

Policies & Procedures

INFORMED CONSENT

Section: Clinical Policies

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Subject: Informed Consent

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Policy

Clients of Davis Behavioral Health will be given information about their medical/psychiatric condition. Clients will be given enough information to understand the proposed treatment options. Clients will be instructed as to the risks and benefits of treatment, and the risks and benefits of non-treatment. Clients will be informed that they may, to the extent allowed by their legal status, be allowed the freedom to accept or refuse treatment.

Purpose

To ensure that clients in a voluntary treatment status, or those responsible for treatment decisions for the client, have the information that they need to make informed, free decisions about their care.

Procedure

1. Clients will be given explanations, in a language comprehensible to them based on the level of development, education, and comprehension, of the:
 - a. nature of the mental health condition.
 - b. the nature of proposed diagnostic steps and/or treatment(s) and the probability of their success.
 - c. the existence and nature of the risks involved; and the existence, potential benefits, and risks of recommended alternative treatments (including the choice of no treatment).
2. The client's understanding of the above information will be clinically assessed, including an assessment, if only tacit, of the capacity of the client or responsible party to make the necessary decision(s).
3. The client will be assured, to the degree that it is legally possible, that he/she has the freedom to choose among the medical alternatives without coercion or manipulation.
4. Employees of Davis Behavioral Health will be encouraged to advocate for the client to receive appropriate medical care or treatment options.
5. Clients will be educated on the limits of confidentiality and mandatory reporting laws by their provider.

