



Margaret Green
Teamwork-Maggie Pohlman

7 months ago

At my pediatric facility, teamwork is a vital component in the therapy process. I would say 90% of patients receive OT, PT, and ST. Therefore, staff members have meetings to work out their caseloads to help ease the burden of driving to therapy for the parents. Their goal is to have a child come once for 2.5 hours to have all three of their therapy sessions. Currently, we have one client that is very aggressive. He is 7 and now becoming stronger to the point where it is a safety issue to have him around other children. While at therapy, he is required to wear a helmet to prevent him from biting himself and others. He often kicks, pinches, and headbutts the therapist. All 3 disciplines are concerned because the parents are not carrying over treatment techniques and he is becoming dangerous to treat at the clinic. I had the opportunity to sit in with OT, PT, and ST to discuss how this situation should be approached. They have discussed their concern with his parents who continuously state, "he is not that bad at home." The parents do not understand the severity of the situation. Together, the parents and therapist made up a system for them to follow at home to help improve his behavior. If they do not follow the system and carry over the techniques, the therapist said they will have to discharge him because he cannot make progress on his goals when 80% of his sessions are spent trying to get him to stop his aggressive behavior. This was a great learning experience for me and showed me how beneficial it can be to work with a team!

Reply

Quote



Margaret Green
Collaboration

5 months ago

I am currently on rotation Eastern Louisiana Mental Health Hospital. Every morning at 8:30, I attend morning report. This is a multidisciplinary meeting that includes an OT, nurses, social workers, and occasionally a physician. During these meetings, a nurse gives a summary of the previous day and anyone in the meetings can report important information about a client. For example, one of the nurses was talking about a client that is in one of my groups. She reported that she was placed on a 12 hour ward restriction because of inappropriate behavior. I had the opportunity to inform the nurse that in OT groups, we use a coping card with her. Whenever she begins to act out in group, we show her the coping card, and she calms down. The nurse thought that this was a great idea, and asked me to bring a copy of her coping card for the nursing staff to use. The next day in morning report, I brought the nurse a copy and she was very appreciative. About 3 days later, the nurse reported back to me how well the coping card is working, and that the client has been behaving much better. I love that this facility has a daily morning report because it helps the staff collaborate and ensure that care plans are being carried over across all disciplines.

Reply

Quote