Title: ELEMENTS OF THE
PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION

Responsibility: Trained Inpatient Behavioral Health staff

Purpose of Guidelines: To provide guidance and outline the elements of the Psychiatric Evaluation

Procedure:
Psychiatric Evaluations will be completed and placed on the patients’ chart within 24 hours of admission

1. Chief Complaint
   a. Reason for admission as stated by patients or significant others or both

2. History of Present Illness
   a. Onset of psychiatric symptoms/behaviors
   b. Circumstances leading to current admission
   c. List of current medications or note if none
   d. Evidence of failure or inability to benefit from a less intensive outpatient program

3. Past Psychiatric History
   a. Past problems, treatments
   b. History of physical/sexual abuse/perpetration issues. Identify if abused or perpetrator
   c. History of ETOH/drug use
   d. History of family psychiatric illness

4. Mental Status Examination
   a. Attitude/behavior
   b. Affect
   c. Intellectual functioning
   d. Memory functioning
   e. Orientation
   f. Thought Process (Includes hallucinations, delusions, and self-harm/harm to others)
   g. Suicide Risk
   h. Judgment/Insight
   i. Functional capacity to perform ADLs

5. Inventory of patient’s strengths, assets (intrinsic) and liabilities/weaknesses (intrinsic) in descriptive (not interpretive) fashion

6. Medical history.
7. Diagnostic Impression
   a. Principal Diagnosis
   b. Contributing Diagnoses (including functional or sensory impairments)
   c. Medical Co-Occurring Illnesses
   d. Psychosocial Stressors

8. Plan of Treatment

9. Estimated LOS

10. Prognosis

11. Discharge Criteria

12. Preliminary Continuing Care Plan

Reviewed by: Lindsay Watson, MSW, LSW, Program Director

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