

DISCHARGE CRITERIA FOR OUTPATIENTS

POLICY:

It is the policy of The Lighthouse that discharge planning is addressed by the treating therapist(s). Every discharge plan is different and reflects a person's unique personal and social situation. The team provides comprehensive evaluation and treatment with the goal of maximizing client's function and independence.

DISCHARGE CRITERIA:

1. Successful discharge:
 - A. The client has received maximum benefit from the therapy.
 - B. The client has been evaluated by the treatment team and it has been determined that the individual no longer requires treatment services due to the achievement of goals or by consensus of the team that goals will not be achieved in this program.
2. Discharge with subsequent transfer:
 - A. The individual has been evaluated by the treatment team and determined to require more intensive care in a different setting such as a psychiatric hospital, home-based rehabilitation services, day program, or another facility. Alternatively, the individual, responsible party, or other stakeholders have determined transferring to a different treatment facility is needed due to client choice or financial limitations.
3. Discharge Against Medical Advice (AMA):
 - A. A client or their responsible party wishes to discharge the client from services against the advice of the treatment team and without adequate discharge planning. The client and/or the legal guardian acknowledge that they are leaving the program AMA and are aware of the potential adverse consequences.
4. Unsuccessful Discharge:
 - A. The client experienced a major medical or psychological problem that excludes their benefits from a continued outpatient program.
 - B. The client has not successfully attained treatment goals and/or the client or guardians were noncompliant with agency policies or treatment team recommendations.
 - C. The client demonstrates an inability to tolerate the program or modifications, and a different setting is needed.
 - D. The client and/or their support system are no longer confident in the program.
 - E. The overall goal of the client's program has changed so that outpatient therapy is no longer the best use of the person's resources.
5. The Outpatient Administrator will annually review the discharge criteria for continued appropriateness.
6. The Outpatient Administrator will revise the discharge criteria in accordance with the mission and philosophy of the Lighthouse, Inc. program.
7. The discharge criteria will be documented for public disclosure.

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