

Core Components of Early Psychosis Services

Webinar 3
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Aims

- Introduce core components of early intervention (EI) services
 - Assessment
 - Medication Management
 - CBT for psychosis
- Explore training and staffing needs in relation to these components



Introduction to Core Components

- Assessment
- Medication Management
- Individual Therapy
- Family work
- Peer Specialists
- Educational and Vocational Support
- *Care management*
- *Substance Use Interventions*
- *Groups*
- *Cognitive Remediation*



ASSESSMENT



Assessment of Psychosis

- For intake of new clients
 - Have to determine who the program will serve
 - Age range
 - Psychosis risk/full psychosis
 - Duration of psychosis
- To establish eligibility of client for the program
 - Presence of psychotic symptoms (or psychosis risk)
 - Presence of specific diagnoses
 - Rule out exclusion criteria
 - Primary substance abuse disorder
 - Psychosis due to organic cause



Assessment of Psychosis Risk

- Ultra High Risk (UHR)
 - Screening
 - Prodromal Questionnaire Brief (PQB)
 - Structured Interview for Prodromal Symptoms (SIPS)
 - Determines presence of psychosis-risk
 - 2-3 hour interview with client and family member
 1. Attenuated psychotic symptoms
 2. Genetic Risk (+ decrease in functioning)
 3. BLIPS



Assessment of Psychosis

- First Episode Psychosis/Recent onset of psychosis
 - Diagnostic uncertainty vs. established diagnosis
 - Accept clients based on fully psychotic symptoms
 - Presence of impairing positive symptoms
 - Accept clients based on established diagnosis
 - Schizophreniform
 - Schizophrenia
 - Schizoaffective disorder
 - Psychosis NOS
 - Affective psychosis?



Assessment of Psychosis: Cont.

- Establishing eligibility
 - Informal Intake interview
 - Time course
 - Presence of psychotic symptoms and impact on functioning
 - Standardized Assessment
 - Structured Clinical Interview for DSM Diagnoses (SCID)
 - 2-3 hour interview + collateral



Assessment of Psychosis: Cont.

	Informal Intake Interview	Standardized Interview
Time	Per agency	2-3 hours
Validity	Not established	Established validity
Training	Per agency	Intensive training and ongoing supervision
Consumer Burden	?	?



Assessment: Staffing

- Intake coordinator
 - Completes initial screening
 - Age range
 - Area of residence
 - Duration of psychosis
 - Supports clinician in gathering collateral information (hospital records etc.)
- Clinical assessment staff
 - Case Manager/Therapist/Assessment coordinator
 - Dedicated staff member or cross trained staff?



Assessment: Training

- Informal Interview
 - Trained in diagnostic interviewing skills
- SCID/SIPS
 - Intensive training and follow up tape review
 - Ongoing consensus meeting to ensure reliable diagnoses within service
- All staff trained in basic understanding of diagnosis and symptoms



MEDICATION MANAGEMENT



Medication Management Core Assumptions

- Medication as a treatment component of an entire intervention process as appropriate.
- Importance of shared decision making in any discussions around medication.
- The importance of education and communication in treatment adherence.
- Clarifying involvement of individual and family in partnership around successful outcomes with medication.



Medication Management for UHR

- Use of antipsychotics is controversial for those with UHR symptoms and not considered best practice.
- Important to recognize and address underlying and co-morbid conditions while managing stress through additional interventions.
- Anxiety and depression may be present, as well as substance abuse related issues, and antidepressant medications are more commonly prescribed for those with UHR symptoms.



Medication management for FEP

- Communication about importance of medication and potential value even after symptom improvement is critical early discussion.
- Many people with FEP respond well to lower doses of antipsychotic medication and may take a longer period to have symptom improvement.
- Baseline tracking of weight, blood pressure, BMI, lipids, fasting glucose, HBA1c, important with regular follow up q 3-6 months.
- Regular AIMs evaluation and monitoring for other SE critical.
- NAVIGATE recommends initial medications: aripiprazole, quetiapine, risperidone, or ziprasidone.



Medication Management: training needs

- Ongoing importance of education for individual in treatment and family, with explanation of potential benefits and side effects.
- Staff must be clear about state and local regulations related to informed consent and confidentiality with regard to psychotropic medication.
- Developmental issues, age of individual and family structure may all impact communication regarding medication.
- Entire team needs basic understanding of medication categories, potential side effects, treatment responses.
- If working with those taking antipsychotics, team has a role in supporting adherence, good communication, healthy nutrition and exercise.



Medication Management: Staffing

- Importance for medication “prescriber” to be in good communication with rest of treatment team.
- Strong communication system with PCP is valuable.
- Peer and family support specialists have critical role in supporting care and answering questions other team members may not be able to address.
- Overall wellness support, including stress management, nutrition education, exercise and lifestyle management are all critical aspects of medication support.



INDIVIDUAL THERAPY



Individual Therapy

- CBTp
 - Evidence-based intervention for psychosis
 - Skills based vs. formulation driven
 - Skills based
 - Teaching skills and tools to minimize distress from symptoms
 - Protocol driven
 - Combine with care management
 - Formulation driven
 - Individualized
 - Explanatory frameworks
 - Address complex problems including trauma and systems issues



CBTp: Training

- Different training options
 - Train all clinical staff in CBTp
 - High yield techniques/skills based CBTp
 - Formulation based CBTp
 - Tiered training approach
 1. Basic Psychosocial Interventions (all staff)
 2. High Yield CBTp techniques (care managers)
 3. Formulation driven CBTp (Dedicated therapist/supervisor)



CBTp: Training Cont.

- Training
 - 3-5 days (model and experience dependent)
- Competence review
 - Review of taped sessions to ensure fidelity and competence
 - Established standards for full CBTp (not for high-yield)
- Supervision
 - Ongoing training
 - Peer support



CBTp: Staffing

	All staff provide CBTp	Tiered approach
Role	Case manager/therapist	Dedicated case managers & therapist
Duties	All staff combine CBTp with case management	Case Managers: provide case management + high yield CBTp/skills based interventions Therapist: provide CBTp for complex presentations, supervision of case managers (family interventions? Assessment?)
Caseload	12-15	Case Managers: 15 – 18 Therapist: 20 – 25



Discussion/Considerations

- Which of the models discussed would work in your program?
- Consideration of existing resources to support implementation of new models (i.e. staff already trained in assessment/CBT).
- Obstacles/barriers to implementing any of the models discussed?



Next Month: Core Components continued

Working with families
Peer Specialists
Educational and Vocational needs

Thurs., 8/13, 12-1pm EDT.



COP: Next Steps

- **Peer to peer phone calls.**
 - Indicate your interest in today's post-webinar survey.
- **July office hours with Kate**
 - Selections must be made by COB 7/21.



Webinar Dates Reminder

- ~~Thurs., May 14; 12pm-1pm EDT~~
- ~~Thurs., June 11; 12pm-1pm EDT~~
- ~~Thurs., July 16; 12pm-1pm EDT~~
- Thurs., August 13; 12pm-1pm EDT
- Thurs., September 10; 12pm-1pm EDT
- Thurs., October 15; 11am-1pm EDT



Additional Questions?

