



EARLY PSYCHOSIS INTERVENTIONS IN NORTH CAROLINA EPI-NC Program Fidelity Guide

April 6, 2022

This document was created by EPI-NC Advisors wholly or in part with funding from the federal Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Fund (CFDA #93.958) as a project of the NC Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities & Substance Abuse Services.

A. Program Implementation

1. Population Served

1. Population Served				How Measured
All criteria should be met.				
Ages 15-30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *Onset first episode psychosis within three years OR previous program participant appropriate for program readmission OR presence of attenuated psychosis symptoms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary diagnosis of a DSM 5 psychotic disorder: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • schizophrenia • schizoaffective • schizophreniform • brief psychotic disorder • unspecified schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorder • bipolar disorder with psychotic feature (where psychosis is prominent feature) • Psychosis high-risk (e.g. attenuated psychosis/"prodromal") 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No evidence of low IQ 	<p style="text-align: center;">QI Database:</p> QI Database: Admission form
<p>*<u>Psychosis</u> is defined as the presence of hallucinations or delusions that the person experiences as fully real (no doubt to veracity) and the symptoms occur weekly to daily. <u>Attenuated psychosis symptoms</u> are similar in quality to full psychosis symptoms and occur at least several times a month however the person has doubts about their veracity</p>				

2. Use of Active Engagement and Relapse Prevention Strategies

	0- Unacceptable	1- Approaching Standard	2- Meets Standard	How Measured
a. Initial Program Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than half of appropriate referrals attend an initial program assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 50% to 80% of appropriate referrals attend an initial program assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 80% of appropriate referrals attend an initial program assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QI Database: Referral and Admission forms
b. Engagement While in Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program fails to make reasonable efforts to address barriers to participation for any patients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *Program makes reasonable efforts to address barriers to participation for less than 75% of patients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *Program makes reasonable efforts to address barriers to participation for at least 75% of patients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QI Database: Discharge form • Team Lead report

c. Relapse prevention strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 50% of patients participate in relapse prevention planning annually or when the patient has a major change in treatment plan, life change, or major stressors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 50% and 75% of patients participate in relapse prevention planning annually or when the patient has a major change in treatment plan, life change, or major stressors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 75% of patients participate in relapse prevention planning annually or when the patient has a major change in treatment plan, life change, or major stressors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QI Database: Relapse prevention form • Team Lead report
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*For example, address denial of need for treatment with a collaborative approach, address engagement with appropriate psychotherapy techniques (e.g., motivational interviewing), offer community-based care, identify and addresses practical barriers (e.g., transportation, financial issues), offer family members counseling around engagement even if patient refuses treatment

3. Service Delivery Frequency				
	0- Unacceptable	1- Approaching Standard	2- Meets Standard	How Measured
a. Individual Therapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <50% of the clients receive evidenced-based individual psychotherapy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • during their first 6-month period in program less than an average of 2 sessions monthly • after 6-months in program sessions occur less than once every two months and monthly sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50-75% of the clients receive evidenced-based individual psychotherapy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • during their first 6-month period in program an average of 2 sessions monthly • after their 6-months in program between once every two months and monthly sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of the clients receive evidenced-based individual psychotherapy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • during their first 6-month period of program involvement on average 3 sessions monthly • after their 6-month period of program involvement on average once monthly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QI Database: Service Delivery form
b. Family Therapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family interventions are not offered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <50% of families receive at least 3 family sessions in the first 6 months of program participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ≥50% of families receive at least 3 family sessions in the first 6 months of program participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QI Database: Service Delivery form
c. Medical Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <50% of patients receive evidenced-based medical management services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • during their first 6-month period in program less than 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50-75% of patients receive evidenced-based medical management services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • during their first 6-month period in program an 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of patients receive evidenced-based medical management services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QI Database: Service Delivery form

	<p>an average of 2 sessions monthly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • after 6-months in program sessions occur less than once every two months and monthly sessions 	<p>average of 2 sessions monthly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • after their 6-months in program between once every two months and monthly sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • during their first 6-month period in program on average 3 sessions monthly • after their 6-month period of program involvement on average once monthly 	
d. Supported Employment & Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services provided to <25% of clients. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services provided to 25%-50% of clients. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services provided to ≥50% of clients. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QI database: Service Delivery form
e. Peer Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer support interventions provided to <25% of clients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer support interventions provided to 25%-50% of clients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer support services provided to ≥50% of clients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QI Database: Service Delivery form
f. Safety Assessments			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Height and weight are monitored at least quarterly. • Lipid panel and HgA1c at least annually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QI Database: Safety Assessment forms
g. Substance Use Counseling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substance use disorder counseling is not provided. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substance use counseling is routinely provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team Lead report

*Evidenced based individual psychotherapy is tailored to the client's needs and includes any psychotherapy with evidence that the psychotherapy addressed the client needs.

4. Duration of Program Services

	0- Unacceptable	1- Approaching Standard	2- Meets Standard	How Measured
a. Duration of Services Individualized	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services limited to stabilization of acute episode 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services strictly time limited without consideration of individual status. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duration of services is based on need for FEP services. Discharge occurs when the patient has achieved his/her individual recovery/illness management goals, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands their risk for relapse. • Acknowledges their personal risk factors for relapse, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • substance use • social, psychological, and physical (e.g. lack of sleep) stressors • discontinuation of medications that reduce relapse risk • The patient has made thoughtful decisions regarding strategies that mitigate relapse risk and has adopted these strategies. • The follow-up treatment plan is developed collaboratively with patient, family (if appropriate), and treatment team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QI Database: Admission and Discharge forms • Team Lead report

B. Organizational Resources

1. Program Facilities			
Unacceptable: Less than two criteria are met	Approaching Standard: Two criteria met	Meets Standard: All criteria	How Measured
Criteria			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private offices available for individual psychotherapy, family psychotherapy, and medical management services • Office-based services provided in a centralized location. • Administrative infrastructure provides adequate support for scheduling, reminders, medical record documentation and patient billing • Facilities and staff for routine assessment of height, weight, and blood pressure • Access to phlebotomy and laboratory services (safety labs, urine drug testing) • Access to facilities to administer of long-acting injectable medications • 24/7 crisis coverage (If another entity provides services an agreement is in place that describes procedures for communication between the entity and the program.) • Youth friendly treatment environment 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team Lead report

2. Multidisciplinary Team Approach				
	0- Unacceptable	1- Approaching Standard	2- Meets Standard	How Measured
a. Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program doesn't have staff who can provide the core CSS services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program has staff members who can provide core CSS services but not enhanced services: • Medical management • Individual therapy • Family therapy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program has staff members who can provide the full array of CSS services: • Medical management • Individual therapy • Family therapy • Peer support services • Supported education & employment services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team Lead report
b. Team Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team does not formerly meet – discusses by email, phone, individual encounters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team includes all providers, meets less than once a week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team includes all providers and meets weekly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team Lead report

3. Staff Training and Certification

	0- Unacceptable	1- Approaching Standard	2- Meets Standard	How Measured
a. Individual Therapist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No therapist trained in early psychosis therapy approaches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least one therapist trained and certified to deliver Individual Resiliency Training (IRT)*. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All therapists trained on and certified to deliver Individual Resiliency Training (IRT)*. Therapists participate in ongoing continuing education relevant to early psychosis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team Lead report
b. Family Therapist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No therapist trained in NAVIGATE model of family therapy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least one therapist trained on NAVIGATE family therapy model. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All family therapists trained on NAVIGATE family therapy model Therapists participate in ongoing continuing education related early psychosis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team Lead report
c. Substance Use Counseling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No clinician has training for co-occurring substance and alcohol use treatment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One clinician trained and designated for providing co-occurring substance and alcohol use issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All clinicians have received training on the principles of the treatment of co-occurring substance and alcohol use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team Lead report
d. Medical Provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not reviewed NAVIGATE treatment guidelines and is not certified to prescribe clozapine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed and understands treatment guidelines (NAVIGATE) for early psychosis. Certified in use of clozapine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed and understands treatment guidelines (NAVIGATE) for early psychosis. Certified in use of clozapine. Ongoing continuing education relevant to early psychosis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team Lead report
e. Supported Employment and Education Provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not trained to deliver Supported Education and Vocational Support services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trained in Individualized Placement and Support (IPS) services, but no training specific for early psychosis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trained in Individualized Placement and Support (IPS) services, Ongoing training relevant to early psychosis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team Lead report
f. Peer Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No certification for Peer Support Specialist. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team Lead report

*Certified on standard and individualized IRT modules - ratings of 4 or higher on overall quality of sessions on at least 6 recorded IRT sessions - 3 standard and 3 individualized modules

4. Commitment to Measurement-Based Care

	0- Unacceptable	1- Approaching Standard	2- Meets Standard	How Measured
Routine Collection of Key Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irregular <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 60% of baseline forms collected. • Less than 50% of follow-up visit forms collected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inconsistent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 60%-80% of baseline forms collected • Between 50%-70% of follow-up visit forms collected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 80% of baseline forms collected • At least 70% of follow-up forms collected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QI Database: missing data report