

PSYCHIATRIST I/II

DEFINITION & DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Definition:

Under direction, provides direct psychiatric care and treatment for difficult and complex mental health patients.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

Psychiatrist I is the entry level of this highly specialized, professional class series providing direct psychiatric and medical care to in- and out-patients in various County facilities and locations. Incumbents must be eligible to be certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology at the time of appointment to this class. Incumbents are expected to obtain Certification within one year in order to be considered for promotion to the next higher level of Psychiatrist II.

Psychiatrist II is the journey level of the Psychiatrist series. Incumbents have all of the duties and responsibilities of the Psychiatrist I and must be certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and neurology at the time of appointment.

EXAMPLES OF ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS (Illustrative Only)

- Evaluates patients to determine therapeutic and medical needs; may administer and interpret various psychological assessment instruments.
- Develops treatment plans; participates in case conferences and consults with clinical staff regarding support services and treatment options.
- Develops, follows and instructs others in appropriate medical protocols.
- Performs crisis intervention as required; assists clinical staff in mitigating crisis situations; prescribes and administers medication to patients in crisis situations.
- Evaluates patients for voluntary and involuntary commitment; signs commitment for clients requiring hospitalization.
- Provides direction and training for assigned interns; participates in staff/intern training and quality assurance.
- Performs detailed patient record documentation; prepares intake and discharge summaries, program notes and treatment reviews.
- Provides expert witness court testimony and consultation to various child and adult service programs and agencies.
- Attendance and punctuality that is observant of scheduled hours on a regular basis.
- Performs related work as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience:

Where college degrees and/or college course credits are required, degrees and college units must be obtained from an accredited college or university. Courses from non-accredited institutions will not be evaluated for this requirement.

Education and Experience:

Completion of the required education and experience to obtain the certifications outlined below.

Other Requirements:

Psychiatrist I

Possession of a valid Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate issued by the Board of Medical Examiners of the State of California, and be eligible for certification by the American Board of Psychiatry as a Psychiatrist. Must possess a valid driver's license.

Psychiatrist II

Possession of a valid Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate issued by the Board of Medical Examiners of the State of California, and certification by the American Board of Psychiatry as a Psychiatrist. Must possess a valid driver's license.

Knowledge of:

- Principles and practices of psychiatric treatment, including interviewing, assessment, and family and group counseling.
- Medical protocols and treatment used in the care of the mentally ill.
- Principles of adult and child psychology.
- Laws and regulations related to patient's rights, voluntary or involuntary treatment and commitment for treatment including criteria for commitment.
- Community resources and agencies providing support services for the mentally ill or disabled.
- Medical recordkeeping and documentation including patient charting.

Skill in:

- Directing and reviewing the work of others.
- Training staff in following medical protocols and psychiatric treatment procedures.
- Assessing client mental status and making accurate evaluations.
- Developing and implementing appropriate treatment plans.
- Evaluating patients for medication needs and reactions.

Ability to:

- Analyze crisis situations in a prompt and concise manner to facilitate appropriate treatment and referrals.
- Prepare detailed case summaries and documentation and maintain accurate patient records in compliance with local, state and federal rules and regulations.
- Protect patient's rights and providing advocacy for the mentally ill.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with other therapists, County staff, referral agencies, physicians and the public.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS/PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The conditions herein are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential job functions.

Environment: Work is primarily performed indoors in a standard office setting.

Physical: Primary functions require sufficient physical ability to work in an office setting and operate office equipment; vision in the normal visual range with or without correction sufficient to read computer screens and printed documents and to operate equipment; hear in the normal audio range with or without correction. **Frequent** sitting; wrist and arm motions and upward/downward flexion of neck; fine finger dexterity of both hands, ability to grasp and hold. **Occasional** standing and bending, walking and reaching; lifting, carrying or pushing objects that weigh up to 16 lbs. **Infrequent** climbing; lifting, carrying or pushing objects that weigh more than 16 lbs.

HISTORY

JCN: 8225, 8226
Created: JUN 1990