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## North Sound Behavioral Health Organization

Section 1500 – Clinical: Nursing Assessment for  
Individuals at Evaluation and Treatment Facilities

Authorizing Source: WAC 388-865-0541; RCW 71.05  
North Sound Behavioral Health Organization

Cancels:

See Also:

Providers must comply with this policy and may develop  
individualized implementation guidelines as needed

Responsible Staff: Deputy Director

Approved by: Executive Director

Date: 2/1/2016

Signature:

### **POLICY #1543.00**

### **SUBJECT: NURSING ASSESSMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS AT EVALUATION AND TREATMENT FACILITIES**

#### **PURPOSE**

To provide parameters for the application of nursing assessments and treatment plans for individuals at Evaluation and Treatment facilities (E&Ts) in order to facilitate maximum individual health and welfare.

#### **POLICY**

The assessment conducted by nursing staff at E&Ts is a core component of assessment and treatment planning which promotes the safety, well-being and appropriate treatment of individuals admitted to the E&Ts in this region. In order for the assessment to provide the most useful information, it is completed shortly after admission and at critical points after admission.

#### **PROCEDURE**

- 1) Within four (4) hours of admission a individual will have a completed and documented physical and psychosocial nursing assessment by a Registered Nurse (RN). This does not replace the requirement for the psychosocial assessment by a Mental Health Professional (MHP) and examination and medical evaluation within 24 hours by a licensed physician, advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) or physician assistant-certified.
- 2) The RN will utilize information gathered from the nursing assessment to assist the treatment team in identifying and creating an individualized plan of care for each individual to include criteria for discharge.
- 3) A individual will have a nursing assessment every 8 hours during the first 72 hours after admission to the E&T and every 24 hours thereafter. The assessment will include documentation of physical condition, psychiatric symptoms and evaluation of the individual's response to treatment.
- 4) If a individual requires hospital treatment or emergency room assessment during an E&T stay, the individual will receive a nursing assessment every 8 hours for the first 24 hours after returning to the E&T.
- 5) RNs may, at their discretion for the health and welfare of the individual, place the individual on a more frequent schedule of assessment and monitoring.
- 6) The RN will consult with the treating prescriber regarding any changes in individual's health or behavioral status which may affect the safety of the individual, other individuals or staff.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

None