

**Connecticut Valley Hospital** 

**Nursing Policy and Procedure** 

SECTION A: NURSING SERVICE ORGANIZATION CHAPTER 2: STANDARDS OF NURSING PRACTICE AND CARE

Policy and Procedure: 2.7.1 Competency Restoration

Authorization: Nursing Executive Committee

Date Effective: May 1, 2018 Scope: Connecticut Valley Hospital

## **Standard of Practice:**

The Nurse implements nursing interventions designed to assist the patient in restoration of competency to stand trial (CST).

## Measurement Criteria:

- 1. The nurse collects objective and subjective data to assess the Patient's:
  - Understanding of reason for hospitalization.
  - Ability to learn and retain new information.
  - Mental condition.
  - Understanding of how his/her mental condition impacts on his/her CST.
  - Understanding of his/her alleged offense.
  - Understanding of appropriate courtroom behaviors.
  - Knowledge of competency criteria.
- 2. The nurse notes actual or potential alterations in bio/psycho/social status which might interfere with the patient's ability to be restored to competency.

Nursing diagnoses common to patients admitted for competency restoration are:

- Alteration in thought process.
- Knowledge deficit.
- Ineffective individual coping.
- Potential for violence.
- Disturbance in self-concept.

- 3. The nurse collaborates with the patient to identify needs and establish realistic goals:
  - To understand the reason for hospitalization.
  - To understand how one's mental condition impacts on his/her CST.
  - To participate in treatment planning.
  - To cooperate with Unit rules and procedures.
  - To discuss appropriate courtroom behaviors.
  - To describe basic trial components.
  - To discuss fundamental roles of court authorities.
  - To complete a competency evaluation.
  - To recognize and cope with personal circumstances that impede CST.
- 4. The nurse designs and implements interventions which:
  - Help the patient to understand the reality of his/her situation.
  - Alleviate symptoms of the mental condition which interfere with CST.
  - Help the patient to follow direction and control behavior.
  - Help the patient to identify acceptable courtroom behaviors.
  - Teach the patient basic trial components and fundamental roles of court authorities.
  - Help the patient to recognize and cope with personal circumstances that impede CST.
  - Prepare the patient for probable court disposition.
- 5. The nurse regularly evaluates the patient's response to interventions and reviews goal attainment with the patient.

## **Standard of Care:**

The patient is assisted by the nurse in restoration of competency to stand trial (CST).

## Measurement Criteria:

- The patient understands the reason for hospitalization.
- The patient understands how his/her mental condition impacts on his/her CST.
- The patient comprehends appropriate courtroom behavior.
- The patient understands basic trial components.
- The patient understands fundamental roles of authorities in the court.
- The patient completes a competency evaluation.
- The patient identifies methods of remaining competent to stand trial.