Summary/Action Minutes

I. Medi-Cal 2020 1115 Dental Waiver: Local Dental Pilot Program (LDPP)

Dr. Baharak Amanzadeh, Dental Director, Office of Dental Health, Public Health Department, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Local Dental Pilot Program.

The Alameda County Office of Dental Health, Public Health Department has applied for the Medi-Cal 2020 1115 Dental Waiver, which will provide $4 million per year for four years for the Local Dental Pilot Program’s Health Teeth Healthy Communities Project. The application for the Waiver was submitted in September 2016 and final approval and notification will provided on December 6, 2016.

The Healthy Teeth Health Communities (HTHC) proposed project will create a cross-agency workforce of Community Dental Health Care Coordinators who are linguistically and culturally responsive to the community. In addition, it will leverage existing infrastructures for outreach and care coordination: First 5, School Districts, WIC sites, FQHCs and Community Clinics. The HTHC project coordinators will develop a web-based Care Coordination Management System to link families to dental appointments and support continuity of care.

The funding will support community partners, Healthy Schools and approximately fifteen full time equivalent (FTE) new County positions.

Purpose:
☐ Report progress
☐ Advocacy or Education
☒ Request Health Committee Recommendation or Position
☐ Other:

Recommendation from the Health Committee: Support. Move to the full Board of Supervisors.

II. John George Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES): Census Management Plan

Rebecca Gebhart, Interim Director, Health Care Services Agency, Dr. Karyn Tribble, Deputy Director, Behavioral Health Care Services, and Luis Fonseca, Chief Operating Officer, Alameda Health System, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the John George Psychiatric Emergency Services Census Management Plan.

Proposed Strategy

At times when conditions in PES exceeds the ability of the unit to deliver high quality services, there will be a temporary “hold” placed on accepting transfers from patients currently receiving care at area Emergency Departments and Inpatient Units. Transfers that have already been accepted will continue through the process and be admitted to PES.
Important Considerations

The following factors will be among those taken into consideration regarding a temporary suspension of transfers from outside hospitals occurs:

1. Physical space in the unit (may cause the clinical threshold to be lower)
2. When current staffing levels are such that adding additional staff to ensure high quality care is problematic
3. One-to-one staffing (may cause the clinical threshold to be lower)
4. Patients waiting for an evaluation by a physician (may cause the clinical threshold to be lower)
5. Patients with a confirmed & available disposition (may cause the clinical threshold to be higher↑)

Plan Activation once certain conditions are reached include:
- PES activates Transfer Delay Procedure
- ReddiNet is activated by PES
- Area EDs calling for transfers are logged establishing the “queue”
- Area EDs to fax patient clinical information for pts in queue
- PES continuously assesses for “exiting” the Transfer Delay Procedure

Ambulances arriving from the “field”, walk-ins, and law enforcement arrivals will continue to be accepted.

Potential Impacts to Crisis System in Alameda County:
- Patients and families may seek alternative supports and use area Emergency Departments as refuges for crisis stabilization, albeit psychiatric expertise or consults may be limited.
- Increased walk-ins at PES;
- Potential for more “field” arrivals at PES; and
- Emergency Departments would be immediately impacted potentially requiring additional staffing, patient beds (designed to support individuals suffering from mental illness), and financial resources.

Speakers

Rachel Odes supports the census management proposal and stated that the Charge Nurse should be the point of contact to implement census management, with 50 patients being the trigger.

Tom Sugarman, practicing physician, President, Alameda Contra Costa Medical Association (ACCMA), stated that the ACCMA supports the census management proposal, however does not support a hard cap on number of patients.

Alane Friedrich, President, Mental a Health Advisory Board, stated that the Advisory Board supports the census management proposal

Fred Tatum, nurse, John George Hospital, supports the census management proposal.

Rebecca Rozen, Regional Vice President, Hospital Council of Northern & Central California, supports census management proposal.

Purpose:
- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request Health Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other:

Recommendation from the Health Committee: Support the census management proposal of 50 patients being the trigger; add a consideration of the Charge Nurse implementing census management; Evaluate and report on the census management proposal by June of 2017, with a brief report to the Health Committee in March 2017. Support. Move to the full Board of Supervisors.
PUBLIC COMMENT

Yvonne Rutherford commented on the In-Home Outreach Team (IHOT) program.