# RELLAS

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### Care Transition Practices for Suicidal Individuals

Dr. Laura Leone, DSW, MSSW, LMSW Sara Seidel Beall, NCC, LCMHC September 22, 2023

### Today's Presenters





Dr. Laura Leone, DSW, MSSW, LMSW (she, her, hers) Consultant National Council for Mental Wellbeing Sara C. Seidel Beall, NCC, LCMHC (she, her, hers) Senior Product Manager, Behavioral Health Relias

### Objectives

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Understand what elevates risk during various care transitions
- Explore approaches to building collaboration, communication, and relationships among care transition organizations
- Identify opportunities and strategies for client transitions between outpatient and inpatient service settings

### Suicide by the Numbers



https://www.cdc.gov/suicide/facts/index.html

### Care Transition Data

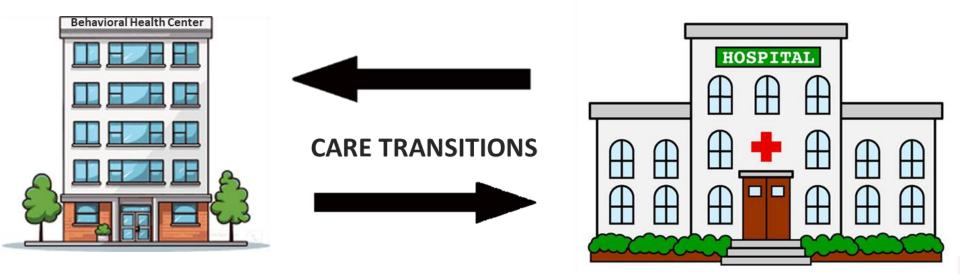
• Suicide rates are 300 times higher for individuals in the first week and 200 times higher in the first month, after inpatient stay.

• Nearly a third of patients do not complete a single outpatient visit in the first 30 days, after inpatient stay.



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### What are Care Transitions?



#### The movement of client between health care locations, providers, or different levels of care within the same location, as their conditions and care needs change

### Types of Care Transitions



Source: NTOCC

### Care Management

Care management refers to activities performed by health care professionals with a goal of achieving the person-centered treatment to target outcomes with the person.



Source: McDonald KM, Sundaram V, Bravata DM, et al. Closing the Quality Gap: A Critical Analysis of Quality Improvement Strategies, Volume 7—Care Coordination. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; June 2007.

# The Complex World of People and Care Transitions



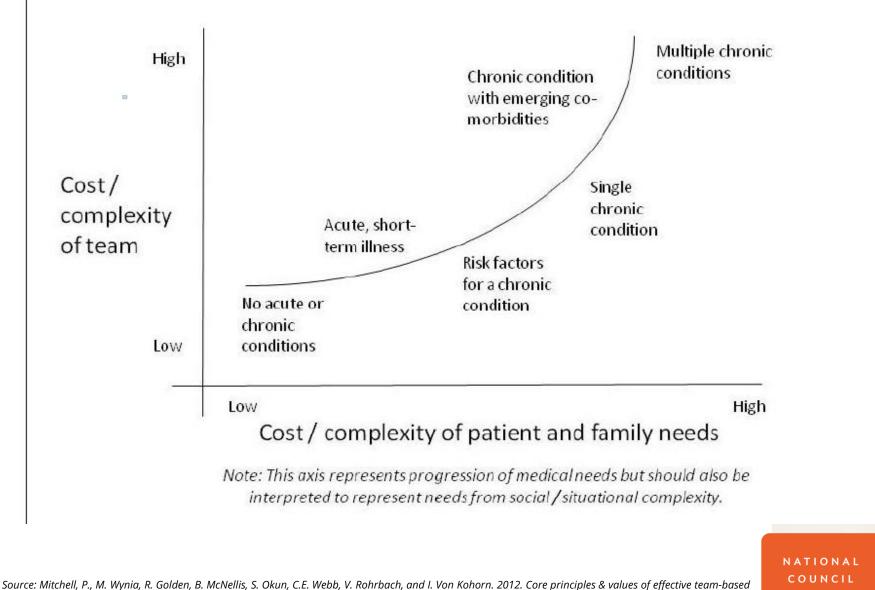
# Team-Based Care (TBC): Who is the Team?

**Fundamental Definition** 

- At least two health staff who work collaboratively with patients and their caregivers – to the extent preferred by patient—to accomplish shared goals and achieve coordinated, high-quality care.<sup>1</sup>
- Inter-disciplinary (e.g., BH professional, PCP, SW, nutritionist, peer support specialist).<sup>1</sup>
- Clear roles, mutual trust, effective communication, measurable processes and outcomes.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Adapted from ACA definitions of team in Sections 2703 and 3502

<sup>2</sup>IOM White Paper: Mitchell, Wynia, Golden et al (October 2012), Core Principles and Values of Effective Team-based Health Care.



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health care. Discussion Paper, Institute of Medicine, Washington, DC. www.iom.edu/tbc.

### Activating Care Management:

Screening & Assessment using data

Care planning

Increasing health literacy through education

Medication management & adherence support

**Risk stratification** 

Population management

#### Coordination of care transitions and care coordination

Source: McDonald KM, Sundaram V, Bravata DM, et al. Closing the Quality Gap: A Critical Analysis of Quality Improvement Strategies, Volume 7—Care Coordination. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; June 2007.

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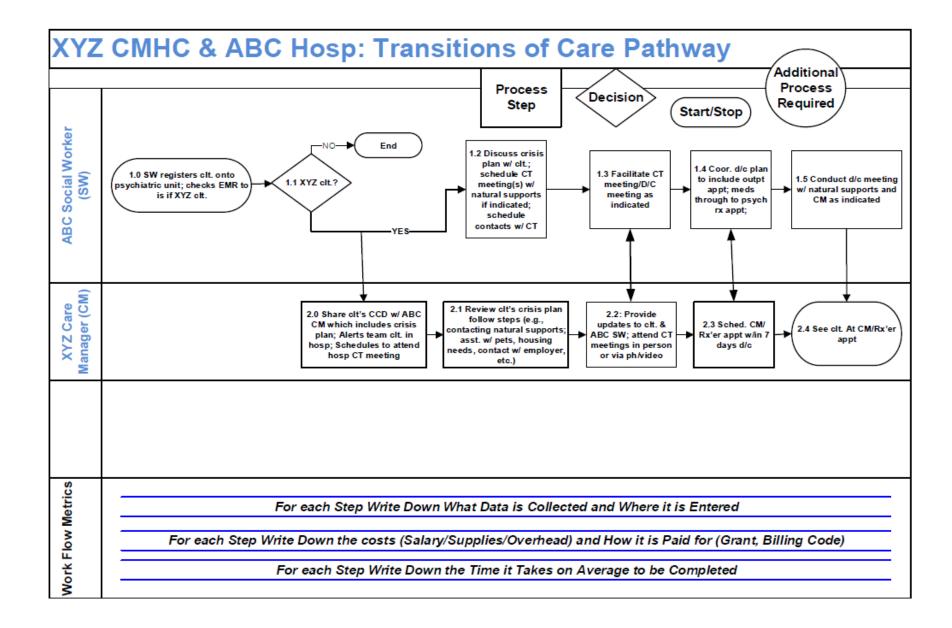


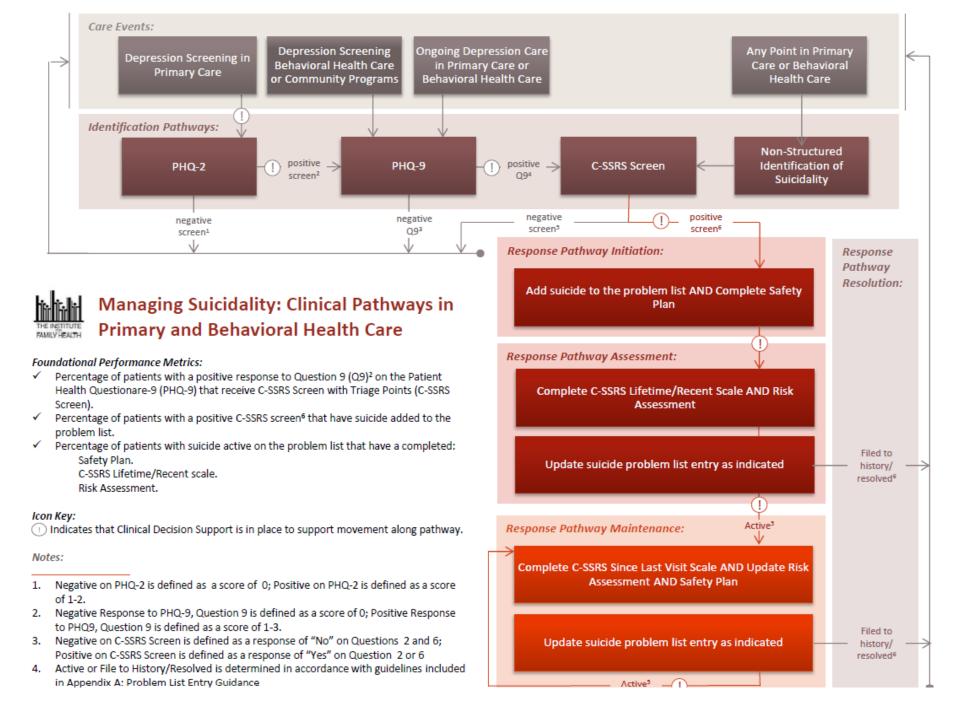
### Developing a Care Pathway and Workflows



### Create a Care Pathway

- How does one get on?
- How does one get off?
- Exceptions/what ifs....





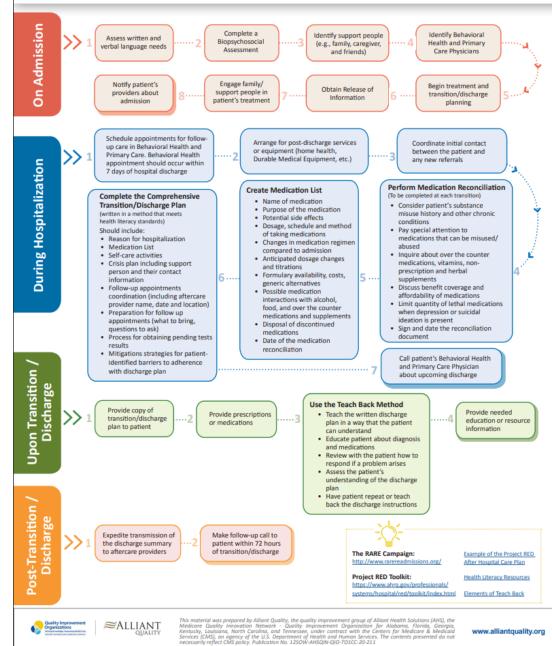
### Inpatient Care Transitions Workflow

Alliant Health Solutions Care Transitions Workflow Workbook Link



#### **Care Transitions Workflow**

The Care Transitions Workflow is a set of recommendations primarily from two evidence-based programs proven to reduce hospital readmissions: Project RED (Re-Engineered Discharge) and the RARE Campaign of Minnesota. This workflow provides staff members of inpatient spsychiatric facilities an outline of key steps and considerations for assisting patients in successfully transitioning from inpatient care to outpatient support.



### Suicide and Electronic Health Records

- Address suicide in all sites, services, and programs
- Multiple areas in chart
- Need different workflows and tools fo different providers
- Use Decision Support



### Suicide on the Problem List

- Will show in all encounters
- Readily seen by providers of all disciplines
- Ability to report on characteristics of suicidal patients
- Could initiate a chart or banner of chart color change

### Data Driven Care



- Population Health Management perspective
- Standardized screening tools, rescreening in a predictable way
- Helps to predict costs and outcomes
- Care pathways: standardize what we can, to leave space for what we can't.

## Population of Clients At Elevated Risk for Suicide

- Knowing and tracking population
- How will you know if you have improved?
- Expect to do worse before you do better
- Establish definitions
- Helps establish or adjust care pathway criteria
- What can you track related to care transitions?

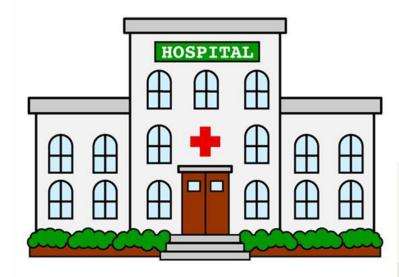


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### Care Continuum Partnership







### The "catch" is only as good as the "throw"





### Batting the ball back and forth hurts everyone

### Know Your Positions

Inpatient care is meant to:	Outpatient care is meant to:
<ul> <li>Mitigate immediate risk and</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Provide initial care and/or</li></ul>
stabilize	continuing care
<ul> <li>Beginning or shifting</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Provide a range of treatment</li></ul>
treatment/medication	services, as needed
<ul> <li>Prepare for discharge and continuing care</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Monitor for risk unable to be safely managed in an outpatient setting</li> </ul>

### Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

In order to set the stage for reciprocal communication, everyone must do their part.

Recommendations for <u>all</u> providers:

- Get together
- Get aligned
- Build out the team
  - Family, friends, community members
  - Peer Support and Lived-Experience Team Members

National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention. (2019).

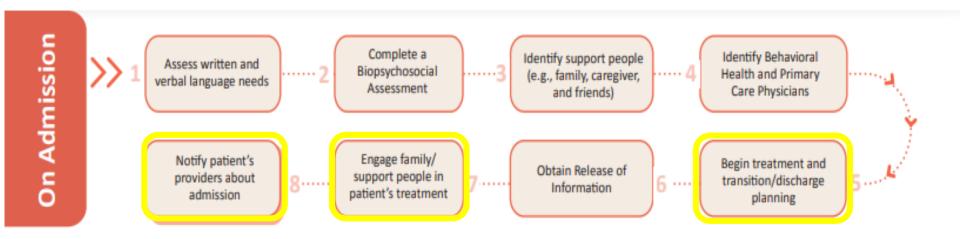
### Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

Recommendations for <u>all</u> providers (cont'd):

- Prepare alternative plays, when needed
- Know the rules and the playbook
- Know your stats
- Communicate
- Plan for curveballs
- Know the score

National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention. (2019).

### What a Play Might Look Like



**During Hospitalization** 

Schedule appointments for followup care in Behavioral Health and Primary Care. Behavioral Health appointment should occur within 7 days of hospital discharge

#### Complete the Comprehensive Transition/Discharge Plan

(written in a method that meets health literacy standards) Should include:

- Reason for hospitalization
- Medication List
- Self-care activities
- Crisis plan including support person and their contact information
- Follow-up appointments coordination (including aftercare provider name, date and location)
- Preparation for follow up appointments (what to bring, questions to ask)
- Process for obtaining pending tests results
- Mitigations strategies for patientidentified barriers to adherence with discharge plan

Arrange for post-discharge services or equipment (home health, Durable Medical Equipment, etc.)

#### **Create Medication List**

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- Name of medication
- Purpose of the medication
- Potential side effects
- Dosage, schedule and method of taking medications
- Changes in medication regimen compared to admission
- Anticipated dosage changes and titrations
- Formulary availability, costs, generic alternatives
- Possible medication interactions with alcohol, food, and over the counter medications and supplements
- Disposal of discontinued medications
- Date of the medication reconciliation

Coordinate initial contact between the patient and any new referrals

#### Perform Medication Reconciliation

(To be completed at each transition)

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- Consider patient's substance misuse history and other chronic conditions
- Pay special attention to medications that can be misused/ abused
- Inquire about over the counter medications, vitamins, nonprescription and herbal supplements
- Discuss benefit coverage and affordability of medications
- Limit quantity of lethal medications when depression or suicidal ideation is present
- Sign and date the reconciliation document

Call patient's Behavioral Health and Primary Care Physician about upcoming discharge

Provide copy of transition/discharge plan to patient

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Provide prescriptions or medications

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#### Use the Teach Back Method

- Teach the written discharge plan in a way that the patient can understand
- Educate patient about diagnosis and medications
- Review with the patient how to respond if a problem arises
- Assess the patient's understanding of the discharge plan
- Have patient repeat or teach back the discharge instructions

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Provide needed education or resource information

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Expedite transmission of the discharge summary to aftercare providers

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Make follow-up call to patient within 72 hours of transition/discharge

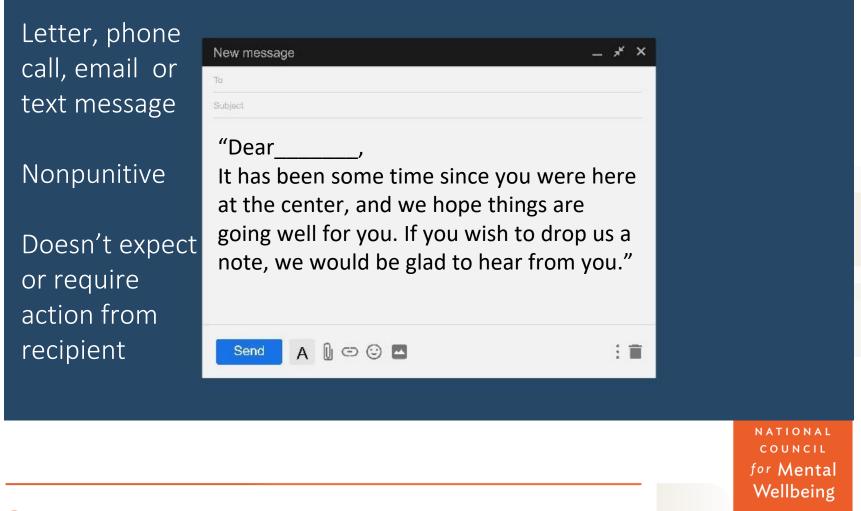
### Other Care Transition Best Practices

- Plan logistics (transportation, financial barriers, pharmacy access, responsibilities, etc.)
- Medication list and reconciliation
- Medication home delivery or other easy access
- Warm handoffs, when possible
- Written admission and discharge summaries
- Live or recorded video introductions to the outpatient clinic and provider, when warm handoffs are not possible.
- Use of electronic and other resources for follow-up care

### Expand Support

- Meaningful connections to others
- Community inclusion where it matters to clients
- Possible involvement in care
- Considerations around social isolation and loneliness

### Non-Demand Caring Letters/Cards/Contacts







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### Continued Discussion and Further Support

### Team and Partner Collaborations

- Team discussions on successes and improvements
- Collaborate with care continuum partners
  - How will you communicate
  - How will you assess how things are going
  - How will you evolve together

### **Relias Courses Related to Suicide**

#### General Courses related to Suicide

- Suicide Risk Assessment using ASQ (Microlearning)
- Assessing Suicide Risk Using the C-SSRS (Microlearning)
- Assessing and Screening for Suicide Risk
- Overview of Evidence-Based, Suicide-Specific Interventions
- Lethal Means Counseling
- Effective Intervention in the Aftermath of a Suicide
- Community-Based Interventions to Reduce Suicide Risk
- Suicide Screening for Direct Care Staff
- Preventing Suicide in Adults: The Role of Paraprofessionals
- Approaches to Preventing Psychiatric Hospitalizations and Readmissions
- Cultural Considerations Related to Suicide (Coming Soon)

### **Relias Courses Related to Suicide**

#### Children and Adolescent Specific Courses

- Reducing Suicide Risk in Adolescents and Transition Age Youth
- Preventing Suicide in Youth: The Role of Paraprofessionals

#### Knowledge Exam

• Evaluating and Intervening to Reduce Suicide Risk: Exam

#### Veterans

• Preventing Suicide Among Veteran Populations

#### Care for Clinicians

- Managing Reactions When Working with Suicidal Clients: A Guide for Clinicians
- Podcast: Processing a Client Dying by Suicide (Coming Soon)
- Behavioral Health Leaders: Supporting Clinicians after a Client Death (Coming Soon)

### **Relias Courses Related to Crisis**

#### Crisis

- Key Steps for Supporting Someone in Crisis (Microlearning)
- Verbal De-escalation Strategies (Microlearning)
- Preventing and De-escalating Crisis Situations
- Crisis Management Basics for Paraprofessionals
- Crisis Management Approaches for Telehealth Services
- Crisis Management Approaches for Telehealth Services with Children and Adolescents
- Helping Children Cope in Crisis
- Behavioral Health System of Crisis Care
- Engaging Family Members in Crisis Planning

### **Related Relias Simulations**

#### In Session Simulations

- In Session: Practicing Clinical Skills to Prevent Suicide in Children and Adolescents
- In Session: Practicing Clinical Skills to Prevent Suicide in Young Adults
- In Session: Practicing Clinical Skills to Prevent Suicide in Adults
- In Session: Practicing Clinical Skills to Prevent Suicide in Older Adults
- In Session: Practicing Clinical Skills for Safety Planning

#### Crisis Simulations for All Staff

- Crisis Management Across Health and Human Services
- Verbal De-escalation Practice (Coming Soon)

### **Presentation Evaluation**

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PDFQYD9





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### Further Questions and Discussion



### **Presentation Evaluation**

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