

STATE OF MARYLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DIRECTIVE	<b>PROGRAM: MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES</b>
	DPSCSD #: 124-200
	TITLE: Clinical Assessment
	ISSUED: December 20, 2000
	CLINICAL AUTHORITY: ASST. DIRECTOR
	AUTHORITY: DIRECTOR
	APPROVED: DEPUTY SECRETARY

- I. REFERENCE: DPSCSD 124-003, 124-400
- II. PURPOSE: To establish guidelines for performing clinical assessments, which may be required for various institutional functions. These functions may include but are not limited to:
- A. Initial (reception) screening
  - B. Mental status examination
  - C. Adjustment problems within program components
  - D. Assessment of suicide risk
  - E. Suitability for special needs placement
  - F. Admission to mental health units
  - G. Risk Assessment
  - H. Psychological Evaluation (formal testing)
- III. PROCEDURE:
- A. Form of the referral for assessment.
    - 1. Routine intake screenings shall be scheduled by the chief psychologist.
    - 2. Non-emergency referrals for assessment may be made verbally or in written form to the psychology department. In cases of verbal referrals for assessment, the mental health professional shall document the referral on the Referral for Psychological Services Form (DPSCS Form 124-400aR) and check the “verbal referral” block.

3. Emergency referrals for assessment may be made verbally to the psychology department. These referrals for assessment will also be documented by the receiving mental health professional on the Referral for Psychological Services Form (DPSCS Form 124-400aR) and by checking the “verbal referral” block.

B. Referral sources may include, but are not limited to, the following list:

- |                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Custody         | 4. Administration        |
| 2. Case Management | 5. Education             |
| 3. Medical         | 6. Social Work/Addiction |

C. The reason for the referral for assessment shall be explicit.

D. The appropriate scope of the intervention or assessment shall be determined by a licensed psychologist or psychology associate (with appropriate supervision).

E. The chief psychologist shall ensure that all responses to referrals for assessment are in writing, with a copy kept in the mental health record.

IV. SUPERSEDES: DCD 124-200, dated December 15, 1994

Distribution:

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