How to refer for psychological services

- 1. Residents are referred for many reasons including depression, anxiety, behavioral disturbances, mental status changes, poor participation in rehab therapies, emerging cognitive changes, adjustment issues and stress after suffering life-changing medical events or move from home. The physician, the nurse, the social worker, therapists, or the patient's family can suggest a referral. Behaviors are a problem when they significantly affect the resident's well-being or functional status, when they are distressful to the individual, staff, and/or other residents, when they prevent understanding and/or participating in care, and when they persist in spite of efforts to change them. These criteria are sufficient to demonstrate medical necessity.
- NURSING staff contacts the resident's primary care PHYSICIAN, requests psychological services, and obtains orders for "Psychological evaluation and treatment for ______ (e.g., depression, anxiety, agitation, behavioral disturbances, etc. per Legacy Psychological Services". Orders are charted on a physician order form and signed by physician at next visit to the facility.
- 3. NURSING staff informs the SOCIAL WORKER who completes the *Referral for Psychological Services* form. Social Worker informs the resident and/or responsible party about the referral and has the resident or responsible party sign the *Consent for Psychological Services* form. Social worker faxes the completed referral forms and copies of insurance cards to Legacy Psychological Services at 513-522-4577. *If residents are members of an HMO (e.g., United Healthcare Medicare Compete, Anthem Senior Advantage etc.), then the Social Worker will need to receive authorization for services by calling the mental health number on the resident's card.*
- 4. LEGACY PSYCHOLOIGCAL SERVICES will see resident at the next visit to the facility.

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