

PSYCHIATRIC HEALTH FACILITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL, DRUG AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Section:	CLINICAL		
Subject:	TREATMENT OF DUAL DIAGNOSED CLIENTS		
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Director's Approval:	_____	Date:	_____
Assistant Director's Approval:	_____	Date:	_____

PURPOSE:	To ensure that all staff are able to clearly address the needs of the dual-diagnosed client while in the PHF setting.
POLICY:	While it is the policy of Santa Barbara County Mental Health services to address the primary Psychiatric diagnoses priority, it is well known that 50-80% of psychiatric patients have concomitant substance abuse disorders. These must also be addressed or they will continue to exacerbate the primary diagnosis with the result of a much higher rate of continuing hospitalization. Therefore, it is our goal to immediately upon admission begin education, share information and resources available to the client. By opening discussion of the secondary diagnosis, the client has the opportunity to begin working through their denial which is inherent is Substance Abuse Disorder.
PROCEDURES:	<p>Enter goals and objections into the Treatment Plan.</p> <p>Obtain a comprehensive substance abuse history of client and family.</p> <p>Openly discuss the substance abuse dependency diagnosis with client before their discharge without any stereo-typical attitudes and support gradual progression toward in sight and acceptance.</p> <p>Utilize resource material in Alcohol and Drug folder before their discharge concerning 12-Step Meetings. Schedules, residential Treatment facilities or outpatient services, Project Recovery Services, family support resources and written information pamphlets that assist client in self-diagnosis and working through his or her denial.</p> <p>Inform client of any AA/NA meetings on unit during their stay.</p> <p>Utilize any education videos open to clients that are on unit.</p>