INTRODUCTION: TEASC

The Transdisciplinary Evaluation and Support Clinic (TEASC), is a consultation team that includes family medicine providers, psychiatrists, experts in social services and health care systems and a clinical social worker. The team may include other specialists such as a neurologist or sign language interpreter.

TEASC offers in-home/clinic based consultation to adults who have intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) and complex medical, mental health and support system needs. TEASC assistance does not replace the direct provided by the client’s primary care provider, psychiatrist, therapist, interdisciplinary team (IDT) or other care givers. TEASC services are provided at no coast to the individual.

TEASC offers:

- Evaluations by the team at the UNM Family Medicine Clinic in conjunction with the Continuum of Care team (Adult Special Needs Clinic)
- Evaluations by the team in the community where the person lives, e.g. in their home, workplace or other location determined by the person’s needs and wishes (TEASC Evaluation)
- Evaluations by the team at local community clinics (Outreach Clinic)
- Comprehensive reporting of evaluation findings & recommendations
- Teaching & training for medical students and residents, as well as trainees in other disciplines (nursing, OT, pharmacy, psychology, SLP and PT)
- Training for community providers
- Research and program assessment
- Collaboration & consultation with the state in system design & review

Any person with I/DD, age 18 or older, living in NM or their family, provider or advocate may request a TEASC evaluation by calling 505-272-5158.

TEASC is funded by the NM Department of Health Developmental Disabilities Supports Division.
The NM SAFE Program (Supports & Assessment for Feeding & Eating) conducts multidisciplinary team feeding evaluations of children & adults with developmental disabilities, for the purpose of improving health & preventing aspiration.

The SAFE team includes a registered dietitian (RD), physical therapist (PT), occupational therapist (OT), physician and speech pathologist (SLP) with expertise in swallowing disorders.

Evaluations are available at the Albuquerque clinic located at the Center for Development & Disabilities (CDD) or at selected community-based sites via interactive videoconferencing through telemedicine network.

The team provides feeding evaluations and recommendations for individuals with disabilities with a focus on:
- Reducing the number of preventable aspirations
- Feeding assessments with a focus on positions, adaptive equipment, food textures and diet for optimal health

Making a referral:
Anyone (individual, family members, team members, providers, nurses, therapists, teachers, early interventionists, case managers etc.) can make a referral by contacting:
Deirdre Muldoon, Program Manager
NMSAFE@salud.unm.edu
Tel: 505-272-0285
Fax: 505-272-3499

A copy of the referral form can be found online at:
https://www.cdd.unm.edu/nmsafe/

Continuum of Care Staff:
Alya Reeve MD, MPH
Principle Investigator, Neuropsychiatrist
Ingrid Nelson MS, Senior Program Manager
Eula Michaels, Unit Administrator II
Kevin Langell, User Support Analyst I
Alfreda Begaye CMA, Clinic Coordinator
Carla Fedor, RN CDDN, Lead Staff Nurse
Alyse Drummond RN CDDN, Staff Nurse
Lourdes Vizcarra MD, Family Medicine Editor
Jenny Vickers MD, Neurologist
John Phillips MD, Neurologist
Kathleen Burke MD, Family Medicine (Las Cruces)
Jemery Kaufman MD, Internal Medicine (Taos)
Karen Vaillant MD, Family Medicine (Roswell)

Comments/suggestions/recommendations:
email LVIZCARRA@salud.unm.edu

To view the PowerPoint presentation in its entirety, please visit our website:
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*End of Life Training 4/29/2011

Please go to our website to read about the broad spectrum of training options given by CoC and to see an extensive list of previous training power point presentations and training videos posted and available for your learning.

Topics on our website include:
- Dementia
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- Enteral Tube
- End of Life
- Psychopharmacology

Please feel free to send in any suggestions on specific conditions that you would like to read about.

We are on the Web!
http://coc.unm.edu

Continuum of Care
2350 Alamo Ave SE Suite 160
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Tel: 505-925-2378
Fax: 505-925-2391
Toll: 877-684-5259

The NM SAFE Program providers:
- A multi-disciplinary clinic-based assessment team with expertise in swallowing disorders
- A detailed written report of the assessment with recommendations
- A videotape depicting appropriate feeding techniques will be provided
- Technical assistance, support and continuing education for professionals
- Assistance to families and care providers in locating appropriate community resources for direct treatment, adaptive equipment and follow-up services
- A mealtime program for adult clients which consists of detail “how to” feeding instructions for caregivers

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