Triage Scale of Behavioural Emergencies

Consider: The higher the potential for something to go wrong quickly, the higher the triage rating should be.

- Risk of Aggression
- Risk of Suicide / Self harm
- Risk of Absconding
- Risk of Physical Problem

Client Surname
Given Name
Date of Birth
Gender
MFRN
PHIN
Address

Client Health Record #

NOTE: The observation level should be determined by the assessed risk. Violence does not occur in isolation rather it is an interactional process. **Remember: S.A.C.C.I.T S** = **Safety, A** = **Assessment, C** = **Confirmation of Provisional Diagnosis, C** = **Consultation, I** = **Immediate Treatment (Biological, Psychosocial & Social), T** = **Transfer of Care**

Behavioural Emergencies Adult Triage Scale (Select those that apply)					
Triage & Acuity	Description	Typical Presentation	General Management Principles		
	□ No	Observed	Supervision: Routine Observation ¹		
1 □ Non-urgent (within 120 minutes)	Danger to self or others No Acute Distress responsive behavior(s) Known individual with chronic symptoms Social crisis, clinically well individual	□ Cooperative □ Communicative and able to engage in developing management plan □ Able to discuss concerns □ Compliant with instructions Reported □ Known individual with chronic psychotic symptoms □ Pre-existing non-acute mental health disorder □ Known individual with chronic unexplained somatic symptoms □ Request for medication □ Minor adverse effect of medication □ Financial, social, accommodation, or relationship problems	Actions to Consider 1) Consult with Mental Health Worker / Mobile Crisis Services @ [9]-204-940- 1781 2) Refer back to Mental Health team or Mobile Crisis Team if a known individual 3) Refer to Guide for Primary Care Providers to access Crisis Response Services See http://www.wrha.mb.ca/professionals/famil yphysicians/files/CRC_FP_Guide_2014_F INAL.pdf 4) Canadian Mental Health Association, Mental Health Resource Guide latest edition See http://mbwpg.cmha.ca/mental- health/finding-help/ 5) Over the phone Language Access Interpreter Services (LAIS) can be offered. One can request immediate telephone services of a WRHA qualified interpreter for any language 24/7 by calling the central intake line at [9]-204- 788-8585.		
2 ☐ Semi Urgent (within 60 minutes)	□ Moderate distress □ Semi urgent mental health problem □ Under observation and / or no immediate risk to self or others	Observed No agitation / restlessness Irritable without aggression Cooperative Gives coherent history Reported Pre-existing mental health disorder Symptoms of anxiety or depression without suicide ideation Willing to wait	Supervision: Intermittent observation¹ Actions to Consider 1) Refer to Guide for Primary Care Providers to access Crisis Response services http://www.wrha.mb.ca/professionals/familyphysicians/files/CRC FP Guide 2014 FINAL.pdf 2) Re-triage if evidence of increasing behavioural disturbance for example: 3) Restlessness 4) Intrusiveness 5) Agitation 6) Aggressiveness 7) Increasing distress 8) Intoxication by drugs& alcohol may cause an escalation in behavior requiring management		

Triage & Acuity	Description	Typical Presentation	General Management Principles
	□ Possible	Observed	Supervision: Close Observation ¹
	danger to	☐ Agitation (minor disagreement,	
3	self or	nuisance or complaint)	Actions to Consider
☐ Urgent	others		STAGE 1 (MINOR) – AGITATION
3		☐ Verbal Aggression (anger,	1) Recruit a back-up person for a paired
(within 30 minutes)	☐ Moderate	shouting cursing demanding,	approach
			2) Do not leave individual in waiting room
	behavioural	insulting, gesturing, intrusive	without a support person and suggest
	disturbance	behavior, ambivalence about	
		treatment)	moving to private/ quiet area 3) Calmly discuss and seek resolution
	☐ Severe		
	distress	☐ Not likely to wait for treatment	4) If necessary for a non-threatening
			intoxicated person, call non-
	☐ Very	Reported	emergency police [9]-204-986-6222 Or:
	distressed,	☐ Suicide ideation	5) Notify Mobile Crisis Services @ [9]-
	risk of self-	☐ Situational Crisis	204-940-1781
	harm	☐ Presence of Psychotic symptoms	
		☐ Hallucinations	STAGE 2 (MODERATE) – VERBAL
	☐ Acutely		AGGRESSION
	psychotic or	☐ Delusions	1) Press silent or audible alarm Or:
	thought –	☐ Paranoid Ideas	Recruit one back-up person for a
	disordered	☐ Thought Disordered	paired approach <u>Or</u> : Contact Mobile
	disordered	☐ Bizarre / agitated behavior	Crisis Services @ [9] 204-940-1781
	City of ional	☐ Presence of Mood disturbance	2) Notify Community Disturbance
	☐ Situational		Response Team to ensure safe
	crisis,	☐ Severe symptoms of depression	environment for individual and others
	deliberate	☐ Withdrawn / uncommunicative	as may require [9]-911 if not able to de-
	self-harm	☐ Anxiety elevated and/or	escalate situation
		☐ Irritable mood	3) Do not leave individual in waiting room
	□ Agitated /		without a support person and suggest
	withdrawn		moving to private/ quiet area
			4) Calmly discuss and seek resolution
			•
			5) Review if access to Mental Health
			Services needed
			http://www.wrha.mb.ca/professionals/famil
			yphysicians/files/CRC FP Guide 2014 F
			<u>INAL.pdf</u>
			6) Review / discuss with individual the
			recommendation for voluntary or
			involuntary assessment. If involuntary
			assessment complete Form 4 under
			Manitoba's - Mental Health Act for
			involuntary admission (Application by
			Physician for Involuntary Psychiatric
			Assessment (Form #4 (triplicate)) which
			authorizes that an individual be taken to a
			psychiatric facility for an assessment by a
			psychiatrist.
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Triage & Acuity	Description	Typical Presentation Observed	General Management Principles Supervision: Continuous visual
	☐ Probable		· ·
1	risk of	☐ Extreme agitation / restlessness	observation, or 1:1 special observation ¹
4	danger to	☐ Physical Aggression (physical	Actions to Consider
□ Emergency	self or	aggression, screaming, out of	
(within 10 minutes)	others	control, throwing items around)	STAGE 3 (MAJOR) - PHYSICAL
	AND/OR	☐ Confused / unable to cooperate	AGGRESSION (Code White):
	individual is	☐ Hallucinations / Delusions	1) Press silent or audible police alarm

	restrained or requires containment AND / OR Severe Behavioural Disturbance Violent or aggressive: Immediate threat to self or others Requires or has required restraint Severe agitation or aggression	□ Paranoia □ Requires restraint / containment Reported □ Attempt at self-harm □ Threat to self-harm □ Threat of harm to others □ Unable to wait safely	and / or retreat to safety and call [9]- 911 2) Notify Community Disturbance Response Team to recruit back up person(s) as may require several staff to contain individual 2.1 Provide safe environment for individual and others 2.2 Use defusing techniques (oral medication, time in quiet area) 2.3 Ensure adequate personnel to provide restraint / detention until EMS & Police arrive 2.4 If defusing techniques ineffective, retriage to category 5 Intoxication by drugs and alcohol may cause escalation in behavior that requires management
5	□ Definite Danger to self and / or others -Severe behavioural disorder with immediate threat of dangerous violence	Observed ☐ Violent Behaviour Possession of weapon -Self harm ☐ Displays extreme agitation or restlessness ☐ Bizarre / Disoriented behavior Reported ☐ Verbal commands to do harm to self or others that the person is unable to resist (command hallucinations) ☐ Recent violent behaviour	Supervision: Continuous visual observation, or 1:1 special observation STAGE 4 WEAPON OR POTENTIAL WEAPON (Code White - Stage 4) Actions to Consider 1) Press silent Police alarm and/or retreat to safety and call [9]-911. Avoid using an audible alarm when a weapon is involved 2) Notify Community Disturbance Response Team as may require barricade or lockdown by several staff to contain individual and keep staff/visitors away from incident area or evacuate staff to a safer room or area until Police arrive NOTE: Intoxication by drugs and alcohol may cause escalation in behavior that may require this level of security management

Supervision / Observation Levels for use with the triage scale of Behavioural Emergencies Note: The definitions here are included to explain the levels of observation used in the scale.

- 1. 1:1 'Special' Observation : Individual is within close physical proximity of one dedicated staff /security guard member at all times, under constant visual observation.
- 2. Continuous Visual Observation Individual is under direct visual observation at all times.
- 3. Close Observation- Regular visual observation of individual at a maximum of 10 minute intervals
- 4. Intermittent Observation Regular visual observation of individual at a maximum of 30 minute intervals
- 5. Routine Observation Regular visual sighting of individual at a maximum of one hour intervals
- 6. See Appendix E Frequently Asked Questions to consider with a Form 4: Application by Physician for Involuntary Psychiatric Assessment and Form 21: Certificate of Capacity
- 7. Notify Manager/ designate as per Community Disturbance Response plan

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Assessment, Intervention and Follow-up:			
☐ Copy of Medication Record			
☐ Copy of Crisis Prevention, Management a	and Wellness Plan provide	d at time of transfer to EMS	
Transfer to EMS			
Emergency	Time	Provider	
Department Phone Contact			
	Time	Provider	