

LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER PSYCHIATRIC OUTPATIENT CLINIC SCOPE OF SERVICES

Departmental Purpose

Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic serves as an important component of the continuum of care at LAC+USC Medical Center. The clinic exists to provide comprehensive mental health treatment to patients on outpatient basis.

Types and Ages of Patients Served

The Psychiatric outpatient clinic cares for child, adolescent, and adult patients with a major focus on medication stabilization and psychosocial rehabilitation. Major psychiatric diagnoses include: Schizophrenia; Bipolar Disorder; Major Depression; Personality Disorders; Adjustment Disorder; and Conduct Disorder.

Methods Used to Assess Patient Needs

An interdisciplinary approach to patient care management is used to assist the patient in making an educated decision about his/her care. Nursing and psychiatric attending staff, under the direction of the director of psychiatric outpatient clinic, acts collaboratively with psychiatric social workers, recreation therapists, pharmacists and psychologists to develop and plan an appropriate plan of care with the patient.

Scope of Service and Complexity of Care

The outpatient clinic cares for patients for the purpose of: providing all components of psychiatric care according to the individual needs of the patient; providing the highest level of nursing and medical management using a multi disciplinary team approach; providing an environment that is therapeutic and conducive to restoration to patient's optimal level of functioning; and educating patient/family to improve health maintenance, rehabilitation and adaptation to chronic mental illness.

Volume & Quality Control Indicators

- Patient/Family Teaching
- Pain
- Pharmacy Rounds
- ECT

Recognized Standards

Care is provided consistent with applicable regulatory, accreditation, and professional standards inclusive of but are not limited to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, California Department of Public Health, OSHA, Joint Commission, Department of Mental Health, Food and Drug Administration, California Board of Registered Nursing, California Board of Licensed Vocational Nursing, American Nurses Association, American Medical Association, and others.

Availability of Necessary Staff

The unit operates 8 hours a day, 5 days a week. After hours and on holidays and weekends, the patients are instructed to call the telephone exchange wherein a physician will be contacted. The nursing staff reports to a Nurse manager (NM) who works collaboratively with the service chief of psychiatry. The NM is responsible for providing sufficient quantities of nursing staff to meet the acuity needs of the patients. S/he is responsible for the quality of the nursing care provided and the professional level and/or job description. Registered Nurses provide patient care.

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