



Department of Behavioral Health INFORMATION NOTICE 17-05

Effective Date: November 1, 2017
Revised Date: February 1, 2018
Approval Date: July 18, 2017

To: San Bernardino County Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act Designated Hospitals and Non-LPS Designated Facilities

From: Veronica Kelley, LCSW, Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Veronica Kelley".

Subject: Regulations Regarding Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Sections 5150/5585

Introduction The purpose of this Information Notice is to provide guidance regarding interpretation and implementation WIC Sections 5150/5585.

Background San Bernardino County residents experiencing psychiatric emergencies have been taken to a Non-LPS designated facility Emergency Departments (ED) when an application for assessment under WIC 5150/5585 is written and the individual requires:

- Medical attention; or
- An application for assessment under WIC 5150/5585 was written in the community; or
- An individual goes to a Non-LPS designated facility ED voluntarily for care.

In the past, DBH Community Crisis Response Team (CCRT) has been contacted and requested by the Non-LPS designated facility EDs to initially assess or reassess patients in the ED who are exhibiting psychiatric symptoms, to which CCRT completed an application for assessment and/or reassessment.

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Policy and Procedure Update

DBH CCRT will no longer complete an application for 5150/5585 assessments for individuals at Non-LPS designated facility ED.

DBH will provide 5150/5585 certification to qualified individuals at Non-LPS designated EDs. Trainings will be available during each calendar year. The list of training dates will be provided to all EDs through the Hospital Association of Southern California and at DBH bi-monthly collaborative committee meetings.

Non-LPS designated facilities will be allowed to send qualified people to acquire 5150 certification training to write holds. DBH Medical Director may authorize an exception to the limit on a case by case basis.

DBH will offer technical support to EDs through training that will be conducted monthly in alternating regions in the County. This training will also include providing updated community resources to assist EDs with discharge planning.

Adherence With Regulations

Non-LPS designated facilities should adhere to applicable state statutes/regulations as well as Emergency Medical Treatment And Labor Act (EMTALA) when San Bernardino County residents experiencing a psychiatric emergency are taken to Non-LPS designated facility EDs.

References

CA Welfare and Institutions Code, Sections 5150 and 5585

Questions

For questions regarding this Information Notice, please contact DBH mailbox at DBH-5150Questions@dbh.sbcounty.gov.
