

Addendum Concurrent Disorders

The concurrent disorders clinician provides consultation, liaison and education to community professionals and agencies to enhance the capability of the child and youth mental health and addictions systems to effectively identify and treat children and youth with concurrent disorders. The concurrent disorders clinician also provides direct clinical services to children and youth with complex concurrent disorders.

Duties specific to this position include:

Enhances the capability of the child and youth mental health and addictions systems to effectively identify and treat children and youth with concurrent disorders by:

- Works in tandem with the mental health clinician or addiction services case manager with the intention of the clinician or case manager carrying primary role, with support from the youth concurrent disorders clinician
- Functions primarily in a consulting role to build linkages and integration with both mental health clinicians and youth addictions counsellors
- Facilitates clients' utilization of appropriate community services and rehabilitative programs, liaising with service and program providers and providing consultation to colleagues
- Provides education and consultation on concurrent disorders to community agencies and other service providers who provide services to children and youth with concurrent disorders including physicians, schools, hospitals, foster homes and child protection, youth justice, other ministries and programs
- Maintains basic knowledge of the psycho-tropic medications as prescribed by a physician, maintaining an awareness of the effects of such medication
- Works in partnership with other youth concurrent disorders clinicians
- Evaluates treatment outcomes
- Maintains knowledge of mental health and addictions as it relates to concurrent disorders through methods such as reviewing literature and research, consulting with clinical and community experts in the field, evaluating clinical practice and participating in professional development activities in order to improve care through new practices
- Participates in the ongoing planning, development, evaluation and modification of a comprehensive range of services including prevention programs for children and youth

Provides a range of direct clinical services to children/youth with complex mental disorders and addictions issues, their families and caregivers including:

- Undertakes bio-psycho-social-spiritual assessments at intake and ongoing assessment including mental status exams and utilizing recognized addictions tools
- Complete provisional diagnoses (according to DSM IV) for the purpose of developing treatment plans

- Provides evidence based treatment for concurrent disorders
- Provides individual, family and/or group therapy to children/youth and their families
- Provides assertive case management and connects youth to other community services as needed
- Provides education, counselling, support and crisis intervention to families and other relevant caregivers of such children and youth to understand the nature, treatment and prognosis of the concurrent nature of the condition of the child/youth and assist with methods of coping
- Monitors treatment and/or care plans
- Maintains appropriate clinical/client/administrative records required by both mental health and addiction services