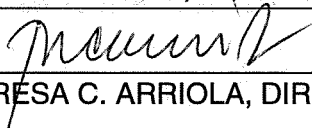


GUAM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER		
TITLE: Psychiatric Advance Directive (PAD)	POLICY NO: AD-PA-106	Page 1 of 2
RESPONSIBILITY: Clinical Division, Patient Affairs		
APPROVED BY:  THERESA C. ARRIOLA, DIRECTOR	DATE OF ORIGINAL APPROVAL: 1/28/21	LAST REVIEWED/REVISED:

PURPOSE:

To ensure that each patient's ability and right to participate in medical and mental health decision making is maximized and encourage the use of psychiatric advance directive (PAD) or self-determination declaration pursuant to 10 GCA Chap 91 Guam Natural Death Act. This policy is in compliance with the Commission on Accreditation for Rehabilitation Facilities Standard 2B.13. (t) and Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic 2.C.3

POLICY:

- A. It is the policy of GBHWC to respect and encourage consumer self-determination. Consumers will be encouraged and assisted to be active participants in the decision making process regarding their mental healthcare while they are still competent through education, inquiry, and assistance.
- B. GBHWC intake staff will educate consumers about crisis management services and Psychiatric Advance Directive.
 1. Consumers will be encourage to communicate their desires in regard to psychiatric advance directives to their legal guardian or representative, and guide health care providers in following the consumer's wishes should the consumer become incapacitated or in mental health crisis, and unable to make decisions.
 2. Consumer will be referred to Guam Legal services to formalize their psychiatric advance directives.
 3. A consumer's psychiatric advance directive goes into effect if it has been determined that the consumer lacks the capacity to make treatment decisions during a crisis.
- C. A written declaration of a competent consumer regarding his/her psychiatric care that was signed and witnessed by two (2) individual not responsible for his care is considered valid and needs to be uphold by the clinical provider.
 1. A psychiatric advance directive or written declaration of care can only be revoked or contents be changed by making corrections or writing a new one, signed and witness by 2 individuals not involved in the care.
- D. Staff will be provided with training on psychiatric advance directive (PAD) and shall include PAD in routine care of consumers.
- E. All healthcare professionals are **not authorized** to witness an advance directive/psychiatric advance directive in accordance with 10 GCA Chapter 91 Natural Death Act.

DEFINITIONS:

Advance Directive – are instructions given by individuals specifying what actions should be taken for their health in the event that they are no longer able to make healthcare decisions as result of illness or incapacitated (Pozgar, 2019).

Psychiatric Advance Directive: legal document that details a person's preferences for future mental health treatment or names an individual to make treatment decisions if the person is in a crisis and unable to make decisions (National Alliance on Mental Health, 2021).

PROCEDURE:

1. As part of the admission process the consumer or legal guardian will be educated and provided with information outlining the individual's rights to make decisions concerning mental healthcare. The information includes:
 - a. Information concerning PAD and its advantages
 - b. Consumer rights and responsibilities
2. Intake staff will enquire as to whether or not the consumer has completed a Psychiatric Advance Directive.
3. If consumer has an existing PAD, staff shall request a copy of the Psychiatric Advance Directive and document in the electronic medical record that consumer has an advance directive.
4. Consumers without a PAD, shall be assisted to draft a PAD and include it as part of the treatment planning.
5. Consumer will then be referred to Guam Legal Services to formalize the PAD.
6. Staff will document in the electronic medical record whether the patient has completed a PAD or that information concerning PAD has been given to the consumer/consumer legal guardian.
7. The Lead provider will have the responsibility to review any existing advance directive with the consumer/legal guardian to validate its current status.
8. In the event the consumer/legal guardian indicates that the previous advance directive does not accurately reflect the consumer's wishes, a revised psychiatric advanced directive should be drafted, per consumer's request.
9. To the extent that the consumer/legal guardian requests additional information or further explanation regarding the PAD, referrals will be made to the Guam Legal Services for follow-up interaction with consumer and significant others, as appropriate.
10. It is recommended that follow-up education and interaction with the consumer/consumer's representative be documented in the medical record by the individual designated to interact with the consumer/consumer's representative regarding their concerns surrounding Advance Directives.

REFERENCE(S):

National Alliance on Mental Health. (2021). *Psychiatric Advance Directives (PAD)*. Retrieved from National Alliance on Mental Health Illness: <https://www.nami.org/Advocacy/Policy-Priorities/Responding-to-Crises/Psychiatric-Advance-Directives>

Pozgar, G. (2019). *Legal aspects of health care administration*. Burlington: Jones & Bartlett Learning.