Team-based Proactive C-L Psychiatry

Integrated care meets inpatient C-L psychiatry

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ACADEMY OF CONSULTATION-LIAISON PSYCHIATRY
Psychiatrists Providing Collaborative Care Bridging Physical and Mental Health
Disclosures

With respect to the following presentation, there has been no relevant (direct or indirect) financial relationship between the party listed above (and/or spouse/partner) and any for-profit company which could be considered a conflict of interest.
What is proactive C-L psychiatry?

An *interdisciplinary model* of C-L psychiatry that incorporates

- *Systematic screening* for mental health conditions,
- *Early clinical intervention*, and
- *Integration with primary teams*.

What are the goals of proactive C-L psychiatry?

- *To facilitate efficient care* and
- *Improve outcomes*
- In a *cost-effective manner*.
Unmet needs: rethinking C-L psychiatry

Proactive C-L: a modern approach

Daily operations: the principles of proactive C-L in action

Future horizons: C-L psychiatry for value-based care
The staggering cost of mental illness

- Accounts for 1/3 of all years lived with disability\(^1,2\)
  - 5 of the top 20 causes of disability in high-income countries
  - Disproportionately affects working-aged adults
- Contributes to leading causes of death\(^3\)
  - Heart disease, cancer, and cerebrovascular disease
  - Suicide itself is the 10\(^{th}\) leading cause of death
- Associated with 2x RR of all-cause mortality\(^4\)
  - Meta-analysis from 29 countries across 6 continents
- Can shave a decade or more off life\(^4,5\)
  - Mental illness: 10 years of life lost
  - Substance use: 25 years of life lost
  - Dual diagnosis: 30 years of life lost

\(^1\)Vigo *Lancet Psychiatry* 2016; \(^2\)Whiteford *Lancet* 2013; \(^3\)www.cdc.gov; \(^4\)Walker *JAMA Psychiatry* 2015; \(^5\)Oregon DHS 2008
The cost of mental illness in the general medical hospital\textsuperscript{1-3}

- **Hospital costs**
  - Longer LOS: UC, Davis Medical Center, annual cost est. $11M\textsuperscript{1}
  - Constant companion & restraint use
  - Poorer health outcomes/readmissions
  - Denied days due to delay in psychiatric disposition

- **Staff costs**
  - Lack of training, stigma and implicit bias
  - Dissatisfaction & distress
  - Spill-over effect to other patients

- **Patient costs**
  - Compromised quality of care
  - Mistrust may lead patients to avoid future medical care

\textsuperscript{1}Bourgeois \textit{Psychosom} 2005; \textsuperscript{2}Desan \textit{Psychsom} 2011; \textsuperscript{3}Sledge \textit{Psychoth Psychosom} 2015
Psychiatric comorbidity in medical inpatients

Medical Inpatients

Psychiatric comorbidity\textsuperscript{1,2}
Lengthens hospitalizations
Increases risk of re-hospitalization
Increases healthcare costs

Est $11M/yr at UC Davis\textsuperscript{3}

\textsuperscript{1}Jansen \textit{PLOS ONE} 2018; \textsuperscript{2}Hansen 2001; \textsuperscript{3}Bourgeois \textit{Psychosomatics} 2005
Psychiatric conditions can compromise care in myriad ways

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Selected maladaptive features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delirium</td>
<td>Agitation, restlessness, confusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dementia</td>
<td>Forgetfulness, sundowning, care refusal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personality change due to TBI</td>
<td>Emotional lability, impulsivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental disorder</td>
<td>Nonverbal, oppositional, defiant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eating disorder</td>
<td>Hiding food, manipulating weigh-ins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance use disorder</td>
<td>Exaggerating CIWAs, contraband</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychotic disorder</td>
<td>Paranoia, cheeking medications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety disorder</td>
<td>Refusing workup, overuse of call button</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mood disorders</td>
<td>Suicidal, disruptive mania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personality disorder</td>
<td>Demanding, hostile, “splitting”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Munchausen syndrome</td>
<td>Self-injury, deception</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Early pilot study: Proactive psychiatric consultation

- **A-B-A study embedding a psychiatrist in an internal medicine service**
- **Consult rates**
  - A = 11%
  - B = 23%
- **Findings**
  - Half of patients with mental illness
  - **LOS reduced among intervention sample** (2.9 d vs 3.8 d)
  - **Lower proportion LOS ≥ 4 d** (15% vs 28%)
- **Conclusion**
  - High burden of prevalent psychiatric illness
  - Under-utilization of psychiatric services
Next step: A multi-disciplinary team approach

- Pre–post study on 3 medicine units (92 beds)
- Team members
  - Half-time psychiatrist
  - Nurse (clinical nurse specialist; later an APRN)
  - Social worker
- We found reduced lengths of stay
  - Patients with psychiatric consult: 0.65 d (7.3 vs. 6.7 d)
  - Overall reduction: 0.29 d (5.9d vs 5.6 d)
Cost-benefit analysis: Proactive vs traditional C-L psychiatry

Cost-benefit: 11 mos, assuming 3.3% inflation

1. **Average direct cost per case**
   - Includes room/board, labs, imaging, Rx, etc. (using Allscripts™)
   - \( ($6760[CL] - $6550[BIT] = $210 \text{ per case}) \times (509 \text{ BIT cases}) = $107k \)

2. **Backfill** (assuming 100% occupancy)
   - \( \frac{(LOS \text{ reduction}=0.65) \times (509 \text{ BIT cases})}{\text{avg LOS} = 5.8} = 57 \text{ additional patients} \)
   - \( (57 \text{ patients}) \times (\text{net revenue per case} = $12,700) = $724k \)
Cost-benefit analysis: Proactive vs traditional C-L psychiatry

Gross savings: \((\text{per case value} = $107k) + (\text{backfill} = $724k) = $831k\)

Minus costs: \(-\left(\text{nurse, SW, part time MD salary + benefits}\right) = $306k\)

Net gain: \(\text{(net cost benefit)} = $525k\)

Annualized: $572,000
Proactive models whose screening was guided by clinical expertise in mental health care and care delivery was integrated with primary services were associated with reduced LOS\(^1\)

Found “favorable returns on investment that more than offset the increased costs of providing this level of enhanced care.”\(^{1–3}\)
Differences between traditional C-L and proactive C-L

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Traditional C-L</th>
<th>Proactive C-L</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Service delivery</strong></td>
<td>Reactive (often to crises)</td>
<td>Proactive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Personnel</strong></td>
<td>Single discipline</td>
<td>Multidisciplinary</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Case identification</strong></td>
<td>Primary team orders a consultation</td>
<td>Screening-driven</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Enriched by nursing interactions</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mode of intervention</strong></td>
<td>Recommendations to primary team</td>
<td>Collaboration with patients treatment team (providers, nurses, social work)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Service goals</strong></td>
<td>Treatment recommendation</td>
<td>Preventing behavioral barriers to care</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Risk reduction</td>
<td>Crisis prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crisis management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td>Across the hospital (typically)</td>
<td>Dedicated hospital units or services</td>
</tr>
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The principles of proactive C-L

Traditional C-L

- Many psychiatric needs unidentified
- Mental health care crisis-focused
- Recs chiefly for providers
- Liaison role variable

Proactive C-L

- Population approach
- Prevention mindset
- Multidisciplinary approach
- Integrated care

- Systematic screening
- Proactive care
- Team-work
- Collaborative care delivery
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Proactive C-L: a modern approach
Daily operations: the principles of proactive C-L in action
Future horizons: C-L psychiatry for value-based care
1. Population approach: systematic screening

- **Goal**: to identify patients for whom early psychiatric intervention is likely to preempt crises, clinical deterioration, or compromised care.
- **Systematic**: reviewing every patient on certain hospital units or services
- **Standardized**: using a consistent, reproducible strategy
- **As early as feasible**: prompt screening to prevent a cascade of complications
- **Sliding threshold**: adaptable interventions based on patient volume
- **Step-wise**: may be done in one step (*e.g.*, positive/negative on chart review) or multi-step (*e.g.*, screening those positive on chart review with nursing/primary team)
- **Human vs machine**: can be by hand or automated (*e.g.*, a report that can be generated as needed), though electronic medical records often need to be optimized
2. Prevention mindset: Proactive care

- **Tailored degree of involvement**: interventions can be carried out by any number of proactive CL team members.
  - **Curbsides**: targeted recommendations w/o formal consultation often adequate
  - **Care/behavioral plans**: develop plans to address maladaptive interactions between patients and staff, care-compromising behaviors, or non-adherence
  - **Nurse interventions**: provide personalized recommendations for nurses to treat patients (*e.g.*, delirium precautions, poor sleep hygiene)
  - **Psychiatric disposition**: prompt facilitation of disposition if psychiatric needs are anticipated (*e.g.*, psychiatric admission, partial hospitalization)
  - **Aftercare planning**: ensuring adequate aftercare supports, community resources, and mental health referrals
3. Multidisciplinary approach: Teamwork

**C-L psychiatrist**
- Director/supervision
- Consultation
- Legal documents

**Social worker**
- Screening
- Community resources
- Aftercare/disposition

**Nurse practitioner**
- Coordinator/triage
- Consultation
- Screening

**Potential team members**
- Clinical nurse specialist
- RN coordinator
- Patient service manager
- Health psychologist
- Trainees
4. Integrated care: Collaborative care delivery

- **Corresponding expertise**: physician to physician; NP to NP/RN; SW to SW/care coordinator
- **Aligning workflow**: psychiatric care tailored to medicine & nursing workflow on dedicated units/services
- **Flexible intensity**: not all patients
- **Real-time communication**: the effect of which supports efficiency and develops healthy relationships, bidirectional education, and mutual trust
Common steps in performing a “screen”

1. Screen charts of admitted patients each morning.

Psychiatric comorbidity? Behavioral concerns?
Common steps in performing a “screen”

1. Screen charts of admitted patients each morning.
   - Psychiatric comorbidity?
   - Behavioral concerns?

2. Inquire about behavioral concerns from RN.
   - Any active issue(s)?
   - At baseline?
Common steps in performing a “screen”

1. Screen charts of admitted patients each morning.
   - Any active issue(s)? At baseline?
   - Psychiatric comorbidity? Behavioral concerns?

2. Inquire about behavioral concerns from RN.
   - Discuss potential concerns with medical team

3. No changes in care
   - Curbside/targeted rec
   - Psychiatric consultation ± Wellness plan
Notes about daily workflow

- **Before rounds** screening
- **Psychiatric rounds** often runs similar to traditional C-L rounds
- **Care delivery**
  - Interdisciplinary, nursing care, primary team rounds
  - Prioritize patients for care efficiency (e.g. care-compromising behaviors)
  - Consultations performed (often with SW)
  - Ongoing, real-time conversations with teams
  - Cuts down dramatically on the “discharge dependent” consult
  - Afternoons often provide opportunities for educational investment
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Future horizons for proactive C-L

- The field awaits the results of randomized trials of proactive C-L
  - The UK HOME Study

- Expansion to additional settings with higher costs per patient
  - Critical care
  - Oncology
  - Surgery

- Further development within value-based care
  - Focus on vertical integration
  - Single-payer systems (e.g., VA)

Outcomes of interest to be explored further

▪ Financial impact beyond reduced length of stay
  – Cost of sitters & security
  – Cost of nursing turnover
  – Re-admission rates
  – Enhanced RVU

▪ Satisfaction: providers, nurses, patients, families

▪ Medical staff burnout

▪ Medical staff performance

▪ Patient symptoms, functioning, and outcomes

▪ Care quality: injuries (patients & staff) and falls

▪ Handoff to outpatient providers (vertical integration)
Questions remain

- Which elements of proactive C-L are required for which benefits?
- Are there more effective ways of operationalizing the four principles of proactive C-L?
- Which patient-specific factors (e.g., age, population) and hospital contexts (e.g., critical care, surgery) might experience differential benefits from different ways of delivering proactive C-L?
- What factors are associated with successful implementation and delivery of proactive C-L models?
The ACLP Proactive C-L Special Interest Group (SIG)

- Join the **growing community** of providers practicing proactive C-L psychiatry
- The Proactive C-L SIG offers an **active Listserv** to learn from others in the community
- Obtain **peer consultations** while pursuing proactive C-L
- Visit the Proactive C-L SIG website (www.clpsychiatry.org/sigs/proactive-cl-sig/)
- The Proactive C-L SIG **Resource Center** offers (.../proactive-cl-sig-resources/)
  - An **overview** of Proactive C-L Psychiatry
  - **Curated materials** from sites with Proactive C-L services
  - An **updated bibliography** on Proactive C-L
  - A review of **previous ACLP presentations** (symposia, workshops, etc.)
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