

EMERGENCY INVOLUNTARY PROCEDURES REVIEW COMMITTEE

September 9, 2022 - 10:30a - 12p

Zoom Meeting Link

1. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://vsc.zoom.us/j/86014600560>

2. Dial-In Option

Meeting ID: 860 1460 0560

Find your local number: <https://vsc.zoom.us/u/kbMUBw0wo1>

Purpose

The Emergency Involuntary Procedures (EIP) Review Committee is a committee convened by the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health (Department) to review emergency involuntary procedures occurring on inpatient psychiatric units for those in the custody of the Commissioner. The Committee's responsibilities will be to review aggregate data, review inpatient hospitals' adherence to the requirements of the CMS and Joint Commission standards, to review the appropriateness of the decision(s) to use emergency involuntary procedures to ensure that there is external review and oversight of emergency involuntary procedures, and to prepare an annual report to the Department summarizing its work, providing suggestions and recommendations regarding the hospitals' adherence to CMS & Joint Commission standards.

Agenda

1. Introductions & Check-In (10:30a)

- a. Laura Lyford, Alex Lehning, Terri Graham, Emma Harrington, Janice LeBel, David Horton, Suzanne Leavitt, Malaika (HCRS), Steve DeVoe, Kevin Huckshorn, Karen Lewicki, Jessica Charbonneau
- b. Review minutes from previous meeting
- c. Upcoming trainings, online modules for staff in early 2023. Any specific requests/topics anyone wants covered at trainings, please let Alex know.

2. Updates from members (10:35a)

- a. Brattleboro Retreat
- b. Central Vermont Medical Center - Would like the info for the 6 Core Strategy training. Fully staffed for psychiatrists, capacity back up to 14-15. Struggling with staff turnover, people are leaving the health care field. Challenges with pay for staff, losing staff to hiring paying agencies. A lot of good feedback about AVADE. Hospitals can reach out to Terri about experience with AVADE. Perhaps we could do some research around pay equity/staff turnover for the annual report?
- c. Designated Agency Representative - Staff are burned out, compensation is an issue, losing people around the borders to surrounding states, exchanging staff between agencies, housing is an issue for anyone looking to move to Vermont
- d. DAIL/Division of Licensing and Protection
- e. Department of Mental Health - VPCH has many vacancies
- f. Peer Representatives
- g. Rutland Regional Medical Center
- h. Springfield Hospital - Windham Center

- i. University of Vermont Medical Center - Transiting away from a restraint stretcher (4 point restraints), moving to a restraint chair. Received positive feedback from other facilities using them. EIP's and acuity has been significantly lower recently.
- j. Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital
- k. Veterans Affairs - present and echoing sentiments
- l. Others - This report looks similar to the last report. Notice a significant disparity between Brattleboro Retreat and other hospitals. Patients who want their EIP reviewed can bring them to the committee. Has this ever happened? What is the process for that?
- m. There were some changes to the data reporting. There have not been many EIP's brought to the committee for review. How do patients know about the option to bring your EIP for review?
 - Staff debrief after an EIP.

Review of Administrative Rule stating that patients can bring their EIP to this committee for review. <https://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/document/eip-administrative-rule-regulation-establishing-standards-emergency-involuntary-procedures>
 This shall be an agenda item for next time we meet to discuss how this committee can have a more active role in this piece of the rule.

Wondering if mental health issues will go up with increased cannabis use.

Massachusetts is also seeing a lot of the same challenges with staffing. 30% or more of their beds offline due to staffing.

Surrounding states are also experiencing staffing issues, and closures due to staffing. Support for the restraint chair as most safe option, but staff coming out with leather belts in their hand. If you bring it out too early, it's seen as a threat and counter productive for de-escalation. Chair should be hidden/easily accessible.

Quarterly data report from DMH - (April - June 2022)

EIP's have gone up some since last quarter. The disparity is not quite as bad as it looks at first because the bar charts show total number of EIP's, but the overall report later takes into account the total patient hours. Brattleboro Retreat and Level I units still have the highest numbers of EIP's.

DMH does not look at community-based programs' involuntary interventions. EIP's are only being administered in hospitals. Steve DeVoe Stephen.devoe@vermont.gov may have additional info regarding this.

3. Open Discussion/Comments

Next Meeting Friday 12/9/22, 10:30 - 12:00, will get an email out regarding next years' meetings and upcoming trainings.

Legislative Mandate

- Here is a link to the legislative mandate and the paragraph (page 15) that applies to these reports:
https://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/sites/mhnew/files/documents/AboutUs/Committees/EIP/EIP_Rule_FINAL_2016.pdf
- The Review Committee shall review aggregate data that has been prepared based on information received from the clinical leadership teams of the designated hospitals and the state-operated facility regarding all relevant orders of emergency involuntary

procedures (involuntary medication, seclusion and restraint). The aggregate data shall be prepared by the Department of Mental Health in quarterly reports.

- The Review Committee shall meet quarterly to review the aggregate data submitted by the designated hospitals and the state-operated facilities.

Note: Committee members & members of the public are invited to submit additional comments/questions at any time using this form: <http://bit.ly/EIPComment>

Important Links

- EIP Administrative Rule:

https://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/sites/mhnew/files/documents/AboutUs/Committees/EIP/EIP_Rule_FINAL_2016.pdf

- EIP Committee Website (with minutes & reports)

<https://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/about-us/boards-and-committees/emergency-involuntary-procedures-review-committee>