

1. Inpatient treatment primary goal

Crisis stabilization

2. define seclusion

involuntary confinement of an individual alone in a room or area from which the individual is prevented from leaving

3. use of seclusion

- Imminent risk of harm to themselves/others
- Laws differ state to state
- Only to ensure the immediate physical safety of pt and others
- Never as means of discipline, coercion, or for staff convenience

4. Evaluating a clients capacity for decision making

- Assess for communication barriers: language, hearing or vision impairments, dysarthria
- Evaluate for reversible causes of incapacity: infection, medications or other substances, acute neurologic and psychiatric disorders
- Identify values and cultural influences that may impact client decision making
- Ask questions: determine the pt's ability to understand the treatment and how treatment applies to their situation.
- Identify a surrogate if needed: healthcare advance directive, medical power of attorney, spouse, adult children, other close relatives
- Document

5. involuntary civil commitment

- legal intervention directed by a judge to order a person w serious symptoms to either remain in psych hospital/ attend supervised outpt tx.
- May be initiated by family member/mental health professional/ law enforcement

- The person in question may have the right to appear at their hearing w counsel and present evidence to dispute the case
- The max length of inpatient commitment varies by state.
- Outpatient commitment/assisted outpatient treatment (AOT)= may consist of supported housing, intensive case management, meds, and frequent therapy
- Tx may last 6- 12 mo

6. use of restraints-seclusion criteria

- Only to ensure the immediate physical safety of pt and others
- No evidence that restraints decrease risk of falls
- Last resort
- Never as means of discipline, coercion, or for staff convenience
- Face to face eval and written order required, eval must be completed within 1 hr of application of restraint/seclusion
- not allowed PRN
- must reevaluate q24h

7. risk factors of suicide

- History of substance abuse
- Physical disability/illness
- Losing a friend or family member to suicide
- Ongoing exposure to bullying behavior

8. mental health condition

- Recent death of a family member/close friend
- Access to harmful means
- Relationship problems
- Previous suicide attempts

9. physical risk assessment

- quick visual exam to evaluate

- skin color, sweating, pupil size, level of consciousness, or obvious injuries to ensure adequate airway, breathing, and circulation.

- Vital signs may be obtained if the pt permits; if not, continue assessment w/o getting vs.

10. define psychiatric emergency

- involve acute disturbances in thought, mood, behavior /social interactions that negatively impact a pt's abil to function in their environment and require immediate intervention to keep the pt/others from harm

- a state of crisis that has overwhelmed their coping mechanisms

11. psychiatric emergencies occur when

- a danger to self

- a danger to others

- unable to meet their own basic needs for food/clothing/shelter d/t a psychological impairment

12. common psych emergencies

suicidality, acute psychosis, agitation and aggression, mania, substance-related concerns, decompensation r/t personality d/o, severe anxiety, and med-related emergencies

13. early signs of aggressive behavior

threatening comments, clenched fists, shifts in body position towards a fighting stance, loud vocalizations, agitated movements / striking inanimate objects

14. interventions for aggressive behavior

When aggression is unavoidable- prioritize security, sedation, and supervision

AEIO risk assessment categories

15. Agitation/Arousal: sit still? pacing? demonstrating aggressive behaviors?

Environment: Is the pt in a safe location? Id potential exits, equipment in the room, and the distance of the room from the rest of the unit.

16. Intent: pt have thoughts of harming themselves or others? pt having psychotic experiences that may cause them to harm themselves/others?

Objects: pt have access to firearms, blades, medications, lighters, or clothing items that could be used to harm themselves/others?

17. de-escalation techniques

-is a first-line response to potential violence/ aggression in healthcare settings

-aka conflict resolution/crisis management, involves strategies and techniques to reduce a pt's agitation/aggression

--Clear, calm, empathetic, nonjudgmental communication

--Respect for personal space

--Non-confrontational approach

--Non-threatening nonverbal communication

--Response to pt's expressed problem/condition

--Clear limits

--Environmental controls: minimizing light, noise, and loud conversations

18. suicide warning signs

- A sense of hopelessness or no hope for the future
- Isolation/feeling alone
- Aggressiveness and irritability
- Possessing lethal means
- Feeling like a burden to others
- Drastic changes in mood and behavior
- Frequently talking about death
- Self-harm, like cutting behaviors
- Engaging in "risky" behaviors
- Making funeral arrangements
- Giving things away
- Substance abuse
- Making suicide threats
- Negative view of self

19. SAFE-T

- Suicide Assessment Five-Step Eval and Triage
- Identify risk factors
- Note those that can be modified to reduce risk
- Identify protective factors
- Note those that can be enhanced
- Conduct suicide inquiry
- Suicidal thoughts, plans, behavior, and intent

- Determine risk level/intervention
- Determine risk
- Choose appropriate intervention to address and reduce risk
- Document
- Assessment of risk, rationale, intervention, and follow-up

20. lithium toxicity

- Lithium has a narrow therapeutic range.
- Too much lithium can quickly cause toxicity- lead to acute kidney injury and death
- Lithium toxicity may occur- d/t excessive intake related to OD or dosage modifications
- may also occur from impaired excretion; when pts experience sodium and fluid depletion from vomiting, diarrhea, fever, or a low sodium diet
- lithium is reabsorbed by the kidneys which increases serum levels of the drug

21. how to confirm dx of lithium toxicity

lithium level

22. early sxs of lithium tox

n/v/d, hand tremors, slurred speech, vision changes.

-- chronic tox may present w/o gi sxs

23. later sxs of lithium tox

- hyperreflexia and muscle spasms, nystagmus, dysrhythmias, confusion, and delirium.
- Seizures and death may occur if- serum lithium concentration exceeds 3.5 mEq/L.

24. treatment for lithium tox

- D/C lithium
- supportive care, admitted for cardiac monitoring, iv fluids, and serial lithium levels.
- Acute OD= treated with gastric lavage.
- Hemodialysis may be required for pts with severe toxicity.
- After stable, resume lithium, serial med levels, and pt edu

25. Clozapine-induced agranulocytosis (CLIA)

- in less than 1% of clients prescribed clozapine
- potentially life-threatening.
- Cause unknown, may be a genetic component to the reaction

26. sxs of CLIA

-fever and chills, increased heart rate, sudden hypotension, muscle weakness and fatigue, mouth ulcers, and sore throat

--Onset of symptoms- any time following start of clozapine, most common after 4-5 wks of drug therapy

27. how to confirm dx of CLIA

- CBC