Tewksbury Hospital and T.H.E. FARM: Integrating and Documenting EAAT in an Inpatient Setting

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Tewksbury Hospital
Mission

The mission of Tewksbury Hospital is to provide comprehensive treatment, care, and comfort to adults with chronic medical and mental illnesses.
Tewksbury Hospital

- Opened May, 1854
- Historic campus
- Large, multi-service, inpatient facility
  - 800+ acre campus
  - 450 acres of conservation land
- Managed by Department of Public Health (DPH)
- Includes Department of Mental Health (DMH) units
- Campus houses additional residential care and day treatment programs
Patient Demographics

• Adult population
  ▪ Ages 19+
  ▪ 83% under age 65
  ▪ Most between ages 40 and 65

• Multilingual and multicultural
  ▪ Spanish, Haitian, Portuguese, Cambodian, Vietnamese, Polish, Italian, German, Irish, African-American decent

• Underserved population
Patient Demographics (continued)

- 82% denied by other facilities
- 56% active substance abuse
- Behaviorally challenging
- High proportion of patients with co-occurring medical and psychiatric diagnoses
DPH Medical Units

• Inpatient medical units serving diverse medical conditions
  ▪ Traumatic Brain Injury
  ▪ Various neurological conditions and dementias (Huntington’s Disease, stroke, multiple sclerosis)
  ▪ Developmental Disability
  ▪ Diabetes
  ▪ End stage renal disease
  ▪ HIV
  ▪ Medical complications from substance abuse
DPH: Scope of Medical Services

- 7 medical units (339 beds)
- Intensive treatment for patients with multiple complex medical and psychiatric conditions
- Huntington’s Disease Center of Excellence
- Infectious Disease Service
- Complex wound management Program
- Neurological rehabilitation unit for traumatic brain injured
- Dialysis service
- HIV/AIDS care
Department of Mental Health (DMH)
Hathorne Units

- Opened June, 1992
- Inpatient psychiatric units serving patients with chronic and persistent mental illness
- Diagnoses treated include:
  - Thought disorders (e.g., schizophrenia)
  - Mood disorders (e.g., bipolar disorder)
  - Personality disorders
  - Developmental Disabilities
DMH: Scope of Psychiatric Services

- 4 psychiatric units (116 beds)
- Psychosocial Rehabilitation Center
- Intermediate level of care
- Provision of forensic for Northeast Area
- Patient-centered care model
- Multidisciplinary team per patient
  - Psychiatry, nursing, social work, psychology, occupational therapy
T.H.E. FARM
Tewksbury Hospital Equestrian Center
Overview

• History
• Programs
• Personnel
• Future Plans
T.H.E. FARM
Mission

To enrich lives through the healing power of horses
History

• Founded in 1997, operating since July 2001
• 501(c)(3) non-profit
• PATH Premier Accredited Center
• Supported by grants and donations
  ▪ Receives no state funding
Programs

Equine therapeutic program serves the general public and Tewksbury Hospital clients

Public riding and horsemanship programs open to the general public and individuals of all abilities

Hippotherapy
Personnel

Mainly a volunteer organization with the exception of:

Part-time instructors/personnel

- 5 Equine Therapists
- 3 Massachusetts Riding Instructors
- Volunteer Coordinator (10 hours)
- Barn Manager (32 hours)
- Office Manager (15 hours)
Model of EAAT Treatment on Inpatient Units

Overview

• Procedures for referral by treatment teams
• Documentation
• Outline of Treatment
Steps for Client Participation

Due to the variations between the Hospital's medical (DPH) and recovery (DMH) models steps and language vary slightly.

- Anyone for any reason may refer a client to FARM
- T.H.E. FARM Instructors collaborate directly with:
  - DPH Liaison Person (Teams)
  - DMH Rehabilitation Representative (Treatment Teams)
- Responsibilities for both Hospital contacts include meeting scheduling, assessments, legal forms, evaluations transportation, staffing and communications.

The Therapeutic Instructors and appropriate Hospital Teams meet to determine client’s appropriateness.
Steps for Client Participation
(continued)

1. Prior to meeting all necessary forms and relative medical and psychological information are gathered by Liaison or Rehab. Representative.

2. While all must agree on decision, the Instructor has final approval.

3. Once approved, individual objectives are developed and participation in THE FARM Program is added to patient Plan of Care.

4. The patient’s ability to participate is continually evaluated by T.H.E. FARM; at the time of the quarterly patient care conference and documented in the Quarterly Patient Care Conference Note.
Required Documentation

1. Tewksbury Hospital Referral
2. Tewksbury Hospital’s Program Participation Evaluation
3. Tewksbury Hospital’s Provider Order for T.H.E. FARM
4. T.H.E. FARM’s Registration & Release
5. Tewksbury Hospital’s Photo Release
6. Hand Off Communication Form
Scope of Services

Program 1 Passive environment – no equine contact
Program 2 Interaction with horses – no riding
Program 3 Riding
Program 4 Hippotherapy
Unique Collaboration/Opportunity

1. Treat medically and psychiatrically complex patient population
2. Reach underserved patient population
3. Positive change of environment for institutionalized patients
4. Treat patients often resistant to other treatments
5. Patients otherwise cannot afford treatment
Challenges

• Administrative
• Patient
• Logistical
• Staffing
Benefits of Collaboration

- T.H.E. FARM
- Tewksbury Hospital
- Mutual
Goals

1. Continue to integrate neuropsychological assessment with EAAT treatment outcomes
2. Expand to indoor therapeutic center
3. Expand use of treatment documented in the electronic medical record
4. Research
Case Examples

A – Huntington's Disease
B – Traumatic Brain Injury
C – Schizophrenia
D – Stroke
E – Depression
Questions? Comments?

www.t-h-e-farm.org

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