



# Treatment Planning



**USU**  
Uniformed Services University

**CDP**

Center for Deployment Psychology



# Disclaimer

---

The views expressed are those of the presenter and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Government.

# Clinic Optimization Toolkit

## Modules

Clinic Gap Analysis
<b>Patient Management</b>
EBP Utilization
Group Therapy Expansion
Technician Support
Metrics
Evaluation

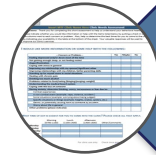
## Types of Resources



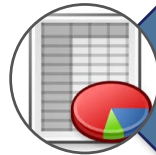
Training Decks



Fact Sheets & Handouts



Forms & Templates



Spreadsheets & Supporting Documents



Standard Operating Procedures



CDP



# Learning Objectives

- Analyze rationale and components of effective treatment plans
- Distinguish strategies for treatment planning with special populations

# Why Write a Treatment Plan



1. Guide Content & Treatment

2. Document Intent & Goals

3. Define Criteria for Treatment

# Why Write a Treatment Plan

## 1. Guide Content & Treatment

Treatment Interventions

Course of Interventions

Measurement



# Why Write a Treatment Plan



(U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Marie Brown, Mar 16, 2015)

## 2. Document Intent & Goals

Communicate with Other Providers

Helps Patient Focus on Goals

# Why Write a Treatment Plan

## 3. Define Criteria for Treatment

Target Scores on OMs

Specific Behaviors

Begin with End





# Effects of Poor Treatment Plans



Lack of Direction

Unsure of End

Poor Communication

Concerns about Care

CDP

# Inquire about Patient Goals

What do They Need?

What Outcome do  
They Desire?



(August 23, 2019. U.S. Navy photo by Jacob Sippel, Naval Hospital Jacksonville/Released)

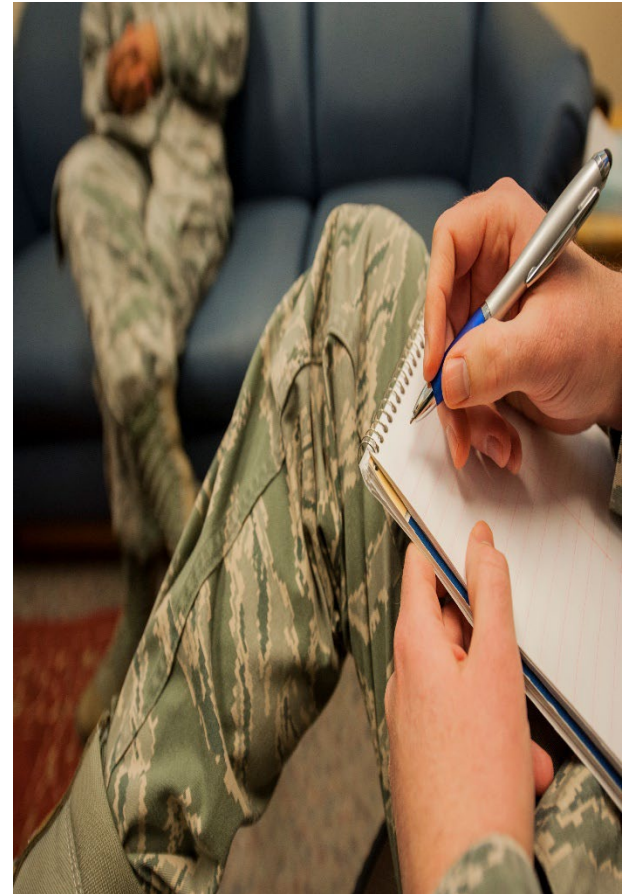
# Common Patient Goals

Reduce Symptoms

Discharge

Empathy

Pressure



(U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Stephanie Sauberan)

CDP



Uniformed  
Services  
University

# Establishing Treatment Goals

Goals

Objectives

Criteria

End of Treatment



CDP



# Selecting Interventions

MDD

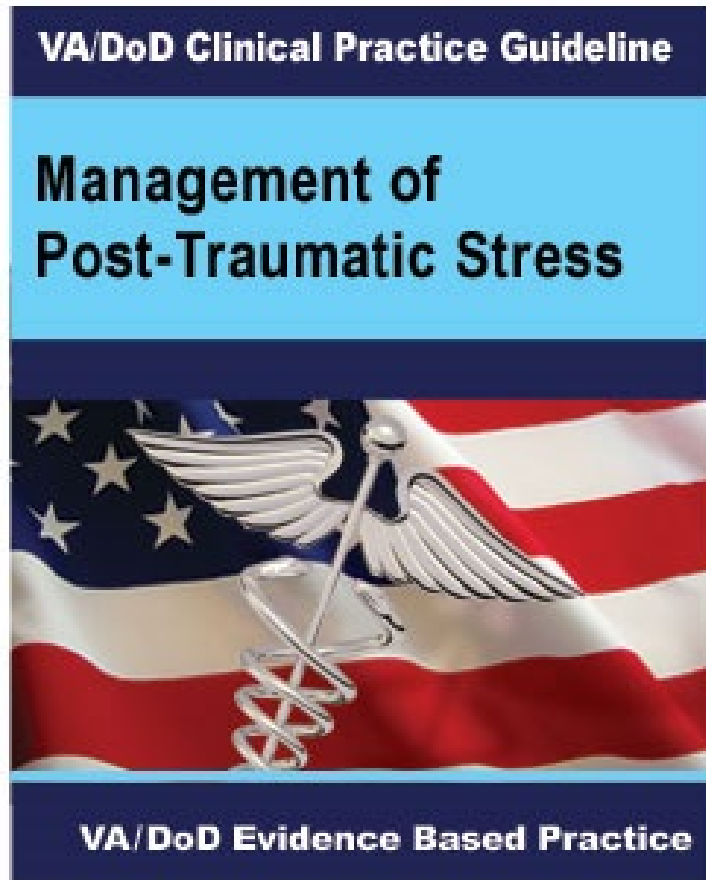
Suicide

PTSD

Bipolar

SUD

Insomnia



<http://www.healthquality.va.gov>

CDP

# Selecting Interventions



Medications

Individual therapy

Group therapy

Family therapy

# Establishing Objectives

- “Reduce Depression
- “Improve Relationship Satisfaction”
- “Feel Better
- “Return to Baseline



# Establishing Objectives

## *Examples of Good Objectives:*

*“Increase sleep to at least 6 hours per night within 4 weeks”*

*“Elimination of self-cutting behavior by conclusion of 8 week skills group”*

*“Keep daily sleep diary for 6 weeks while engaged in CBT-I treatment”*



# Using Outcome Measures

Orient patient

Timing of Administration

Review & Feedback Regularly



# BE FLEXIBLE!



Photo by Von Chad Riley (chad050) aus West Seattle, WA, US - Flickr, CC BY-SA 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1456205>

# Plan for Termination



Clear Criteria

Mutual Agreement

Clearly Documented

# Preparing for Termination

Set Termination Date

Reduce Appt Frequency

Offer Booster Sessions



CDP



# Preparing for Termination

## Questions to Discuss

1. What does the patient imagine it will be like to end?
2. What has the patient gained/learned since being in treatment?
3. What resources will the patient use for support after therapy ends?
4. What signs would the patient look for indicating they need to return to treatment?

# Treatment Team Reviews

Frequency

Scope

Composition

Process

### The 20/20 Treatment Team Review: Handout for Clinic Staff

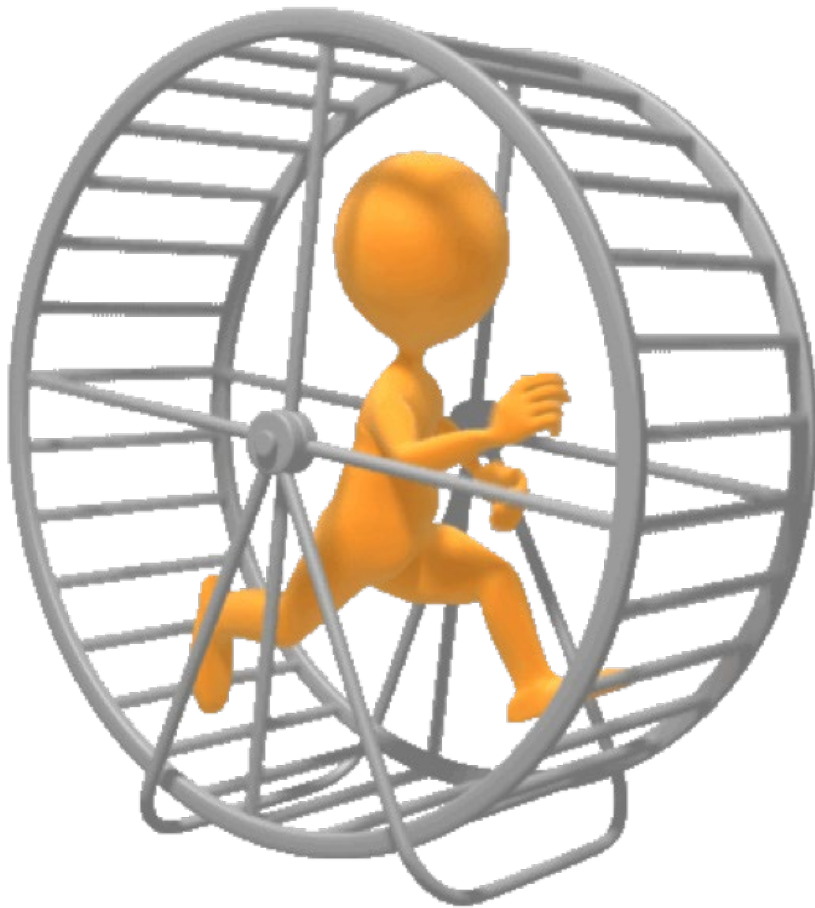
This 20/20 review is a chance for the treatment team to take a closer look at care delivered to patients within the clinic. The frequency of this review is every 20 sessions. It involves a thorough review of cases by a team of fellow providers using a structured approach focused on assessing effectiveness of care. This review allows an opportunity to problem-solve barriers to treatment progress using a team approach.

Patient's primary provider should complete the applicable sections below BEFORE the 20/20 treatment team meeting.

Patient name:	
Diagnoses:	
Admin status (Pending Profile/MEB/ADSEP?):	
# of sessions/months of BH care prior to this clinic (prior duty stations):	
# of sessions to date (within this clinic):	
# of sessions with current provider:	
Formal outcome measures being used:	
Group attendance history:	
Current treatment goals:	
# of additional sessions anticipated to treat the patient:	
Modalities used (Circle all that are being used with this patient, indicate frequency of appointments per week or per month):	Individual therapy: Y/N; Type: supportive counseling or EBP; Freq: ___/___ Group therapy: Y/N; Type: process/interpersonal or EBP; Freq: ___/___ Medications: Y/N; Type: ___; Freq: ___/___ Biofeedback: Y/N Freq: ___/___ Other: _____ _____ _____

CDP

# Unresponsiveness to Treatment



Re-evaluate Diagnosis

Rev-evaluate Goals

Modify Treatment Plan

Consultation

CDP

# Addressing Lack of Progress

Add Medication

Change Intervention

EBP Group

Poor Engagement



CDP







# TREATMENT PLANNING WITH SPECIAL POPULATIONS

# Special Patient Populations

Sub-Clinical

Under Engagement

Seeking  
Administrative Outcome



# Sub-Clinical Patients



Relatively High Functioning

Low Scores on Measures

Do Not Require Weekly Tx

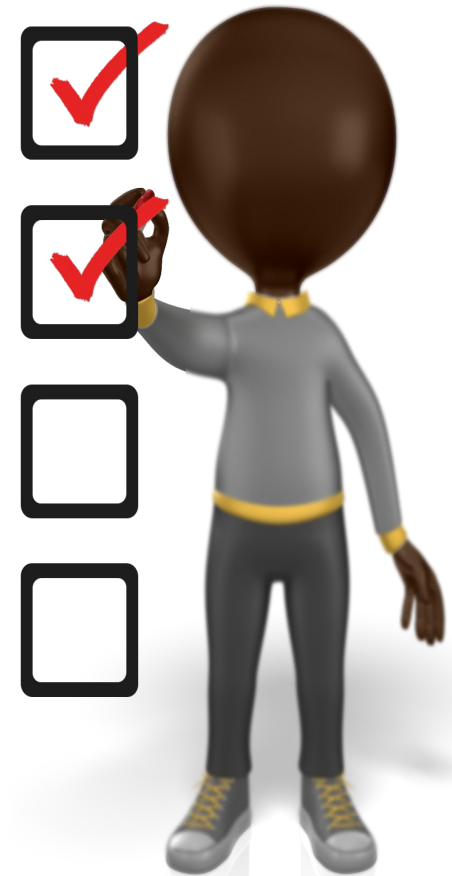
# Managing Sub-Clinical Patients

Set Expectations

Focused Treatment Plans

Alternate Schedule

Use of Process or  
Continuation Groups



CDP



# UNDER ENGAGING PATIENTS

# Under Engaging Patients



Photo by CDP, 9 November 2021

Poor Attendance

Lack of Homework  
Compliance

Unprepared to Change

CDP

# Managing Under Engaging Patients

Clear Expectations

Require Homework

Process or Continuation Group

End Treatment



CDP



# **PATIENTS SEEKING ADMINISTRATIVE OUTCOMES**





# Identification



**Therapeutic Change**

**Administrative  
Outcome**

# Types of Administrative Outcomes

Discharge from Service

Change in Duty Status

Change of Duty Station

REPORT OF MENTAL STATUS EVALUATION	
For use of this form see, AR 40-65, the proponent agency is DTSG.	
<b>SECTION I - REASON FOR EVALUATION</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Self-Referral	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Training Application
<input type="checkbox"/> Command-Directed Behavioral Health Evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/> Clearance for Admin Sep under AR 635-200, Chapter _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital Discharge	<input type="checkbox"/> NMRI/DMED
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
<b>SECTION II - FITNESS FOR DUTY</b>	
FROM A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STANDPOINT, THE ABOVE SERVICE MEMBER IS DEEMED:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fit for full duty, including deployment.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Possibly non-deployable due to prescribed medications. Command surgeon/wake <input type="checkbox"/> is <input type="checkbox"/> is not recommended.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Requires temporary duty limitations and will likely require behavioral health treatment to be restored to full duty.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Unfit for duty due to a personality disorder or other mental condition that does not amount to a medical disability.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Unfit for duty due to a serious mental condition that is not likely to resolve within 1 year.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Further assessment is needed to determine fitness for duty.	
<b>SECTION III - PERTINENT FINDINGS ON MENTAL STATUS EXAMINATION</b>	
COGNITION: <input type="checkbox"/> No obvious impairments <input type="checkbox"/> Mildly impaired <input type="checkbox"/> Moderately impaired <input type="checkbox"/> Severely impaired	
BEHAVIOR: <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperative <input type="checkbox"/> Uncooperative <input type="checkbox"/> Manipulative <input type="checkbox"/> Hostile <input type="checkbox"/> Suspicious <input type="checkbox"/> Bizarre	
PERCEPTIONS: <input type="checkbox"/> Normal <input type="checkbox"/> Hallucinations <input type="checkbox"/> Delusions <input type="checkbox"/> Obsessions	
IMPULSIVITY: <input type="checkbox"/> Unlikely to be impulsive <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally impulsive <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently impulsive	
DANGEROUSNESS: <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Suicidal Thoughts <input type="checkbox"/> Homicidal Thoughts <input type="checkbox"/> Suicidal Intent <input type="checkbox"/> Homicidal Intent	
OTHER: _____	
<b>SECTION IV - IMPRESSIONS</b>	
IN MY OPINION, THIS SERVICE MEMBER:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Can understand and participate in administrative proceedings.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Can appreciate the difference between right and wrong.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Meets medical retention requirements (i.e., does not qualify for a Medical Evaluation Board).	
<input type="checkbox"/> Requires further examination or testing to finalize diagnosis and recommendations.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
<b>SECTION V - DIAGNOSES (ONLY THOSE REQUIRED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSING)</b>	
AXIS I (psychiatric conditions): _____	
AXIS II (personality & intelligence disorders): _____	
AXIS III (medical conditions): _____	
<b>PATIENT INFORMATION</b>	
Patient Name: _____	Rank/Grade: _____ Status: _____
Phob: _____ DOB (YYYYMMDD): _____	Sponsor SSN: _____ MTF Code: _____ Date: _____
PATIENT'S IDENTIFICATION (For typed or written entries, give: Name - last, first, middle grade, date hospital or medical facility)	
_____	

# Discussing Administrative Outcomes

Reasons for Seeking Treatment

Openness to Therapy

Alternatives to Therapy if Appropriate



CDP

# Discussion Tool

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

### Treatment Expectations and Beliefs Scale

**INSTRUCTIONS:** This brief form will help us better understand your impressions about the symptoms you are having and your expectations about getting treatment. For each item, please place an "X" in the appropriate box.

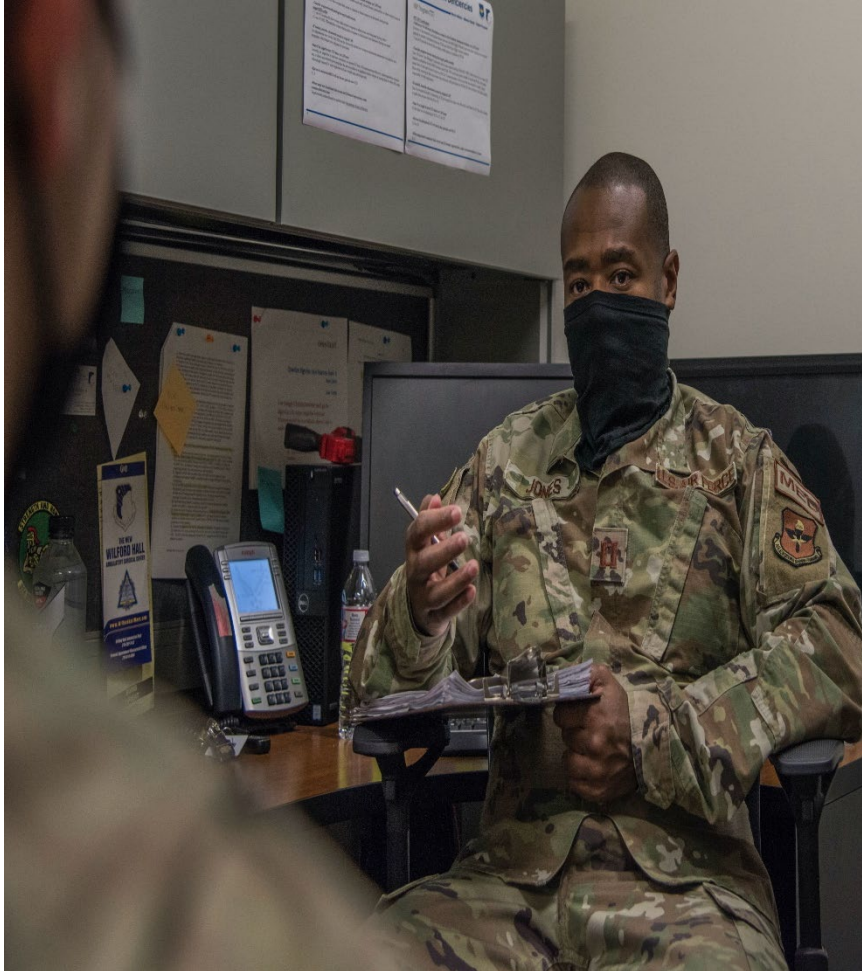
#### Section 1:

Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Unsure	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. I am tired of having these symptoms and/or problems.					
2. My symptoms are making my life much harder than it should be.					
3. My symptoms have been causing problems in my personal life.					
4. My symptoms have been causing problems at work.					
5. I am open to trying "talk therapy."					
6. I am willing to try therapies that require homework.					
7. I am willing to consider a group therapy.					
8. I am open to trying medication.					
9. I think treatment will help me.					
10. My problems are too big to be solved.					
11. Getting treatment is the best thing for me now.					
12. I feel pressured by others to come in for treatment.					
13. I am too busy to attend treatment on a consistent basis at this time.					
14. I am worried that getting treatment may affect my career.					
15. I need an administrative change (e.g., separation from service, medical discharge, change in workplace, MOS change, etc.).					

Non-Active duty patients may stop here.

Active Duty and activated National Guard and Reserve Service members should complete Section 2 on the next page.

# Patient Management



(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Melody Bordeaux, Nov 24, 2020)

Clarify Goals

Encourage  
Clinical improvement

Pursue  
Administrative Action

CDP

# Patient Management

Track Administrative Outcomes

Enroll in Process Group

Psychoeducational Groups



CDP

# Toolkit Resources

➤ *Training Decks*



➤ *Factsheets & Handouts*

➤ *Forms & Templates*

➤ *Spreadsheets & Supporting Documents*

➤ *Standard Operating Procedures*

**Managing Through**



**Treatment Planning**



# Toolkit Resources

- Training Decks
- Factsheets & Handouts
- Forms & Templates
- Spreadsheets & Supporting Documents
- Standard Operating Procedures

**USU** Center for Deployment Psychology | **CDP** Center for Deployment Psychology

### Starting an Evidence-Based Psychotherapy Session

Evidence-Based Psychotherapies (EBPs) are specific to the problem being treated and are based on scientific evidence. This type of therapy is different from traditional talk therapy. EBPs tend to be very structured, with the therapist following a manual or protocol. This is what an EBP session typically looks like:

- Orientation/Check-in (first 2-5 minutes of the session)**  
Mood Check: Every week, your provider will start by asking you how you are doing.
- Review Outcome Measures (next 2-5 minutes of the session)**  
Review Outcome Measures: Outcome measures are used to track your progress. You and your provider will discuss your scores and what you can do to make sure treatment is working.
- Agenda Setting (next 2-5 minutes of the session)**  
You and your provider will work together to set an agenda for the session. Your agenda items are prioritized to determine what is discussed during the session.
- Homework Review (next 5-10 minutes of the session)**  
Your provider will review any homework assigned from the previous session. You will discuss how you did on the homework, focusing on how the assignment turned out and what you were not able to complete. If you were not able to complete the homework, then your provider will work with you to problem-solve any difficulties.
- Discussion of Agenda Items (next 20-30 minutes of the session)**  
This is the "meat" of the session. Depending on your problem, your provider will discuss different things, such as learning new skills, talking through how to handle upcoming situations, or discussing patterns. Your provider will not be distracted by an in-depth discussion of what happened during the session. You and your provider will have to work together to stay on track.
- New Homework (last 5-10 minutes of the session)**  
You and your provider will decide what sort of homework assignments will be done between sessions. Make sure you ask questions about the homework and agree with what it will involve. If you feel you aren't ready for something or don't understand it, then let your provider know.

Center for Deployment Psychology | Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences  
4301 Jones Bridge Road, Bldg. 11300-602, Bethesda, MD 20814-4799  
www.deploymentspsych.org

### Clinic Outreach Handout Services and Policies at **{{INSERT CLINIC NAME}}**

Thank you for taking some time to learn more about our clinic! This handout helps ensure that the agencies and people who refer patients to our clinic have up-to-date information on the services we offer and know some of the important policies under which we operate.

**Services we primarily offer:** *{{Customize based on your clinic's capability}}*

- Psychiatric medication management
- Large range of group psychotherapy options across different days and times
- Short term psychotherapy: 6-18 sessions, with most patients seeing symptom relief after 8 sessions
- **A small number of long-term psychotherapy slots *{{if clinic has a carve out for this}}***

**Services we are not able to offer:** *{{Customize based on your clinic's capability}}*

- Long-term psychotherapy: After 20 sessions, a patient's care undergoes a thorough review and a determination of whether further care is warranted.
- Neuropsychological testing: This service must be referred out into the network.
- Biofeedback: This service must be referred out into the network.

**Information about our clinic policies:** *{{Customize based on your clinic's capability}}*

- Group therapy is a primary modality of care within our clinic. Nearly all patients with a depressive or anxiety disorder are expected to attend one or more types of group classes when they start with the clinic. We offer many evidence-based psychotherapy groups, as well as interpersonal/support groups.
- We have an on-call provider assigned each day. If a crisis occurs and a patient requires an unscheduled walk-in, then the on-call provider will see them that day, as the primary provider will likely be booked with other patients.

**Please see our "Clinic Services Handout" for information on the specific groups we offer.** Also, we encourage you to provide a copy to the patient when making a referral.



# Toolkit Resources

- *Training Decks*
- *Factsheets & Handouts*
- *Forms & Templates*
- *Spreadsheets & Supporting Documents*
- *Standard Operating Procedures*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

**Treatment Expectations and Beliefs Scale**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** This brief form will help us better understand your impressions about the symptoms you are having and your expectations about getting treatment. For each item, please place an "X" in the appropriate box.

**Section 1:**

Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Unsure	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. I am tired of having these symptoms and/or problems.					
2. My symptoms are making my life much harder than it should be.					
3. My symptoms have been causing problems in my personal life.					
4. My symptoms have been causing problems at work.					
5. I am open to trying "talk therapy."					
6. I am willing to try therapies that require homework.					
7. I am willing to consider a group therapy.					
8. I am open to trying medication.					
9. I think treatment will help me.					
10. My problems are too big to be solved.					
11. Getting treatment is the best thing for me now.					
12. I feel pressured by others to come in for treatment.					
13. I am too busy to attend treatment on a consistent basis at this time.					
14. I am worried that getting treatment may affect my career.					
15. I need an administrative change (e.g., separation from service, medical discharge, change in workplace, MOS change, etc.).					

**Non-Active duty patients may stop here.**

**Active Duty and activated National Guard and Reserve Service members should complete Section 2 on the next page.**

# Toolkit Resources

- *Training Decks*
- *Factsheets & Handouts*
- *Forms & Templates*
- *Spreadsheets & Supporting Documents*
- *Standard Operating Procedures*

**NOTE TO USER-** This template is intended to give your clinic a head start on developing its own SOP/OI for this topic. The template can quickly be adapted to fit your clinic's needs, dropping content you do not need and adding anything you feel is relevant. Note that there are several highlighted areas, which should be addressed as you customize this template for your clinic.

**Subject:** Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)/Operating Instructions (OI) for the disposition of patients desiring ongoing individual psychotherapy when it is no longer clinically indicated at the [Behavioral Health Clinic] at [Medical Center].

**Purpose:** To establish a structured, efficient, and ethical process for disposition of patients who desire ongoing individual psychotherapy when it is not clinically indicated, and outline clinic management and provider responsibilities relevant to this process.

**References:** [add any clinic SOPs/OIs that are referenced in this document]

#### 1. Objectives.

- 1.1. This policy aims to inform providers and administrators regarding the processes for monitoring and managing the subclinical population within the clinic.

#### 2. Responsibilities.

- 2.1. [Clinic management] has the overall responsibility for continual reinforcement to providers and patients that the role of military behavioral health clinics is to treat all beneficiaries within the MTF's catchment area. Clinic management is responsible for ensuring that clear clinic guidelines regarding when individual psychotherapy will be terminated are disseminated to all clinic providers.
- 2.2. [Providers] have the responsibility to ensure that patients understand that a course of individual psychotherapy is time-limited, and that the clinic is not able to provide long-term individual therapy. Providers will establish an expected time-frame for the course of therapy with the patient based on the presenting clinical disorder at the onset of treatment. Providers will share with the patient how clinical progress will be measured and will provide ongoing feedback to the patient regarding clinical progress. Providers are responsible for following the procedures as outlined in this document.

#### 3. General.

- 3.1. As part of the effort to optimize services, the clinic will implement procedures to guide decisions regarding termination of individual psychotherapy for patients whose clinical condition no longer warrants ongoing individual therapy.
- 3.2. This SOP/OI applies to all staff working in the behavioral health clinic.

CDP



# Summary

- Analyze rationale and components of effective treatment plans
- Distinguish strategies for treatment planning with special populations

# Clinic Optimization Toolkit

## Modules



## Types of Resources



CDP



# Center for Deployment Psychology

Department of Medical & Clinical Psychology  
Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences  
4301 Jones Bridge Road, Bethesda, MD 20813-4768

## Contact Us

Email: [cdp-ggg@usuhs.edu](mailto:cdp-ggg@usuhs.edu)

Website: [DeploymentPsych.org](http://DeploymentPsych.org)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DeploymentPsych>

Twitter: @DeploymentPsych