

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Agency of Human Services, Department of Mental Health
26 Terrace Street, Montpelier, VT 05602

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani and Walter Ochs

DATE: February 10, 2012

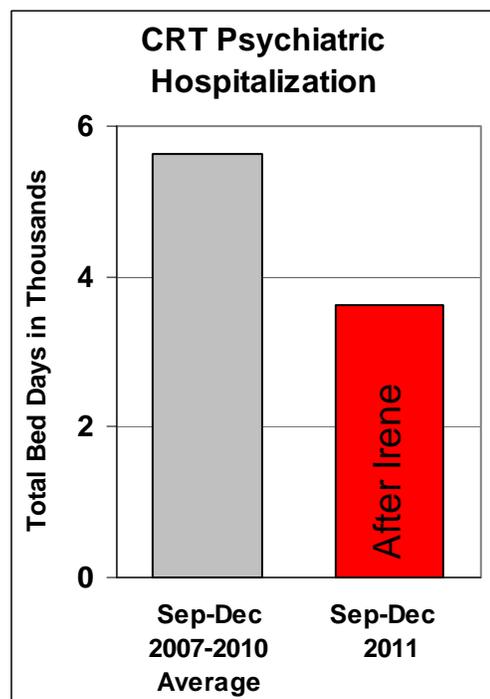
RE: CRT Inpatient Psychiatric Utilization September-December,
2007-10 & 2011

This week's brief report provides information regarding total inpatient psychiatric service utilization at the Vermont State Hospital and other hospitals by recipients of Community Rehabilitation and Treatment (CRT) services for adults with serious and persistent mental illness in Vermont during the four months following Tropical Storm Irene, in August 2011, and inpatient psychiatric service utilization by recipients of Community Rehabilitation and Treatment (CRT) services during the same four months in each of the three preceding years. As such, this report provides information regarding the impact of a natural disaster on one component of a complex system of care.

This report is based on analysis of CRT inpatient data maintained by the Vermont Department of Mental Health (DMH) Acute Care Unit.

As you will see, the total utilization of inpatient psychiatric services during the months following Tropical Storm Irene (3,628 patient days) was substantially lower (35% lower) than the average utilization during the same months for the four previous years (5,620 patient days). This reduction appears to have been the result of the combined impact of the closing of the Vermont State Hospital on August 29, 2011, and an increase in the number of CRT recipients served in a variety of other residential settings.

We look forward to your questions, comments, and suggestions for further analyses. As always, we can be reached at pip@state.vt.us or 802-828-1703.



CRT Inpatient Psychiatric Utilization*

September - December After Tropical Storm Irene in 2011 and September-December During 2007-2010

	Total Bed Days
Years Prior to Tropical Storm Irene	
Sep-Dec 2007	5,725
Sep-Dec 2008	5,504
Sep-Dec 2009	5,685
Sep-Dec 2010	5,564
2007-2010 Average	5,620

Months After Tropical Storm Irene	
Sep-Dec 2011	3,628

*Includes CRT psychiatric inpatient days at the Vermont State Hospital (VSH) and other hospitals. VSH was operational during (Sep-Dec) 2007-2010 but not operational during 2011.

Analysis Conducted by the Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Based on analysis of the "Acute Care Inpatient Data Set" maintained by the VT DMH Acute Care Unit.

CRT status based on program status at admission to inpatient.

Days include the day of admission but exclude the day of discharge.