PEDIATRIC MENTAL STATUS EXAM



Patient Label

DOCUMENT TYPE: FORM

A MSE is part of every mental health assessment. Patients admitted for mental health concerns should have one completed qshift and PRN. This documentation tool may be used for all patients as part of their psychosocial assessment.

Interpretation of the MSE must keep in mind the patient's age, developmental level, and cultural norms etc. MRP notification and Mental Health Clinician consultation must occur when a) a situation of immediate risk of harm to self or others by a patient, b) risk of imminent departure by a patient known to be at risk of harm to self or others, and/or c) patient is experiencing acute psychosis or agitation

panoni io oriponioni g acart	population and adjusting in			
General Appearance				
Age	☐ Appears stated age ☐ Appears younger than age ☐ Appears older than age			
	□ See Nurse's Notes			
Hygiene/Grooming	☐ Clean ☐ Body odor ☐ Dressed appropriately to season ☐ Outstanding features			
	□ Other: □ See Nurse's Notes			
Build	☐ Average ☐ Frail ☐ Obese ☐ Muscular ☐ Petite ☐ Stocky ☐Slim			
Behavior				
Eye Contact	□ Normal □ Avoidant □ Intense □ Other: □ □ See Nurse's Notes			
Psychomotor Movements	□ Normal □ Other: □ See Nurse's Notes			
Attitude	□ Cooperative □ Guarded □ Open □ Fearful □ Demanding □ Defensive			
	□ Suspicious □ Other: □ See Nurse's Notes			
Rapport	□ Easily established □ Limited/Distant □ Other: □ See Nurse's Notes			
Level of Consciousness	☐ Alert ☐ Confused ☐ Sedated ☐ Hyper alert ☐ Fluctuating ☐ Intoxicated			
	☐ Other: ☐ See Nurse's Notes			
Eating Patterns	☐ Normal ☐ Selective ☐ Not eating enough resulting in weight loss ☐ Overeating			
	□ Bingeing □ Purging □ Refusing to eat □ Affected by current treatment			
	□ Other: □ □ See Nurse's Notes			
Sleeping Patterns	□ Normal □ Disrupted nighttime sleep □ Difficulty falling asleep			
	☐ Sleeps in day (not including age appropriate napping) ☐ Frequent nightmares			
	☐ Frequent night terrors ☐ Difficult to rouse after sleep ☐ Affected by current treatment			
	□ Other: □ □ See Nurse's Notes			
Interaction with	□ Secure □ Anxious □ Distant □ Unable to assess □ See Nurse's Notes			
Caregivers				
Mood (reported by patient)				
☐ Euthymic (normal) ☐ Ambivalent ☐ Calm ☐ Anxious ☐ Sad ☐ Depressed ☐ Frustrated ☐ Angry ☐ Labile ☐ Energetic				
□ Elevated □ Overwhelmed □ Other: □ See Nurse's Notes				
	Normal Mood Rated #1-10:			
Affect (observed by clinicia				
□ Normal range □ Anxious □ Downcast □ Tearful □ Angry □ Euphoric □ Overwhelmed □ Irritable				
□ Suspicious □ Other: □ □ See Nurse's Notes				
Stability/Range	□ Normal range □ Blunted □ Flat □ Labile □ See Nurse's Notes			
Congruency	Is affect congruent with reported mood? □ Yes □ No □ See Nurse's Notes			
Risk				
Suicide Risk	☐ Feelings of hopelessness ☐ Distress ☐ Suicidal Ideation ☐ Suicidal Plan			
	☐ MRP notified ☐ Other: ☐ See Nurse's Notes			





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Recent Suicide	Has patient made a suicide attempt or engaged in significant intentional self-harm behavior				
Behaviour	within the past 24 hours? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown ☐ See Nurse's Notes				
Ideation / Plan	Suicidal Ideation		Homicidal Ideation		
*If suicidal ideation or plan in place, safety plan must be	☐ None ☐ Passive ☐ Act	tive	□ None □ Passive □ Active		
initiated and MRP notified.	If active:		If active:		
	Plan ☐ Yes ☐ No)	Plan □ Yes □ No		
	Intent ☐ Yes ☐ No		Intent □ Yes □ No		
	Means ☐ Yes ☐ No		Means □ Yes □ No		
Self-Harm	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐ Se	ee Nurse's Notes			
Elopement	□ Yes □ No □ N/A □ See Nurse's Notes				
Aggression	□ Verbally aggressive □ Physically aggressive □ N/A				
	☐ Other:	🗆 :	See Nurse's Notes		
Intoxication	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A Substance of use:				
	Amount: Last used:				
	☐ See Nurse's Notes				
Other	□ Other:	🗆 :	See Nurse's Notes		
Recent Protective Factors	☐ Belief that suicide is immoral ☐ Engaged in work or school				
Factors	☐ Fear of death or dying due to pain and suffering ☐ Identifies reasons for living				
	□ Responsibility to family or others □ Supportive social network or family				
	☐ Other:	🗆 :	See Nurse's Notes		
Level of Risk to Patient	☐ Mild ☐ Moderate ☐ High/Imminent ☐ See Nurse's Notes ☐ N/A				
(observed by clinician)	☐ MRP notified *MRP must be notified STAT if level is High/Imminent				
Thought					
Processes	☐ Goal-directed and logical ☐ Disorganized ☐ Other:				
	□ See Nurse's Notes				
Content	□ Delusions □ Obsessions □ Compulsions □ Phobias □ Preoccupations				
	☐ Other:	🗆 :	See Nurse's Notes		
Speech					
☐ Normal rate, tone, volume	e without pressure Other:		□ See Nurse's Notes		
Cognition					
Memory/Concentration	□ Short term intact □ Long term intact □ Distractible/inattentive				
	☐ Other:	🗆 :	See Nurse's Notes		
Orientation	□ Person □ Place □ Time □ Self □ Other:				
	☐ See Nurse's Notes				
Insight/Judgement	□ Good □ Fair □ Poor				
Care Plan					
□ Individualized Care Plan □ Safety Plan □ Violence Care Plan □ Other: □ See Nurse's Notes					
☐ Mental Health Clinician consulted (ie. Psychiatric Consultation Liaison Nurse, Adolescent Medicine Nurse Clinician, Psychology etc.)					
Date	Time	Nurse Signature			

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Developed By

BC Children's Hospital - Inpatient - Clinical Nurse Educator

Version History

DATE	DOCUMENT NUMBER and TITLE	ACTION TAKEN
03-Jul-2019	C-05-06-60339 Pediatric Mental Status Exam	Approved at: BCCH Best Practice Committee

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