

# Safer Transitions

Some resources related to safer transitions from emergency departments and inpatient care for individuals experiencing mental health crisis

# Oregon Legislation on Safer Mental Health Crisis Care:

## Legislative Sessions 2015 and 2017

- What hospitals are required to do when they discharge patients from inpatient psychiatric care: [HB2023 \(2015\)](#)
- How families are to be included in their loved one's care: [HB2948 \(2015\)](#)
- What emergency departments are required to do for patients being seen for a mental health crisis and their families: [HB3090 \(2017\)](#)
- Services related to mental health crisis care that insurance companies are required to cover: [HB3091 \(2017\)](#)

# OAHHS (Oregon Association of Hospital and Health Systems) Guidance Document, May 2016:

## [Discharge Planning for Patients Hospitalized for Mental Health Treatment Interpretative Guidelines for Oregon Hospitals](#)

- **interpretative guidance for Oregon hospitals** implementing House Bill 2023 (2015) related to discharge planning for inpatients hospitalized for mental health treatment.
- **checklist for providers** to ensure they are communicating with the patient and family to support the best outcomes following discharge from the acute care setting.
- **incorporates related requirements applicable to lay caregivers** from House Bill 3378 (2015) as well as **clarifications regarding the disclosure of protected health information** from House Bill 2948 (2015).
- Corresponding regulatory language from federal law and existing state statutes provide additional resources for providers to understand the legal requirements of implementing this new state law and aid in conducting effective hospital policies.

<https://diyadvocacycenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/OAHHS-Mental-Health-Guidelines.pdf>

# Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Fact Sheet:

## [Discharge Planning for Patients Presenting with Behavioral Health Crisis or Hospitalized for Mental Health Treatment](#)

### **Inpatient Discharge Policy Requirements**

- Encourage patient to sign authorization form and identify lay caregiver to participate in discharge planning;
- Provide information on benefits of involving lay caregiver and disclosing health information and limits to disclosure;
- Patient risk assessment;
- Patient long-term needs assessment;

# Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Fact Sheet:

## [Discharge Planning for Patients Presenting with Behavioral Health Crisis or Hospitalized for Mental Health Treatment](#)

### **Inpatient Discharge Policy Requirements**

- ❑ Care coordination including transitioning to outpatient treatment that includes one or more of the following: community-based providers, peer support, lay caregivers or others who can implement the patient's plan of care;
- ❑ Schedule follow-up appointment that occurs within 7 days of discharge. If a follow-up appointment cannot be scheduled within 7 days, document why;
- ❑ Policy must be publicly available by posting on the hospitals website and providing a copy to the patient upon admission and discharge. The policy may be in the form of a brochure or written summary of the policy that is easily understood.

# Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Fact Sheet:

[Discharge Planning for Patients Presenting with Behavioral Health Crisis or Hospitalized for Mental Health Treatment](#)

## Release from Emergency Department Policy Requirements

- Same requirements as above;
- Behavioral health assessment conducted by a behavioral health clinician;
- Patient risk assessment and if indicated development of a safety plan and lethal means counseling;
- Process for case management;
- Process to arrange for caring contacts to transition a patient to outpatient services.
- Caring contacts must be attempted within 48 hours of release.

<https://diyadvocacycenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Hospital-Discharge-Planning-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

July 2022

>> Emergency Department  
Discharge Practices  
for Behavioral Health  
Crisis Care: A Statewide  
Survey of Hospitals

Legislative Report

The logo for the Oregon Health Authority, featuring the word "Oregon" in a small orange font above the word "Health" in a large blue serif font, with the word "Authority" in a small orange font below "Health".

Oregon  
Health  
Authority

<https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le4272.pdf>

**Some additional (hopefully) helpful resources:**



# Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Guidebook for Families:



**Advocating for your loved one during a crisis**  
A guide for parents and caregivers while at the hospital emergency department

Family members who have experienced crisis situations with their own children of all ages developed this guide. These experiences revealed the importance of developing self-advocacy skills in today's health system.

Family leaders share their insights here to empower parents and caregivers to:

- Express their views and concerns,
- Access information and services,
- Understand their patient rights and the rights of family and natural supporters,
- Learn the language used in the emergency department, and
- Explore choices for next steps.

Licensed health professionals did not write this guide. Do not use it as a substitute for professional medical care or advice.

Coming to an emergency room because a child is in crisis or in danger isn't something any parent wants to do. Many families have told us that understanding common processes and questions at the hospital would have helped them understand what is happening and make difficult decisions more easily. We have taken that feedback and developed this guide to help you advocate for your loved one and achieve the outcomes that are best for your family.

**Oregon Health Authority**

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hsd/bh-child-family/pages/families.aspx>

# OHSU DAETA Data Evaluation and Technical Assistance Team

Our team fosters data-driven decision-making to:

- Improve patient experience and quality of care
- Provide training and workforce development to clinical and peer providers
- Strengthen coordination and communication across the system of care
- Advocate for equity in referral practices, payment structures, and access to care

[www.ohsu.edu/daeta](http://www.ohsu.edu/daeta)

# OHSU DAETA Data Evaluation and Technical Assistance Team

## Projects include:

- Intensive In-Home Behavioral Health Treatment (IIBHT)
- Wraparound
- Mobile Crisis Intervention Services (MCIS)
- Stabilization Services (SS)
- Tracking referrals to psychiatric residential treatment facilities (PRTF)
- Data Mapping Project

[www.ohsu.edu/daeta](http://www.ohsu.edu/daeta)

# Oregon Family Workforce Association

[www.orfwa.org](http://www.orfwa.org)

Unifies and advances the interests of the family peer support community.

SPC Grantee!

- building support to the workforce specific to crisis services and suicide prevention/intervention/postvention support

Thank you!

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[www.ohsu.edu/daeta](http://www.ohsu.edu/daeta)