

In the mental health profession, standards of care and practice continue to change and evolve -- and they should so that patients receive the best treatment available. As part of the OSH Continuous Improvement Plan, we will be implementing a new tool that will allow for better patient care, more comprehensive treatment, and enhanced planning.

The master treatment care plan (MTCP) is a comprehensive and individualized plan that is patient-centered, strengths-based and recovery-oriented. It will be used to guide the entire scope of patient treatment, including medication, diet and nutrition, lab and rehabilitation, transition and discharge.

Unique to the MTCP is its emphasis on greater participation from patients. Patients will be active members of their own treatment team, as they set goals, make choices and provide input about their recovery needs. There also will be a stronger emphasis on preparing patients for discharge and transition to the community. In addition, with the MTCP, treatment outcomes will be easier to track and measure.

To make writing and editing the MTCP easier, OSH clinicians in conjunction with the Office of Information Services, have designed custom software for a Web-based application. This application is the result of several months of detailed design work that included a large number of clinicians from throughout the hospital and the program areas. The application is designed to make completing the MTCP easy, quick and efficient. The MTCP is also an opportunity for improved communication among all members of the treatment team.

And while the MTCP Web Application is temporary and will be replaced by the electronic medical record being developed for the new hospital, it is critical that our treatment teams are up-to-speed and able to execute the MTCP before the new facility is operational. OSH will provide education and training on the plan and application in the coming months and a treatment manual is under development.

I know that this is a big change in OSH practice, but it is in keeping with our goals for continuous improvement to patient care and safety. As more hospitals and treatment centers employ this planning model for patient care,

it is increasingly being held up as the industry standard. The MTCP represents the best thinking from clinical experts, current literature, national practices, as well as recommendations from The Joint Commission, Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services and the U.S. Department of Justice.

We all recognize that our facility is old and not up to modern standards for a psychiatric hospital, but that has not deterred us from bringing state-of-the-art care and treatment practices to OSH. I appreciate your innovation and cooperation as you work every day to help make OSH a better place for Oregonians with mental illness.

For more information about the MTCP and the MTCP Web application, please read the attached [document addressing frequently asked questions](#).