Psychiatry Department Proactive Consultation Project

The department of psychiatry plans to implement a change to our psychiatry consultation services offered to patients admitted to the medical service. A clinical team consisting of a full time RN, part-time (0.5FTE) mental health clinician (Master’s or Doctorate level, social worker) and part time (0.3) consultation psychiatrist will work in conjunction with the already existing psychiatry consultation service to take a proactive approach to identifying and treating psychiatric and behavioral needs of patients admitted to DHMC for medical issues. This team will be known as the Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT). This new clinical approach will target patients admitted to medicine who are located on the 2E and 3E units, and be available during weekday business hours (8am-5pm, Monday-Friday). The BIT team will perform the following functions as outlined below.

**Screening of patients for psychiatric and behavioral needs includes:**

1. Review of all new admissions to the 2E and 3E medical service for preceding 24 hours (or for weekend admissions on Monday mornings) with focus on admission note, problem list, medications, and allergies
2. Weekday check in with charge nurse on 2E and 3E
3. Review of eDH generated reports developed for this program

Patients for whom a psychiatric or behavioral need, or potential for the development of such need, is identified will undergo a more comprehensive chart review or discussion with the medical team. In addition, all medicine team members will be empowered to request a BIT team consultation on any patient based on identified concerns.

I**nterventions by the BIT team may include any of the following as dictated by clinical needs:**

1. Comprehensive psychiatry consultation
2. Targeted psychiatric consultation
3. Assistance to primary team regarding primary mental health disposition planning
4. Direct behavioral interventions with patient to manage psychiatric and behavioral symptoms
5. Gathering of collateral information regarding mental illness
6. Confirmation of psychotropic medications, advice regarding adjustments while hospitalized
7. Development of behavioral plan for use by staff members while hospitalized
8. Education to nursing and medical teams caring for the patient

BIT team members will document the result of their screening of a chart, as well as all recommendations to the medical team regarding diagnosis and management.

**The expected roles for BIT team members are as follows:**

1. Full time RN
   1. Screening of patients via chart review of new admissions, eDH reports and face to face contact with charge RN on 2E and 3E
   2. Preliminary assessment of patients via discussion with primary RN or medical team, collection of collateral information, confirmation of medications, and brief bedside assessment of patient
   3. Determination of psychiatric assessment needs in collaboration with psychiatrist and mental health clinician
   4. Determination of behavioral intervention needs of patient and staff in collaboration with psychiatrist and mental health clinician
   5. Regular follow-up on patients being cared for by the BIT team
   6. Identification and facilitation of mental health disposition needs, with close coordination with medical team social worker and/or CRC staff
   7. Peer to peer education and support of primary RN on units regarding patient care
   8. Development of education programs appropriate for in-service RN education on mental health topics
   9. Communication with primary medical team regarding recommendations
   10. Participation in team meetings, ethics meetings, etc. as indicated
   11. Maintaining BIT team sign out sheet and communication at handoffs
   12. Maintaining BIT team data base
2. Part time mental health clinician (Social worker or MA level psychologist)
   1. Comprehensive and targeted primary mental health assessments of BIT patients with appropriate documentation
   2. Peer supervision of social work and CRC staff regarding psychiatric assessment and disposition issues
   3. Regular follow-up on patients being cared for by the BIT team
   4. Targeted behavioral health interventions with patients
   5. Development of behavior plans for patients in collaboration with primary team
   6. Participation in staff education on mental health topics
   7. Communication with primary medical team regarding recommendations
   8. Participation in team meetings, ethics meeting, etc. as indicated
3. Part time psychiatrist
   1. Oversight of all screening of medicine patients
   2. Supervision of RN and mental health clinician on all above duties
   3. Direct consultation of patients, with appropriate documentation and billing
   4. Coordination with existing consultation service regarding clinical care
   5. Direct communication with primary medical team regarding recommendations as needed
   6. Participation in staff education on mental health topics
   7. Participation in team meetings, ethics meetings, etc. as indicated