Behavioral Emergencies, Prevention & Management of Disruptive Behavior Training, and Disruptive Behavior Committee

Presented by: Mike Boland, Training Specialist
Department of Education and Innovative Learning
Behavioral Emergency

What is a Behavioral Emergency?

- Any threat of harm to self or others or the physical act of aggression exhibited by a patient whereby the safety of those present is compromised
- Occurs within the clinical setting
- For emergencies occurring outside of clinical areas
  - Call VA Police 911
Behavioral Emergency Response
- Code Blue -

**Code Blue Response Team:**
- Behavioral Emergency Response Team (4 teams total)
- Behavioral Health and nursing staff
- For escalated patient emergencies
- Dial **911** from any hospital phone
- Tell the operator: “**Code Blue**”, give your location and name
- Trained clinical staff will respond
Code Blue Team

Code Blue Team members include representatives from:

– Nursing, Patient Care Coordinators, Social Work, and Psychology

– Code Blue Team members can be identified by a blue Code Blue badge worn with the employee PIV card

– Code Blue Team members are required to complete specialized annual Prevention and Management of Disruptive Behaviors (PMDB) training, allowing them to verbally or physically intervene during situations where a patient may display imminently dangerous behavior

– The Code Blue Team is formally known as “Psychiatric Emergency Intervention Team”
  • See Medical Center Memorandum LD-018
Prevention and Management of Disruptive Behavior Training

• VHA nationally mandated workplace violence prevention training
• Separated into “Parts”, and assigned based on risk
  – **Part 1** (TMS Item # 37659)
    • Required for All Staff
  – **Part 2 For Low-Risk Workplaces** (TMS Item # 39522)
    • Most employees will be assigned
  – **Part 2 for Moderate and High-Risk Workplaces** (TMS Item # 39523)
  – **Part 3 Therapeutic Containment Skills** (TMS Item # 39716)
    • Smaller group, clinical staff training
• Initial Training will be assigned in TMS
  – 90 days to complete
Disruptive Behavior Committee

Reviews reports of disruptive, dangerous, or threatening behavior
• Multi-disciplinary team of clinicians
• Meets monthly to review reports
• Can assign or remove Patient Record Flags

Disruptive Behavior Reporting System (DBRS)
• Found on the VA Pittsburgh Home Page
• Click on “Disruptive Behavior” link
• Information submitted securely to committee for review
Employee Threat Assessment Team (ETAT)

Reviews reports of disruptive or threatening behavior by an employee
• Multi-disciplinary team of clinicians
• Meets monthly to review reports
• Can offer guidance

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• Information submitted securely to team for review
Thank You!

Contact Information
Michael Boland, MSEd
Training Specialist
Education Department
Michael.Boland@va.gov
412-360-6577