THERAPY CONFERENCE

Intern Guidelines

The therapy conference is an evaluative exercise resulting in interns receiving collective feedback from Psychology Staff to their therapy skill. Interns present a minimum of one (1) therapy conference with additional conferences scheduled at the recommendation of the staff.

Therapy conferences incorporate both didactic and process components. Thus, it will be incumbent upon the intern to educate Psychology staff to his/her therapeutic style, as well as demonstrate therapy in action.

Presentations should be one hour in length including time allotted for discussion.

Through the therapy conference, the intern should demonstrate the following:

1. Thorough understanding of the patient, the patient’s environment, and the disease process.

2. Conceptualization of problems (in a 2-3 page written format).*

3. Formulation of therapy goals, objectives, and proposed interventions.

4. Demonstration of therapy skills.


6. Ability to dialogue with staff in an informed collegial manner.

Interns are evaluated by Psychology staff using the Therapy Conference Evaluation Guide. Evaluations are given to the Training Director, who, in turn reviews them with the intern.

*Written conceptualization needs to be provided staff three full days prior to therapy conference.
PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE THERAPY CONFERENCE EVALUATION GUIDE

Intern: _______________________________ Date: ________________

Please assess performance using criteria below.

1. **Thorough understanding of patient/client**
   - medical history
   - psychological profile
   - vocational history/academic history
   - social organization including
   - family and support structure
   - other

2. **Conceptualization (written and oral)**
   - thorough
   - integrative
   - consistent with theoretical approach and therapeutic style.

3. **Formulation of therapy goals**
   - objectives
   - proposed interventions.

4. **Demonstration of therapy skills**
   - therapy style clearly presented
   - thorough knowledge demonstrated
   - patient/therapist interaction
   - skillfully engaged patient in interview
   - mental status evaluated
   - advanced skills demonstrated

5. **Effectiveness of treatment addressed**
   - proposed changes are reasonable and consistent with goals

6. **Ability to dialogue**
   - openness
   - confidence
   - accuracy
   - ability to integrate information

**Strengths:**

**Weaknesses:**
THERAPY EVALUATION GUIDE (Cont.)

Recommendations:

____ Therapy Conference requirements fulfilled.

____ Additional conference needed to fulfill Therapy Conference requirement.

Psychology Staff Members in attendance:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________

This evaluation has been reviewed by the intern:

_____________________________  ______________________________
Training Director                  Intern

_____________________________  ______________________________
Date                         Date
DIAGNOSTIC CONFERENCE

Intern Guidelines

The diagnostic conference is an evaluative exercise resulting in interns receiving collective feedback from Psychology staff related to their assessment skills. Interns present minimum of one (1) diagnostic conference with additional conferences scheduled at the recommendation of the staff.

Focus of diagnostic conferences will vary. Thus, they may focus on any combination of the following areas: neuropsychological, personality, vocational rehabilitation, and/or consultation for a variety of services. However, a personality component is expected.

Presentations should be one hour in length, including a question/answer period and time for feedback from staff.

Through the diagnostic conference, the intern should demonstrate the following:

1. Understanding of reason for assessment referral.

2. Thorough understanding of patient, including medical, social, psychological, and vocational areas.

3. Thorough knowledge of problems confronting patient and ability to discuss that process with staff.

4. Selection and supporting rationale for assessment devices utilized (or not utilized).

5. Thorough, accurate, and concise interpretation of results in a formal, final, written assessment.

6. Knowledge of available VA and community resources as reflected through assessment-based recommendations.

7. Ability to dialogue with staff in informed collegial manner.

Interns will be evaluated by Psychology staff using the Diagnostic Conference Evaluation Guide. Evaluation will be given to the Training Director, who, in turn will review them with the intern.
PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE DIAGNOSTIC CONFERENCE GUIDE

Intern: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Please assess performance using criteria below.

1. **Referral**
   - what is question?
   - is question answered?

2. **Patient knowledge**
   - medical history
   - social history
   - personal history
   - vocational history

3. **Identified problems**
   - referral question clear
   - ability to communicate symptomatology
   - prognosis
   - limitations

4. **Test selection**
   - Cognitive Assessment
   - Affective/Personality assessment
   - Vocational assessment
   - Mental Status Examination
   - Test selection thorough and appropriate
   - Evidence of proper administration/scoring

5. **Interpretation of results (written and oral)**
   - thorough
   - accurate
   - clear
   - concise

6. **Knowledge of resources**
   - thorough
   - appropriate referrals

7. **Ability to dialogue**
   - openness
   - confidence
   - accuracy

Strengths:

Weaknesses:
Recommendations:

  ___ Diagnostic Conference requirements fulfilled.

  ___ Additional conference needed to fulfill Diagnostic Conference requirement.

Psychology Staff Members in attendance:


This evaluation has been reviewed by the intern:


  Training Director


  Intern


  Date


  Date