

Caring For Residents With Challenging Behaviors
"Care and Case Discussion Committee" Meeting Minutes
I.O.L. Donnelly Building
March 19,2004 9:00 AM-11:00AM

Committee members present:

Teresa Cusano, S. L.T.C.O

Nancy March, IOL

Bob Burke, Athena Health Care

Lynn MacLean, Apple Health Care

Laurel Woods, MedOptions

Valerie Bryan, DPH

Michael Michalski, Ombudsman Program

Discussion:

The State Ombudsman handed out listing of the mobile crisis service from DMHAS and LMHAS, to participants as a follow up from the last Workgroup meeting. Jennifer Glick had forwarded the information, there is no need to send a letter to Commissioner Kirk at this time, since the services appear to be available as an option to nursing homes in most areas and are not restricted by diagnosis. There are some concerns about availability in some areas but unless the services are put to the test, recommendations for improvement cannot be made. Information is available in the DMHAS website.

Update from Training Committee: Plans are in motion for a conference in October with support from the Breaking the Bonds committee to train the trainers. The target participants will be Directors of Nursing, Social Workers and CNAs.

The group discussed the development of a Risk Assessment & Protocol tool. (formerly known as checklist) to include:

- A. Potential for suicide**
- B. Risk or harm to self or others**
- C. Delirium/Delusions**
- D. Medication change**

The goal is to ask nursing facilities to incorporate this protocol as part of their policy to minimize unnecessary hospitalizations, which was identified as one of the major problems in addressing challenging behaviors.

Nancy March provided (courtesy of IOL) a suicidal and safety assessment policy for review.

The committee stated that they wanted to look at preventing behavioral episodes as well as being aware of suicidal tendencies.

There is a difference between SNF and hospitals in reporting or not reporting abuse. Guidelines to be incorporated into the assessment protocol.

Assessment tool needs to be user friendly, streamlined and will be distributed at conference in October.

Lynn will bring OBRA & State regulations for next meeting.

Laurel will bring a behavioral assessment sheet from Med Options for next time.

Next meeting Thursday March 15th @ 9:00 AM at the IOL, _____ Building