

# **LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER JAIL SERVICE – ER, WARD, CLINIC SCOPE OF SERVICES**

## **Department Purpose**

The Jail Service is a locked forensic unit consisting of a 17-bed Emergency/Holding Area, a 24-bed Medical/Surgical unit and a five (5) exam room clinic. The Jail Service is an important component of the continuum of care in the Medical Center for incarcerated patients. The Emergency Area provides emergency care to patients who are acutely injured or ill and/or require medical evaluation/clearance prior to being taken to a jail facility or requiring inpatient admission. The Ward exists to provide nursing care to patients with medical and surgical diagnosis requiring acute management. The clinic exists to provide follow-up care to patients discharged from the acute care unit and/or for patients referred to specialty clinics. Care is ongoing and encompasses varying stages of recuperation from diagnosis to treatment.

## **Types and Ages of Patients Served**

The Jail Service cares for adolescent, adult and geriatric patients with a major focus on Blunt and Penetrating Trauma, Acute abdominal disorders, Thoracic and vascular disorders, acute and chronic medical disorders, and poly-substance abuse.

## **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. The Nursing staff work collaboratively with the House staff from all services under the direction of the Attending Staff to provide individualized care. Additional collaboration exists with Social Services, Pastoral Care, the Department of Radiology, Food and Nutrition Services, Epidemiology, ET Nurse, Pharmacy, P.T., OT, Respiratory Therapy, and Utilization Review.

## **Scope of Service and Complexity of Care**

The focus of care is to treat conditions or complications and to restore the patient to optimal level of functioning by supporting patients in varying states of recuperation from medical, surgical or therapeutic interventions; preventing complications and promoting healing; educating the patient/family to improve self-care abilities, health maintenance and rehabilitation; and facilitate discharge from the acute care setting.

## **Volume & Quality Control Indicators**

- Jail ER Visits
- Patient/Family Teaching
- Inpatient Nursing Process
- Transfusion Self-Monitoring
- Pain
- Restraints
- Environmental Rounds
- Patient Falls
- Pharmacy Rounds
- Blood Products Records
- Patient Identification

*Reviewed/Refreshed: December 2004; October 2008; December 2012; January 2016; June 2020*

*Approved: August 2020*

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## **Performance Improvement Indicator**

- Improve Fall Injury Prevention
- Improve Hand Hygiene Compliance
- Clinic Appointment fall-out for GU and ENT Clinics
- Improve compliance with completing initial assessment
- Core Measure Documentation
- CLABSI Prevention
- IV Infiltration
- VTE Prevention and treatment
- Early Sepsis recognition and treatment

## **Recognized Standards**

Care is provided consistent with applicable regulatory and professional standards inclusive of but not limited to the California Board of Registered Nursing, the California Board of Licensed Vocational Nursing, OSHA, Joint Commission, CMS, Title 8, 17, 22, 24, the American Nurses Association, the FDA, the American Medical Association, the Department of Health Services, the Department of Consumer Affairs, the Residence Review Committee, the American College of Emergency Physicians, the Medical Board of California, and the American Board of Emergency Medicine and Title 15 standards that cover the Department of Correctional Services.

## **Availability of Necessary Staff**

The unit operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is a Medical Director for the Emergency Department and a Jail Service Medical Administrator for the Inpatient Unit and Clinic whose responsibility it is to oversee medical care provided by each medical specialty. The nursing staff reports to a Nurse Manager (NM) who works collaboratively with the Department of Emergency Medicine and the Chiefs of Service of the various medical divisions. The Nurse Manager is responsible for providing sufficient quantities of nursing staff to meet the acuity needs of the patients and the census of the unit. The Nurse Manager responsible for the quality of the nursing care provided and the performance of the assigned staff. The Staff on the unit have specific competency assessments for their professional level and/or job description. Registered Nurses and Nursing Attendants provide patient care. Clerical staff provides support.

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