

Procedures for Service Provision to RSO Clients

Attachment, BHRS Policy 12-03, Revised 3/13/13

Site Specific Information

- Clients who are known to be Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs) cannot be seen by any clinical team at Central County Clinic (1950 Alameda de las Pulgas, San Mateo). This includes clients seen by any Youth or Adult Team including OASIS and the Puente team. Clients known to be Registered Sex Offenders should not be referred or transferred to the Central County Clinic.
- If it becomes known that a Central County client is an RSO, he/she should be transitioned to another clinic in a timely manner.
- Staff from each Regional site will amend their own site-based safety plan to include any site specific safety procedures for RSOs. Staff will then apply appropriate procedures as these relate to Registered Sex Offenders.

Transfer Process for Open Clients

- The treating team will inform the client that he/she cannot be seen at Central County due to the client's RSO status and the rules at that particular clinic. However,
 - The client will be given the choice of which one of the other 4 county clinics where he/she would like to receive services.
 - If transportation to a more distant clinical site is likely to be a barrier preventing the client from receiving the appropriate level of care, initial assistance such as help obtaining a bus pass, taxi vouchers, etc. should be offered by the transferring team.
- The Unit Chief at the receiving clinic should be informed by the Unit Chief at the sending clinic that the client will be transferred, and any pertinent details should be exchanged in order to facilitate a smooth transition. The receiving team will continue to discuss and assist with transportation needs of the client.
- The Unit Chief at the receiving clinic will schedule the client according to established procedures for safety and clinical care, as listed below.
- The Clinical Services Manager, Deputy Director, and, if the client is on medications, the Medical Director should be informed of each case.

Clinical Care

- Upon intake and assessment by the Treatment Team, usual practice is that all clients are asked about any prior criminal offenses or acts and their parole or probation status.
- A release to speak to the client's PO should be obtained to provide continuity of care, as with any other client.

- The Initial Assessment must be completed within 60 days. Within 90 days, and ongoing, a safety review of the client's risk factors will be completed and documented, which will consider:
 - The type of offense the client committed (i.e. misdemeanor or felony)
 - The level of seriousness or violence level of the crime (i.e. rape vs. indecent exposure while urinating)
 - How long ago the offense was committed
 - What treatment the client received, if any
 - The client's level of functioning and how the client is observed to interact with others
- The services the client is eligible for are based on an assessment of the client's treatment needs and level of care needs, client risk factors, as well as any constraints around service availability at the designated clinic.
- As with all clients, care will be taken to create and maintain a safe environment while still being welcoming to the RSO clients as they receive mental health and/or substance abuse services.

Safety

- Newly admitted clients who are Registered Sex Offenders or who are known to have a history of being a perpetrator of a sex offense will be scheduled for morning appointments upon intake and for subsequent appointments for a minimum of 90 days. This scheduling can be extended until the treatment team has conducted a safety review assessment and is fairly confident the client can maintain safe boundaries and appropriate behavior in and around the clinic.
- Based on clinical judgment and consultation with the referring staff, this scheduling requirement may be waived for clients whose RSO status was discovered after they had been in treatment for a period of time.
- The safety committee for each site will consider any factors specific to their site that are relevant for clients who are officially deemed RSO as well as for clients who have predatory behaviors, and will include those factors and safety steps in their site safety plan.