Orientation to ASAM Patient Placement Criteria

Odyssey House of Utah
Introduction

Odyssey House of Utah utilizes the American Society of Addiction Medicine Patient Placement Criteria as a foundation for assessment, documentation, and treatment planning within all services.

The Patient Placement Criteria (PPC) provides a framework for continuously assessing risk and the appropriate level of care for each client. All employees of Odyssey House should be familiar with the framework.
Dimensions:

Dimensions look at risk in different areas:
- D1: Intoxication &/or Withdrawal
- D2: Biomedical
- D3: Emotional/Behavioral/Cognitive
- D4: Readiness to Change
- D5: Relapse Potential
- D6: Recovery Environment
D1: Intoxication/Withdrawal

- Are there current signs of acute intoxication or withdrawal?
- No risk if client has completed detoxification and has a period of time of sobriety.
D2: Biomedical

- Are there current or chronic physical illnesses/conditions that need to be addressed because they create risk or may complicate treatment?
D3: Emotional/Behavioral/Cognitive

- Are there current/chronic psychiatric, psychological, behavioral, emotional, or cognitive problems that create risk or complicate treatment?
- Focus in on dual-diagnosis issues and how they affect the client
D4: Readiness to Change

- Aware of the need to change?
- Express a commitment to change and behave congruently?
- Cooperate with treatment recommendations and program rules?
- Aware of the relationship of substance use to negative consequences?
- Does the client engage in his treatment planning and goals?
- Legal mandate/influence?
D5: Relapse Potential

- Immediate danger of continued substance use or relapse?
- Do they have the skills to cope with addictive/mental health disorders to prevent relapse or continued problems?
- What if they weren’t in treatment?
- Aware of triggers, how to cope with cravings, and able to control impulses?
D6: Recovery Environment

- Do family members, friends, significant others, living situations, or school/work situations pose a risk to safety or engagement in treatment?
- Recovery supportive relationships?
- Financial/vocational/educational needs/resources to support recovery?
- Legal reality
Levels of Care

Levels of Care that are provided at Odyssey House:

- I.0: Outpatient
- II.1: Intensive Outpatient
- II.5: Day Treatment
- III.1: Low-Intensity Residential
- III.3: Residential modified for lower Cognitive functioning
- III.5: High-Intensity Residential
What is a Multi-Dimensional Summary?

A Multi-Dimensional Summary (sometimes referred to as an MDS) is an assessment, not a treatment plan. It is completed by a licensed mental health professional.

It is a risk severity assessment of all six Dimensions focusing on all of the priorities (problems) and resources in each Dimension.
When do you create an MDS?

If you are a licensed mental health professional, you will complete MDS assessments at:

- Admission
- Level of Care Changes
- Utilization / Continuing Stay Reviews
- Discharge
Severity Ratings

- When completing an MDS assessment, you assign severity ratings (low, medium, high) to each dimension.
- When working with a client you can check and see which dimensions are the highest risk and therefore should be addressed first.
Example: D6 refers to the Dimension you are addressing with your intervention. Here the staff member provides skills development services that assist the client with her Recovery Environment objectives (D6):

“D4: I provided instruction on appropriate hand hygiene to Sandra and asked her to identify what could happen if she failed to wash her hands. I recognized her when she identified the connection between hand hygiene and infection prevention for both herself and others in the community.”
Documentation Components

- O – Observations
- I – Intervention
- R – Client Response
- P – Plan – What next?
Treatment Plan

All treatment plans contain the following components which can help direct any staff member on how to help a specific client:

- Priority (think “Problem” statement)
- Goal(s) – Broad
- Method(s) – Immediate objectives
Resources

Your supervisor will help get you started with ASAM at whatever level is appropriate for your position. ASAM PPC Manuals are located at each facility for your review. Additionally, the following resources are available on the L Drive under ASAM:

- Templates, ASAM Cheat Sheet Tools, handouts