

## COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES OF MUSKEGON COUNTY

### POLICY

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Ronald Kidder, PhD, Chairperson  
Practice Guidelines Workgroup

Approved by: Subject: Clinical Practice Guidelines

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David Parnin, Chief Operating Officer

#### I. POLICY:

It is the policy of Community Mental Health of Muskegon County to provide the best quality mental health services available with available resources. To enable this, the agency will either adopt the most current clinical practice guidelines developed by the American Psychiatric Association, the American Society of Addiction Medicine, the American Psychiatric Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the American Association on Mental Retardation, and/or other nationally recognized professional organizations or draft practice protocols that are evidenced-based.

#### II. APPLICATION:

All contracted clinicians and other pertinent mental health employees of Community Mental Health Services of Muskegon County. Beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries will be provided CMHS of Muskegon County Best Practice Guidelines upon request.

#### III. PURPOSE:

To assist mental health professionals in clinical decision-making in order to improve treatment outcomes. These guidelines may also be used for utilization management and for determining educational needs of the agency.

#### IV. DEFINITION:

Practice Guidelines/Protocols: Descriptive tools or standardized specifications for care of the typical individual in the typical situation, developed through a formal process that incorporates best scientific evidence of effectiveness with expert opinion.

#### V. PROCEDURE:

- A. All relevant clinicians will have access to these guidelines through their supervisor.
- B. Clinicians will become knowledgeable with the content of relevant practice guidelines and demonstrate competence in the application of the guidelines.
- C. Licensed Independent Practitioners will periodically educate clinical staff regarding any pertinent

- guidelines applicable to the treatment of the populations they serve.
- D. Clinical staff will consult the approved guidelines when making treatment decisions.
  - E. For those clinical issues not addressed in the APA/AAMR/ASAM guidelines, clinicians will consult and follow the CMH Practice Protocols.
  - F. The practice guidelines/protocols will be reviewed by the Licensed Independent Practitioners on an annual basis and/or updated as new information becomes available.
  - G. The practice guidelines/protocols will be reviewed and recommended by the Doctors Work Group to include the Medical Director, and brought to the Quality Council on an annual basis for approval.
  - H. Beneficiaries will have access to information about practice guidelines and clinical standards by contacting Customer Services.

#### **VI. REFERENCES:**

The Commission on Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission Current Standards  
Michigan Department of Community Health  
American Journal on Mental Retardation: Current Standard  
American Society of Addiction Medicine ASAM PPC-2R- Patient Placement Criteria for Substance  
Related Disorders: Current Standards  
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry: Current Standards  
American Psychological Association Guidelines for Practitioner--Online  
American Psychiatric Association Practice Guidelines--Online