

ST. JOSEPH'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER

ASSESSMENT OF PATIENTS

23.00 MEDICAL CLEARANCE/MEDICAL EXCLUSION CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

I. POLICY

It is the policy of St. Joseph's Behavioral Health Center to admit Persons, 18 years and older, requiring hospitalization for the treatment of a primary psychiatric disorder, AXIS I and AXIS II, as defined in the American Psychiatric Association Diagnostic Statistical Manual. Persons with mental health and substance use related disorders might also be admitted to the Partial Hospitalization or Intensive Outpatients Programs. Only those mental disorders, which demonstrate capacity for improved function or reduced impairment through treatment programs provided at SJBHC, will be admitted.

It is the policy of St. Joseph's Behavioral Health Center to not admit Persons with unstable medical conditions requiring daily medical/surgical interventions and supervision of care by a physician. Persons with certain other medical conditions must be medically screened prior to admission. St Joseph's Behavioral Health Center may decline admission of those Persons whose diagnostic needs and complexity are outside the expertise of this hospital or its capacity to provide care. Admission to SJBHC is dependent upon its capacity and capability to provide the required services to meet individual Persons care needs.

II. PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for the identification of those Persons with concomitant medical conditions requiring medical clearance prior to admission and to define specific exclusion criteria.

III. PROCEDURE

A. Persons with the following medical conditions or interventions are not admitted to SJBHC:

1. Persons requiring blood transfusions

2. Persons requiring intravenous infusions peripherally or via central line
3. Persons with a central line or PICC in place
4. Persons on ventilator support
5. Persons with a recent tracheotomy, within past 2 months
6. Persons requiring naso-gastric tube feeding
7. Persons with infectious disease requiring isolation
8. Persons with Stage 3-4 pressure ulcers
9. Persons on chronic dialysis that is provided outside of service area
10. Persons with primary diagnosis of an eating disorder
11. Persons from out of county with unknown and possibly complex medical problems, and for who clear medical information cannot be obtained
12. Persons with such known behaviors as prior injury to staff member, threats toward medical staff or employees, serious destruction of hospital property, or commission of criminal acts during course of their treatment.
13. Persons conserved by VMRC and diagnosed with severe disability

B. The following Persons must have a medical evaluation prior to consideration for admission to SJBHC to include diagnostic studies appropriate for the presenting symptoms: (Upon completion of evaluation and clearance, consultation with Medical Staff will be required prior to admission.) *

1. Persons suspected of overdose or dangerous ingestion that occurred within the preceding 24 hours or within the preceding 72 hours, if the person demonstrates drowsiness, confusion or cognitive impairment.
2. Persons exhibiting acute intoxication
3. Persons with polydipsia
4. Persons requiring continuous oxygen support
5. Persons having head injuries within one week
6. Persons experiencing acute cardiac symptoms
7. Persons exhibiting toxicity symptoms or delirium (severe ataxia, confusion, disorientation, abnormal vital signs, etc.)
8. Persons who have not ingested food or fluids for three or more days
9. Persons having a serious injury (self-inflicted, suspected fractures, back injury, etc)
10. Persons aged 65 or older with unknown medical history

11. Persons with a confused or psychotic state that developed suddenly, especially in older persons (i.e., developed over a course of hours to several days)
12. Persons having any actual or suspected medical condition that will deteriorate if not treated in the Emergency Room.

C. Persons with the following conditions will require consultation with the Administration (AOC), Medical Staff, and Nursing for approval to admit:*

1. Persons on chronic dialysis within St Joseph's service area only
2. Persons requiring ongoing chemotherapy - within St. Joseph's service area only
3. Pregnancy – case by case
4. Persons requiring gastrostomy tube feedings
5. Persons requiring continuous oxygen support
6. Persons with burns – dependent upon degree and severity
7. Persons requiring specialized adaptive equipment or treatment interventions (out of facility) for chronic conditions
8. Persons conserved by VMRC and diagnosed with moderate disability
9. Persons that have been evaluated and cleared as defined in section II

* All persons evaluated for admission to St Josephs Behavioral Health center will have all available information reviewed by nursing staff prior to obtaining admission orders.

IV. APPROVALS: Integrated Quality Council
Medical Executive Committee
Community Board

ISSUED: 02/28/08
REVISED: 03/11/09
number: AP.023