

 <p style="text-align: center;">County of Sacramento Department of Health Services Division of Behavioral Health Services Policy and Procedure</p>	Policy Issuer (Unit/Program)	BHS-CMH-YDF
	Policy Number	06-05
	Effective Date	10/2009
	Revision Date	07/2017
Title: Psychiatric Referrals		Functional Area: Clinical Care
Approved By:		
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Background/Context:

Title 15, Section 1437 requires the Youth Detention Facility (YDF) administrator/responsible physician, in cooperation with the behavioral/mental health director and the facility administrator, to establish policies and procedures to provide behavioral/mental health services. The services shall include medication support services. Title 15, Section 1439 requires the health administrator/responsible physician, in cooperation with the behavioral/mental health director and the facility administrator, to develop and implement written policies and procedures governing the use of voluntary and involuntary psychotropic medication.

Definitions:

Psychotropic medication: those drugs that are used to treat psychiatric symptoms. Drugs used to reduce the toxic side-effects of psychotropic medications are not included.

S-5 Classification: Probation maintains a classification system within the Youth Detention Facility. Classification is a process by which each youth detained at YDF is assigned a specific security and risk assessment based on objective criteria. The S-5 classification identifies youth with significant mental health or intellectual disabilities that may interfere with their ability to function within the facility.

Purpose:

The objective of this policy and procedure is to define the protocol Juvenile Justice Institutions Mental Health Team members will utilize to make referrals for youth who may benefit from psychiatric assessment and/or treatment.

Details:

1. Referrals
 - A. JJIMHT clinicians will refer youth to the psychiatrist to evaluate for initiating and/or continuing psychotropic medication, evaluation for classification as an S-5, and consultations for diagnostic and treatment purposes.

- B. JJIMHT clinicians will complete a comprehensive assessment of youth prior to making a referral to the psychiatrist and will provide relevant clinical symptoms to justify the referral.
 - C. Youth who report having withheld information related to taking and/or were not noted at the time of admission to be taking psychotropic medication should be referred to the psychiatrist.
 - D. Youth who present with concern(s) related to potential side-effects of psychotropic medication shall be referred to the psychiatrist with documentation of specific symptoms and complaints.
 - E. Youth who present with signs or symptoms of an intellectual disability of sufficient severity to likely interfere with an uncomplicated adjustment to or ability to function within the YDF should be referred to the psychiatrist for determination of S-5 classification.
 - F. Prior to initiating an application for an involuntary psychiatric admission (W&I 5150), and absent an immediate life-threatening circumstance, the JJIMHT clinician shall consult with the psychiatrist in person or by phone.
2. Procedure for Referrals to the Psychiatrist
- A. The JJIMHT clinician will document within the electronic mental health record (EHR) progress note the reason(s) for referral. Juvenile Correctional Health staff scans a copy of the progress note into the youth's electronic medical record which is available to the psychiatrist.
 - B. JJIMHT clinicians will refer youth to the psychiatrist using encrypted emails on the format provided. Specific symptoms, relevant clinical complaints and history shall be included to justify the referral. The name of the youth shall not be included in the subject line of the email.

Related Policies:

BHS-CMH-YDF-04-05-5150 Application

BHS-CMH-YDF-06-04-Emotionally Disturbed Youth

BHS-CMH-YDF-06-06-Psychiatric Hospitalization

BHS-CMH-YDF-08-04-Documentation Guidelines

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