

NURSING SERVICES GUIDELINE INPATIENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Guideline: Medical Emergencies

Policy Number Superseded:

Responsibility: All trained Inpatient
Behavioral Health staff

Purpose of Guideline: To assure expedient and appropriate care for the Inpatient Behavioral Health patients who are experiencing a medical emergency. Treatment of patients from the Inpatient Behavioral Health Units to the Emergency Department should be a rare occurrence necessitated only by degree of injuries sustained or medical complexities for which necessary medical or nursing care is beyond the scope available.

Procedure:

When the attending psychiatric/consulting physician requests treatment in the Emergency Department, the following protocol will be followed:

- (A) Lucas County Emergency Medical Services (911) should be called in cases of potentially serious or life-threatening illnesses and/or injuries.

Basic life support and/or first aid procedures will be provided by available health care personnel in the event an individual needs care until the issue is resolved or until the arrival of EMS.

- (B) Local Emergency Transportation companies (Community EMS) can be utilized as well for non-emergent transports.
- (C) The patient may be transferred by wheelchair through the tunnel if appropriate and approved by the physician.



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June 2023

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August 2020

Two CPR certified staff members will accompany the patient from Inpatient Behavioral Health Unit to Emergency Department.

- (D) The charge nurse will notify the Nursing Supervisor (383-1320).
- (E) The charge nurse will notify the Emergency Department Charge Nurse (383-1663) regarding the transfer and a brief report will be given at this time.
- (F) The charge nurse from Inpatient Behavioral Health Unit will notify the patient's parent/guardian/representative regarding the purpose of the transfer to the Emergency Department.
- (G) In the event the patient is admitted to the medical floor, the patient will need to be discharged from Inpatient Behavioral Health Unit and a Safety Net (incident report) will need to be completed for a change of condition. Rationale and necessity will be indicated in Safety Net for medical admission.

Approved by:
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Chief Nursing Officer

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Review/Revision Completed by:
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Reviewed by Policy & Standard
Committee
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