



Enactments in Acute Psychiatric Inpatient & Residential Milieus

What behavior is occurring from the “challenging” patient?

How is this behavior affecting *staff* and *other patients*?

· *Staff:*

· *Patients:*

What function might this behavior be serving for the patient?

Eliciting extra time with staff, reassurance, punishment, prolonging discharge etc

How are staff responding? Do the responses continue the pattern or create a transactional heightening?

Are there interpersonal dynamics occurring within the team as a result of the patient behavior?

Changes in behavior to what is typical, over-advocacy for bending boundaries, angry ranting, pointing fingers at one another

What roles are the major players in this dynamic?

Attending, nursing, clinician, technician, psychologist, etc

Is there a strong risk for physical violence? How is this being formulated?

Personality traits, psychotic or manic process, combination?

Is the team continuing to make medication changes, or is the patient at a place in which continued medication alterations are no longer indicated?

Have any of the following individualized behavior plans been implemented?

Is one indicated?

- Prompt Praise Ignore (type of DRA plan)
- STEP Plan
- Token Economy
- Other DRO in which periods without the problematic behavior are being reinforced

Success or Failure of these plans? Are there issues with consistency in implementing them across staff or shifts

(eg third shift may have a harder time sticking with a behavior plan if an extinction burst is expected overnight, due to lack of staff to assist if the unit awakens or multiple hot spot needs occur)?

Are there any opportunities for psychoeducation with staff on importance of following the plan, extinction burst, accommodating for different shifts with different support needs, etc?

Any alterations/add-ons to the plan that you can implement based on working through this sheet?

Still stuck?

Consultation focuses on in-depth case formulation, short-term and long-term treatment planning, and milieu management. Reach out to Dr. Cimino at Cimino@ClinicalClarityConsult.com!