

**BARNES-JEWISH HOSPITAL
TRAUMA SERVICES POLICIES/PROCEDURES**

TITLE: Chemical Dependency Consults

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Policy Statements

A. Any trauma patient with suspected or confirmed substance abuse problems will be provided with a Chemical Dependency Consult. This service offers consultation to patients with substance abuse problems by providing assessment, education, and intervention and referral services.

Procedure

- A. All trauma patients will be screened for alcohol use in the Emergency Department with either the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism's binge drinking question from their "Recommended Sets of Alcohol Consumption Questions" or by having a Blood Alcohol level drawn (see attached algorithm). If the Binge Drinking Question screen is positive then the patient will be screened further by using the CAGE questions. If this screen is positive then the patient will be provided a brief intervention regardless of disposition. Also, if the blood alcohol level is positive a brief intervention will be done.
- B. If an admitted trauma patient is found to have drug or ethanol levels in his/her system or is screened positive by the Binge Drinking Question, the patient will be offered a Chemical Dependency Consult to include a brief intervention. This can be offered by a physician, nurse practitioner, registered nurse or social worker.
- C. Monday through Friday, the Barnes Jewish Hospital Psychiatry Service will provide formal Chemical Dependency Consults. This service will be provided by an NP, PA or psychiatry resident under the supervision of a board certified psychiatrist, to provide further assessment and evaluation of the patient's treatment needs. Once the order is placed in Compass the psychiatry consult team should be notified by calling 848-2402.
- D. For weekend needs, there are pamphlets available on each of the trauma units, in the trauma service office, and with social workers to give the patient in need of a Chemical Dependency consult who cannot be evaluated. For more complex issues, the on-call social worker or the on-call psychiatrist may be consulted.

Resources/References

American College of Surgeons, Committee on Trauma (COT) Quick Guide "Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention (SBI) for Trauma Patients", 2014

American College of Surgeons, COT "Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient, 2014

Department of Public Health, Emergency Services and Highway Safety, Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Center Code, Level One Trauma Center Designation Criteria, Section 515.2030.

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

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Alcohol Screening for Trauma Patients

