1. Early identification of patients in targeted population according to established criteria.
2. Multidisciplinary psychiatric/behavioral assessment, treatment planning, and disposition planning in collaboration with patient’s medical team.
3. Ongoing follow-up of psychiatrically vulnerable patients over the course of medical hospitalization.
4. Education of medical nursing team members in mental illness & behavioral care planning.

**Targeted Population**

1. Medically hospitalized patients with diagnosed & undiagnosed major psychiatric illness, personality disorder, substance use disorder (including withdrawal), and neurocognitive disorders (esp. delirium & dementia).
2. Challenging patient/family behaviors, which are interfering in a patient’s receiving needed medical care.
3. Patients who are suicidal, homicidal or aggressive.
4. Patients who are placed in restraints or assigned a “sitter.”
5. Patients with a history of abuse or trauma.
6. Patients being prescribed psychotropic medications.
7. All transfers from or anticipated to psychiatric hospital inpatient units.

**Roles of Team Members**

1. Patient Service Manager: provides overall administrative leadership and clinical back-up
2. Psychiatrist: provides clinical supervision and leadership to the team
3. Psychiatric APRN: provides assessment & treatment recommendation for active psychiatric issues
4. Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialist: liaise with medical nurses and LIPs while screening patients and providing behavioral intervention & education
5. Psychiatric Social Worker: liaise with primary teams and medical social workers regarding disposition while addressing psychosocial concerns